

Il delirium dell'anziano in Pronto Soccorso

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OUTLINE

- Chi
- Cosa
- Come
- Quando
- Dove
- Perché
- Take-home Messages



CRITERI DIAGNOSTICI DSM-V

A) **Disturbo dell'attenzione** (i.e. ridotta capacità a dirigere, focalizzare, sostenere e shiftare l'attenzione) e **consapevolezza** (ridotto orientamento del se nell'ambiente)

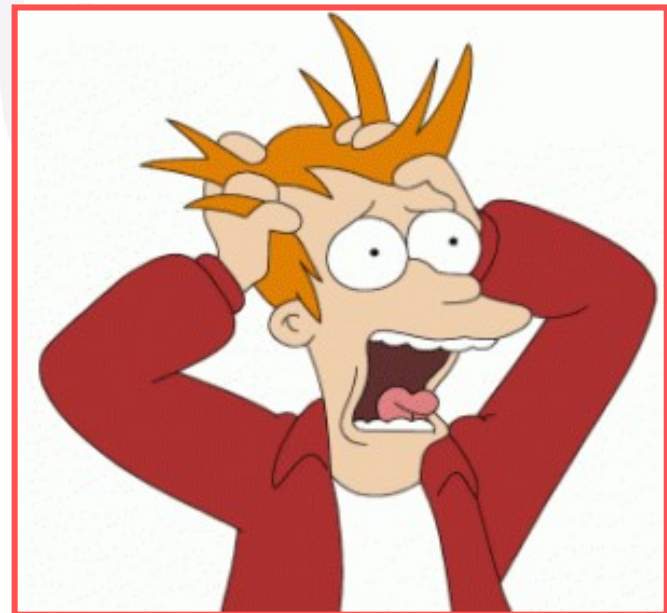
B) Il deficit si sviluppa in un **periodo di tempo relativamente breve** (ore o pochi giorni), rappresenta un **cambiamento** dai livelli di attenzione e consapevolezza di base, e tende a **fluttuare** in gravità nel corso della giornata

C) È presente **un altro deficit cognitivo** (es. memoria, disorientamento, linguaggio, abilità visuo-spaziali, o dispercezioni)

D) I deficit di cui ai criteri A e C **non** sono **spiegabili** sulla base di un **preesistente** (stazionario o in evoluzione) **disturbo neurocognitivo** e **non** si verificano in un contesto di grave riduzione dei livelli di arousal (es. **coma**)

E) Vi è evidenza per storia clinica, esame obiettivo o risultati di laboratorio che il delirium è una **diretta conseguenza di un problema clinico, intossicazione o sospensione di farmaci, esposizione a tossine, o è dovuto a molteplici eziologie**

Il delirium è presente se tutti e 5 i criteri sono soddisfatti



DELIRIUM

The Relationship Between a Chief Complaint of “Altered Mental Status” and Delirium in Older Emergency Department Patients

Jin H. Han, MD, MSc, John F. Schnelle, MD, and E. Wesley Ely, MD, MPH

Abstract

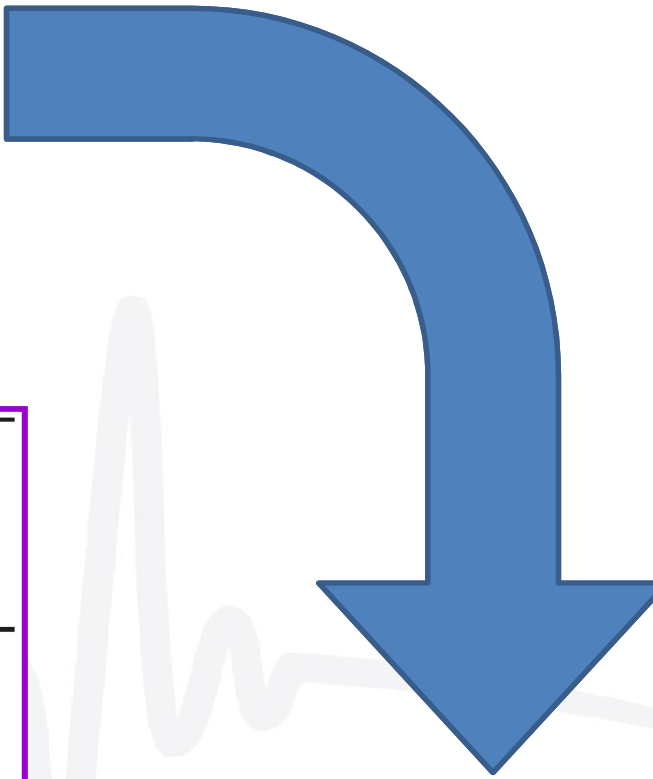
Background: Altered mental status is a common chief complaint among older emergency department (ED) patients. Patients with this chief complaint are likely delirious, but to the authors' knowledge, this relationship has not been well characterized. Additionally, health care providers frequently ascribe “altered mental status” to other causes, such as dementia, psychosis, or depression.

Objectives: The objective was to determine the relationship between altered mental status as a chief complaint and delirium.

Methods: This was a secondary analysis of a cross-sectional study designed to validate three brief delirium assessments, conducted from July 2009 to March 2012. English-speaking patients who were 65 years or older and in the ED for <12 hours were included. Patients who were comatose or nonverbal or unable to follow simple commands prior to the acute illness were excluded. Chief complaints were obtained from the ED nurse triage assessment. The reference standard for delirium was a comprehensive psychiatrist assessment using the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Fourth Edition, Text Revision criteria. Sensitivity, specificity, positive likelihood ratio (LR), and negative LR with their 95% confidence intervals (CIs) were calculated using the psychiatrist's assessment as the reference standard.

