Unveiling the complexity of emergency department visits for violent behavior: a retrospective study.

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## **Recognizing the Urgency**

### Disorientation and Aggression

Hyperactive delirium with severe agitation is characterized by disorientation. aggressive behaviors, and a potential for harm to the patient and those around them.

#### 2 Life-Threatening Condition

This presentation is an acute, potentially lifethreatening medical emergency that requires prompt, coordinated, and comprehensive emergency medical treatment.

3 Patient Safety First

> The primary focus of emergency medical treatment must be **ensuring the safety** of the patient and the medical professionals providing care.

# Goals of Emergency Treatment

### **Restore Normal Physiology**

Rapidly addressing any underlying physiological derangements is crucial to restoring the normal body functions and preventing further deterioration.

### Provide a Safe Environment

Facilitating a secure and controlled environment for the patient and the medical team is essential to ensure the safety of all involved.

### **Identify** Causes

Differentiating and treating any life-threatening causes of the hyperactive delirium, such as infections or metabolic abnormalities, is a key priority.

## Materials and Methods

- Retrospective cohort study
- From January 1st 2022 to December 31st 2023
- Data from administrative database of Local Health Authority of Romagna
- Inclusion criteria:
  - alive patients on January 1, 2022,
  - aged  $\geq$  18 years
  - with available data on age, sex and degree of comorbidity and social deprivation

## Results - Main findings

871119 individuals

8275 patients made 13624 visits for psychiatric disorders or intoxication

286 patients made 573 visits for acute violent behaviour

#### ED Visits for violent behaviours:

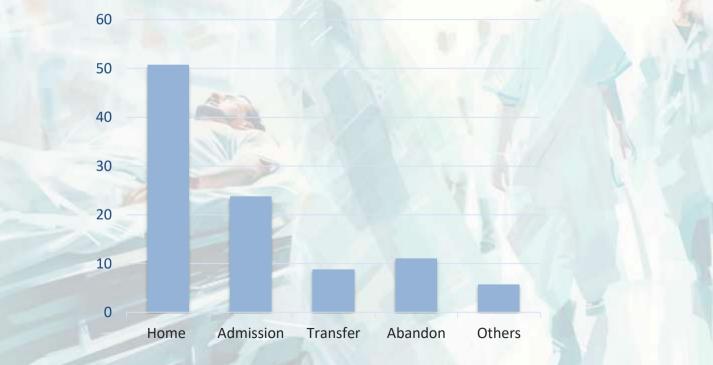
- Predominantly male: 70.1%
- Younger age: mean age 44.3 years
- Greater clinical frailty: 31.2% with mCDS > 10
- Deprivation Index approximately equally distributed

### **Results- Additional findings**

**Triage Code** 

## **Results - Additional findings**

**Discharge modalities** 



## Conclusions

### Key Observations:

Higher prevalence of violent behaviour among younger males with clinical frailty.

### Implications:

- Emphasizes comprehensive risk assessment and collaborative management.
- Highlights the need for tailored interventions to improve patient outcomes.
- Limited by retrospective design and single-region focus, but foundational for future strategies.

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