Results: A total of 406 patients were enrolled. The median age was 73.5 years old (interquartile range [IQR] – 69 to 80 years), 202 (49.8%) were female, 57 (14.0%) were nonwhite race, and 50 (12.3%) had delirium. Twenty-three (5.7%) of the cohort had chief complaints of altered mental status. The presence of this chief complaint was 38.0% sensitive (95% CI – 25.9% to 51.9%) and 98.9% specific (95% CI – 97.2% to 99.6%). The negative LR was 0.63 (95% CI – 0.50 to 0.78), and the positive LR was 33.82 (95% CI – 11.99 to 95.38).

Conclusions: The absence of a chief complaint of altered mental status should not reassure the clinician that delirium is absent. This syndrome will be missed unless it is actively looked for using a validated delirium assessment. However, patients with this chief complaint are highly likely to be delirious, and no



SINTOMO

(stato confusionale acuto)

69 to 80 years), 202 (49.8%) were female, 57 (14.0%) were nonwhite race, and 50 (12.3%) had delirium. Twenty-three (5.7%) of the cohort had chief complaints of altered mental status. The presence of this chief complaint was 38.0% sensitive (95% CI – 25.9% to 51.9%) and 98.9% specific (95% CI – 97.2% to 99.6%). The negative LR was 0.63 (95% CI – 0.50 to 0.78), and the positive LR was 33.82 (95% CI – 11.99 to 95.38).

DISPNEA

- Edema polmonare acuto/scompenso cardiaco
- Equivalente anginoso → SCA
- Embolia polmonare
- Polmonite
- BPCO riacutizzata/crisi asmatica/allergia
- PNX spontaneo/iperteso

POLIPNEA

DELIRIUM: CAUSE

- Farmaci
- Ritenzione fecale e/o urinaria
- Infezione (*polmonite ed IVU*)
- Malattie endocrino-metaboliche

ipo/iperglicemia

ipo/ipertiroidismo

insufficienza renale/epatica

squilibri idro-elettrolitici

- Malattie cardiovascolari

infarto miocardico

scompenso cardiaco

aritmie

embolia polmonare

Cause meno comuni

- Alcool (abuso o astinenza)
- Ictus
- Ematoma subdurale
- Neoplasie (cerebrali)

Cause rare

- Anemia
- Malnutrizione
- Trauma cranico
- Epilessia

CAUSE: ACRONIMI

Iatrogenic (drugs)

Infections

Injury (trauma)

Illness exacerbation

Inconsistent environment

Inconsistent caregiver

Is patient depressed?

Drugs

Environment

Low oxygen

Infections

Retention

Ischemia

Undernutrition

Metabolic

Subdural haematoma

Vascular

Infections

Nutrition

Drugs

Injury (trauma)

Cardiac

Autoimmune

Tumors

Endocrine

"I WATCH DEATH"

Potential causes	Differential diagnosis
Infectious	Sepsis, encephalitis, meningitis, syphilis, central nervous system abscess
Withdrawal	Alcohol, barbiturates, sedative-hypnotics
Acute metabolic	Acidosis, electrolyte disturbance, hepatic/renal failure, other metabolic disturbances (glucose, magnesium, calcium)
Trauma	Head, burns
CNS disease	Hemorrhage, cerebrovascular accident, vasculitis, seizures, tumor
Hypoxia	Acute hypoxia, chronic lung disease, hypotension
Deficiencies	Vitamin B ₁₂ , hypovitaminosis, niacin, thiamine
Environmental	Hypo/hyperthermia, endocrinopathies, diabetes, adrenal, thyroid
Acute vascular	Hypertensive emergency, subarachnoid hemorrhage, sagittal vein thrombosis
Toxins/drugs	Medications, street drugs, alcohols, pesticides, industrial poisons, carbon monoxide, cyanide, solvents, etc
Heavy metals	Lead, mercury

LIFE-THREATENING CAUSES OF DELIRIUM

Wernicke disease or ethanol withdrawal

Hypoxia or hypercarbia

Hypoglycemia

Hypertensive encephalopathy

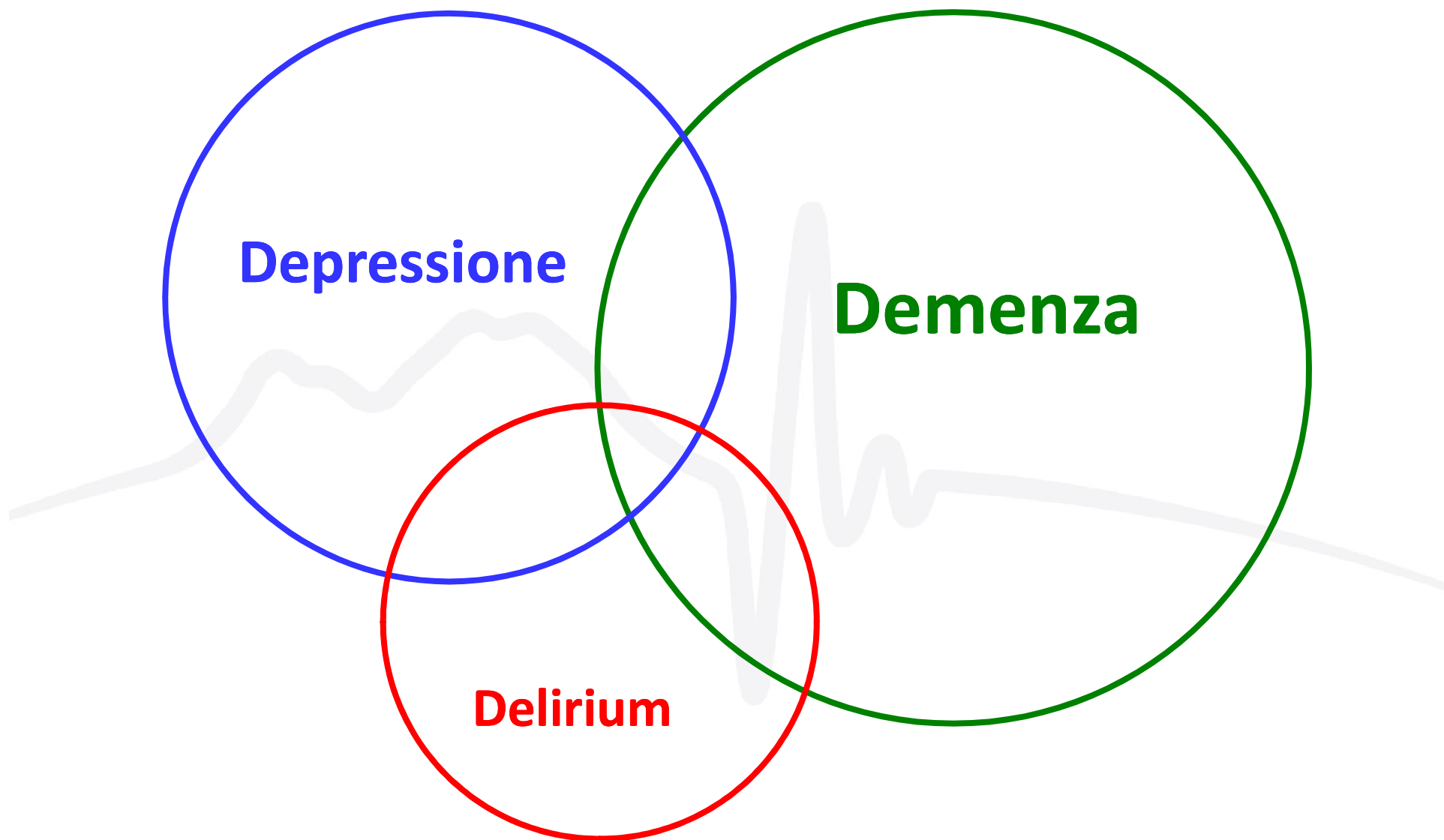
Hyperthermia or hypothermia

Intracerebral hemorrhage

Meningitis/encephalitis

Poisoning (whether exogenous or iatrogenic)

Status epilepticus



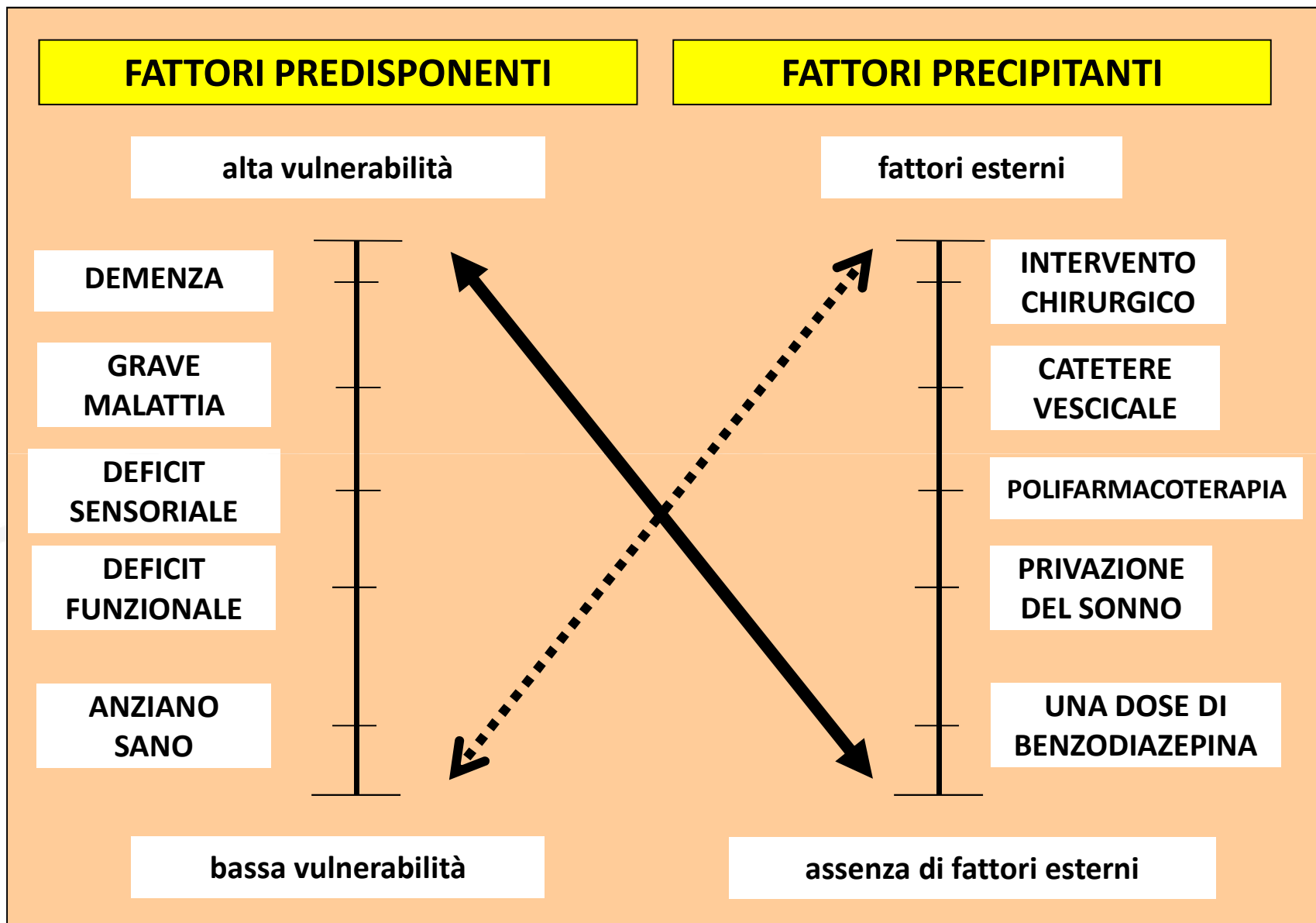
OUTLINE

- Cosa
- Chi  ha il delirium in PS
- Come
- Quando
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DELIRIUM RISK FACTORS

Predisposing Factors	Precipitating Factors
Demographics • Advanced age • Male gender Comorbidity • Dementia • Number of comorbid conditions • Severity of comorbid conditions • Chronic kidney disease • End-stage liver disease • Terminal illness Medications and drugs • Polypharmacy • Baseline psychoactive medication use • History of alcohol or other substance abuse Functional status • Functional impairment • Immobility Sensory impairment • Hearing impairment • Visual impairment Decreased oral intake • Dehydration • Malnutrition Psychiatric • Depression • Nursing home residents	Systemic • Infection • Inadequate pain control • Trauma • Dehydration • Hypo- or hyperthermia Metabolic • Thiamine deficiency (Wernicke encephalopathy) • Hepatic or renal failure • Electrolyte disturbances • Hypoglycemia/hyperglycemia • Thyroid dysfunction Medications and drugs • Medications and medication changes • Recreational drug use or withdrawal Central nervous system • Cerebrovascular accident • Intraparenchymal hemorrhage • Subdural/epidural hematoma • Seizures and postictal state • Meningitis/encephalitis Cardiopulmonary • Acute myocardial infarction • Congestive heart failure • Respiratory failure • Shock Iatrogenic • Procedures or surgeries • Indwelling urinary catheters • Physical restraints



STATO COGNITIVO

Un certo grado di deterioramento cognitivo è presente nel **15-40%** degli ultra65enni in PS (specie se >80 aa e/o istituzionalizzati), ma viene riconosciuto solo nel **27-50%** dei casi, con gravi implicazioni nella precisione dell'anamnesi (undertriage, ritardo in diagnosi/terapia) e nella comprensione delle indicazioni date alla dimissione (ADRs, compliance, presenza/affidabilità del caregiver)

Table 2.
Prevalence of mental status impairment in the ED.

Population	Prevalence (%; 95% CI)
All patients with mental status impairment	78/297 (26; 21–31)
Cognitive impairment without delirium	48/297 (16; 12–20)
Delirium*	30/297 (10; 7–14)

*Includes 17 (6%) patients with positive scores on both the OMC and CAM surveys.

Table 3.
Documentation of mental status impairment.

Nature of Impairment	Any Documentation (%; 95% CI)	Delirium, Cognitive Impairment, or Acceptable Synonym (%; 95% CI)
All patients with mental status impairment	22/78 (28; 19–40)	13/78 (17; 9–27)
Delirium	13/30 (43; 26–63)	4/30 (13; 4–31)
Cognitive impairment without delirium	9/48 (19; 9–33)	9/48 (19; 9–33)

STATO FUNZIONALE

Lo stato funzionale viene pressoché ignorato (75% casi), eppure:

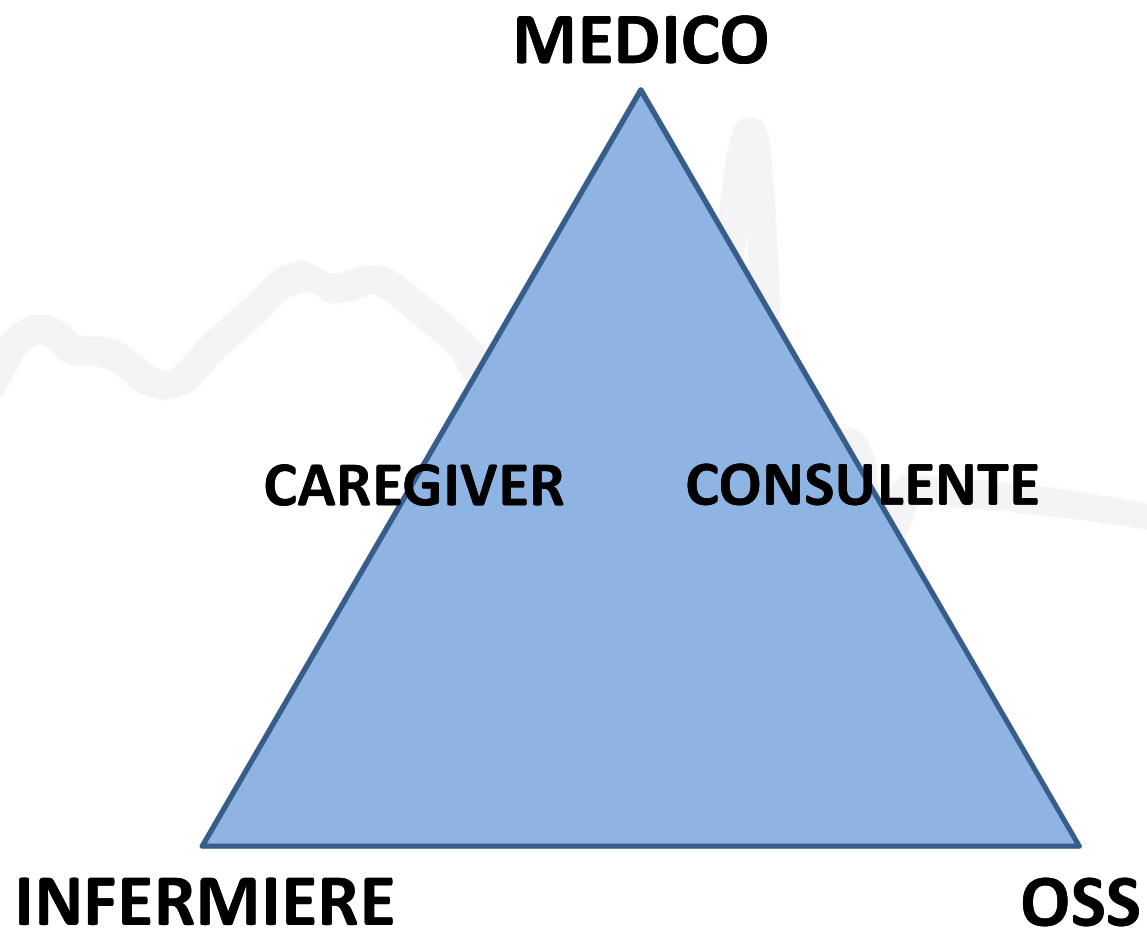
- i $\frac{2}{3}$ sono disabili in almeno una IADL o BADL
- soltanto il 22% è completamente indipendente in tutte le ADL
- il 74% afferma che il declino funzionale dall'inizio dei sintomi è stato **determinante nella decisione di ricorrere al PS**
- **il 28% non sarebbe in grado di badare a sé stesso a domicilio: il 20% viene dimesso ugualmente**

Spesso vi è discordanza tra lo stato funzionale autopercepito dal paziente e quello percepito dal familiare/caregiver, principalmente per il mancato utilizzo di strumenti standardizzati per la sua valutazione (ADL, IADL, Barthel Index etc.)

OUTLINE

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- **Chi**
 - ha il delirium in PS
 - deve riconoscere il delirium in PS
- Come
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LE PARTI IN GIOCO



Delirium in Older Emergency Department Patients: Recognition, Risk Factors, and Psychomotor Subtypes

- **Prevalenza del delirium in PS: 8.3% (25/303)**
- **Delirium ipoattivo: 92%**
- **Missed delirium by ED physicians: 76% (19/25)**
- **Missed delirium by hospital physicians: 93.8% (15/16)**
- **Dementia, Katz ADL ≤ 4 , hearing impairment as risk factor for presenting with delirium in the ED**

Emergency physician recognition of delirium

Emergency physician rating	Researcher rating	
	Delirium	No delirium
Delirium	8	7
No delirium	16	228
Sensitivity (95% CI)	0.33 (0.16 to 0.55)	
Specificity (95% CI)	0.97 (0.93 to 0.99)	
κ (95% CI)	0.37 (0.16 to 0.57)	
Inattention		No inattention
Inattention	23	21
No inattention	32	183
Sensitivity (95% CI)	0.44 (0.29 to 0.56)	
Specificity (95% CI)	0.89 (0.84 to 0.93)	
κ (95% CI)	0.34 (0.20 to 0.48)	
Disorganised thinking		No disorganised thinking
Disorganised thinking	10	16
No disorganised thinking	21	212
Sensitivity (95% CI)	0.32 (0.17 to 0.51)	
Specificity (95% CI)	0.93 (0.89 to 0.96)	
κ (95% CI)	0.27 (0.10 to 0.44)	
Altered level of consciousness		No altered level of consciousness
Altered level of consciousness	8	10
No altered level of consciousness	20	221
Sensitivity (95% CI)	0.28 (0.14 to 0.48)	
Specificity (95% CI)	0.96 (0.92 to 0.98)	
κ (95% CI)	0.29 (0.11 to 0.47)	
Acute change in mental status		No acute change in mental status
Acute change in mental status	29	4
No acute change in mental status	38	188
Sensitivity (95% CI)	0.43 (0.31 to 0.56)	
Specificity (95% CI)	0.98 (0.94 to 0.99)	
κ (95% CI)	0.49 (0.37 to 0.62)	

DELIRIUM IN PS: ESISTE?

Cognitive assessment of 319 elderly (65+) patients in ED			
	Cognitive assessment type, n (%)		
	Adequate	Partial	Inadequate
Number of patients	5 (1.6)	35 (10.9)	279 (87.5)
Points of cognition			
Attention	5	33	0
Orientation	5	29	0
Language	5	16	0
Memory	3	0	0
Perceptual disturbances	0	0	0
Acute onset	2	0	0

3. Results

3.1. Demographic characteristics

During the 12-month study period, 23,014 elderly (65+) people were assessed in the ED. The average age was 75.6 ± 7.4 years and 13,698 (59.5%) of the patients were female. The average age of 319 study population patients was 75.3 ± 7.7 and 187 (59%) of the patients were female, and 294 of them (92.2%) were living in the community. The basic characteristics of the study population can be seen in Table 1.

3.2. Cognitive status assessment and delirium diagnosis

Not even in a single patient in the study population of 319, at least according to the charts, was "delirium" formally diagnosed (by any of its synonyms). The rates and quality of cognitive assessment can be seen in Table 2.

Accessi AGU 2013: 9096

Ultra65enni: 7984

Ultra75enni: 6890

Delirium (diagnosi): 242 (3%)

Termini "compatibili": delirium, delirio, stato confusionale, stato soporoso

Delirium (triage): 431 (5.4%)

Termini "compatibili": delirium, stato di agitazione, stato confusionale, stato soporoso, decadimento (globale, generale)

DELIRIUM

	Prevalence (%)*	Incidence (%)*	Outcomes (adjusted RR†)
Surgical			
Cardiac	..	11-46	Cognitive dysfunction 1.7; functional decline 1.9
Non-cardiac	..	13-50	Functional decline 2.1; cognitive dysfunction 1.6
Orthopaedic	17	12-51	Dementia or cognitive dysfunction 6.4-41.2; admission to institution 5.6
Medical			
General medical	18-35	11-14	Mortality 1.5-1.6; functional decline 1.5
Old age medicine	25	20-29	Falls 1.3; mortality 1.9; admission to institution 2.5
Intensive care	7-50	19-82	Mortality 1.4-13.0; longer length of stay 1.4-2.1; extended mechanical ventilation 8.6
Stroke	..	10-27	Mortality 2.0; any of increased length of stay, functional impairment, or death 2.1
Dementia	18	56	Cognitive decline 1.6-3.1; admission to an institution 9.3; mortality 5.4
Palliative care, cancer	..	47	..
Nursing home or postacute care	14	20-22	Mortality 4.9
Emergency department	8-17	..	Mortality 1.7

IP-OSS: DELIRIUM

Misconosciuto..



Non conoscenza, da parte degli infermieri, dei criteri di identificazione

L'assenza di comunicazione tra i membri dello staff sui sintomi di insorgenza dello stato di confusione mentale acuta

Eden BM, Foreman MD (1996). Problems associated with underrecognition of delirium in critical care: a case study. Heart Lung 25(5):388-400

L'INFERMIERE



Accoglienza e Triage



Prima "interfaccia" con i parenti



Gestione del dolore in Post Triage



Soddisfacimento bisogni assistenziali

OSS



Monitoraggio continuo



Implementazione strumenti di screening



Presa in carico per la dimissione



Valutazione del microambiente (consulenza)

OUTLINE

- Cosa
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- 

DELIRIUM: CLINICA

- **Forma iperattiva (22%):** aumento dell'attività psicomotoria con agitazione ed irrequietezza (restless); facile distraibilità; allucinazioni, idee deliranti; aggressività e pericolosità per sé stessi e gli altri
- **Forma ipoattiva (26%):** riduzione dell'attività psicomotoria e della vigilanza (sopore, stupor); rifiuto del cibo, della mobilitazione, talvolta delle terapie
- **Forma mista (42%):** alternanza dei quadri sopradescritti, anche più volte nella giornata; inversione ritmo sonno-veglia; ansia, paura, irritabilità, rabbia, euforia, apatia

DELIRIUM: CLINICA



CAM

(Confusion Assessment Method)

1. Modificazione acuta e fluttuazione dello stato di coscienza e del comportamento

E

2. Inattenzione (deficit dell'attenzione)

+

3. Disorganizzazione del pensiero

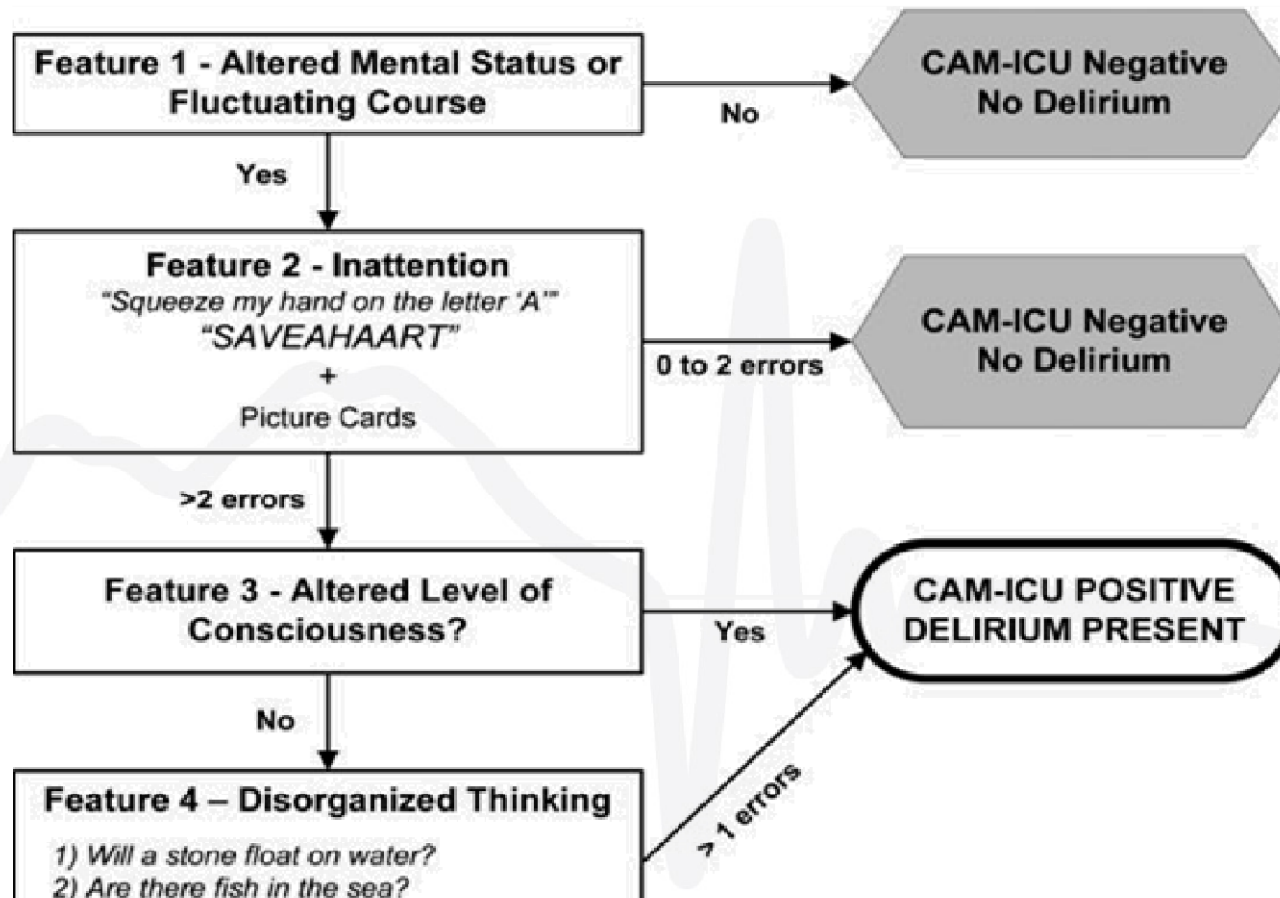
O

4. Alterato stato di coscienza (not alert)

CAM

- 1. Insorgenza acuta ed andamento fluttuante. Chiedere al caregiver se c'è stato un cambiamento acuto nello stato mentale del paziente, rispetto alla sua situazione di base, e se il comportamento anormale varia durante la giornata (es. va e viene; si modifica d'intensità)**
- 2. Perdita dell'attenzione. Il paziente è facilmente distraibile (Digit Span), non riesce a mantenere il filo del discorso?**
- 3. Disorganizzazione del pensiero. Il pensiero del paziente è disorganizzato ed incoerente (es. passa da un argomento all'altro senza filo logico, in modo imprevedibile)?**
- 4. Alterato livello di coscienza. Il paziente è in iperallerta, oppure letargico, stuporoso o comatoso?**

CAM-ICU (in PS)

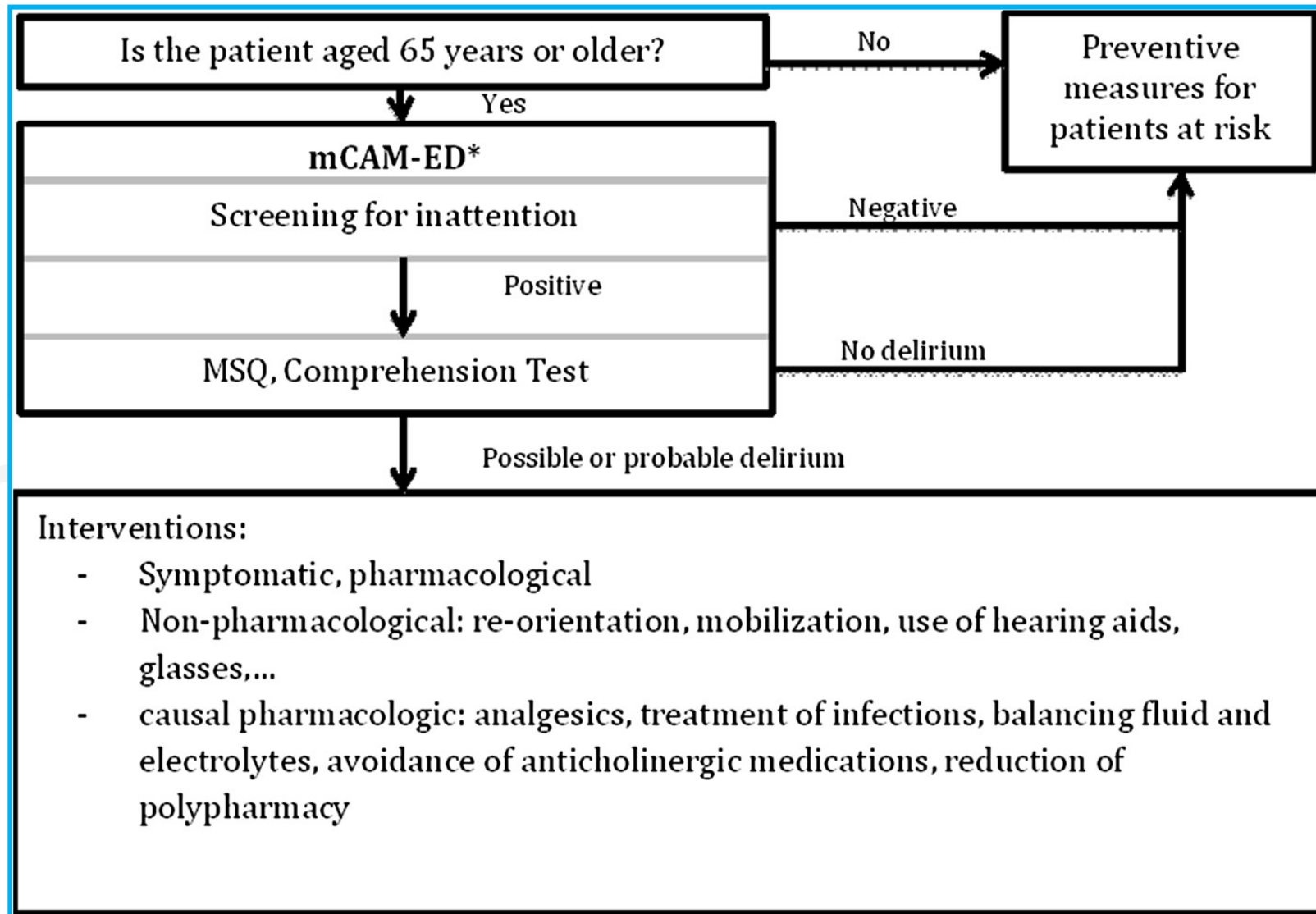


Rater	Sensitivity (95% CI)	Specificity (95% CI)	LR+ (95% CI)	LR (95% CI)
Emergency physician	72.0% (58.3 82.5)	98.6% (96.8 99.4)	51.3 (21.1 124.5)	0.28 (0.18 0.44)
Research assistant	68.0% (54.2 79.2)	98.6% (96.8 99.4)	48.4 (19.9 118.0)	0.32 (0.22 0.49)

$\kappa = 0.92$ (95% CI = 0.85 0.98)

other hand (Do not demonstrate).

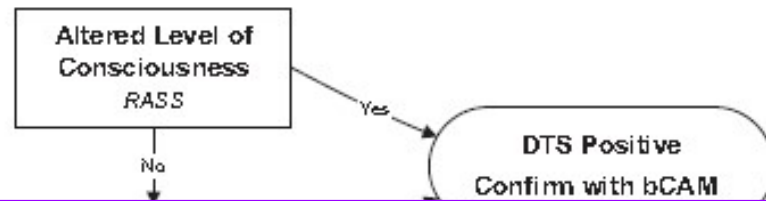
mCAM-ED



DTS+bCAM

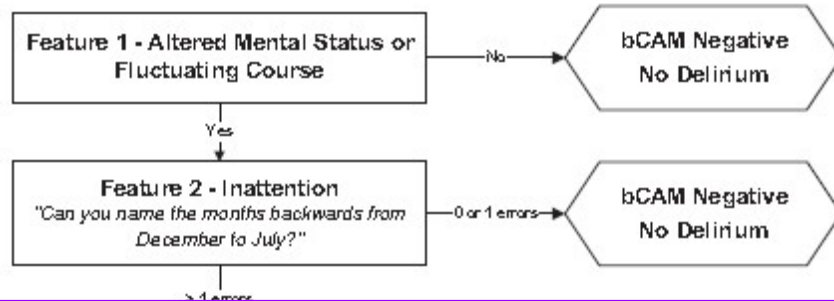
Step 1: Delirium Triage Screen

Rule-out Screen: Highly Sensitive



Step 2: Brief Confusion Assessment Method

Confirmation: Highly Specific



Coma

Stupor

Delirium

RASS	-5	-4	-3	-2	-1	0	+1	+2	+3	+4
	Unarousable No response to voice or physical stimulation	Arousable to pain only No response to voice, but responds to physical stimulation	Severely Drowsy Responds to voice, but does not make eye contact	Moderately Drowsy Responds to voice, but can only make eye contact for < 10 seconds	Slightly Drowsy Responds to voice and can make eye contact for > 10 seconds	Alert and calm	Restless Anxious, but movements not aggressive	Agitated Frequent, non-purposeful movement	Very Agitated Pulls or removes tubes or catheters, aggressive	Combative Overtly combative, violent, danger to staff

4AT

(1) ALLERTA Pazienti considerabili soporosi (difficili da svegliare e/o evidentemente soporosi) oppure agitati/iperattivi. Osservare il paziente. Se dorme provare a svegliarlo parlandogli o con un leggero tocco sulla spalla. Chiedere ai pazienti di dichiarare il proprio nome ed indirizzo per collaborare alla valutazione.

Normale (completamente attento, ma non agitato durante la valutazione)	0
Moderata sonnolenza per meno di 10 sec dopo il risveglio, poi normale	0
Chiaramente anormale	4

(2) AMT4 Età, data di nascita, luogo (nome dell'ospedale o ambulatorio), anno

Nessun errore	4
Un errore	3
2 o più errori	0

4 o più: possibile delirium +/- deterioramento cognitivo (necessarie informazioni più dettagliate);

1-3: possibile deterioramento cognitivo (altri test necessari);

0: improbabile delirium o deterioramento cognitivo (ma delirium può essere presente se il punto 4 è incompleto)

(3) ATTENZIONI
suggerimento in

Nomina	0
Inizia, ma nomina meno di 7 mesi/rifiuta di iniziare	1
Test non effettuabile (il paziente è indisposto, assonnato o disattento)	2

(4) CAMBIAMENTO ACUTO O DECORSO FLUTTUANTE Dimostrazione di evidente cambiamento o andamento fluttuante in: attenzione, comprensione o altre funzioni mentali (es. paranoia, allucinazioni) che si sono presentate nelle ultime 2 settimane ed ancora presenti nelle ultime 24h

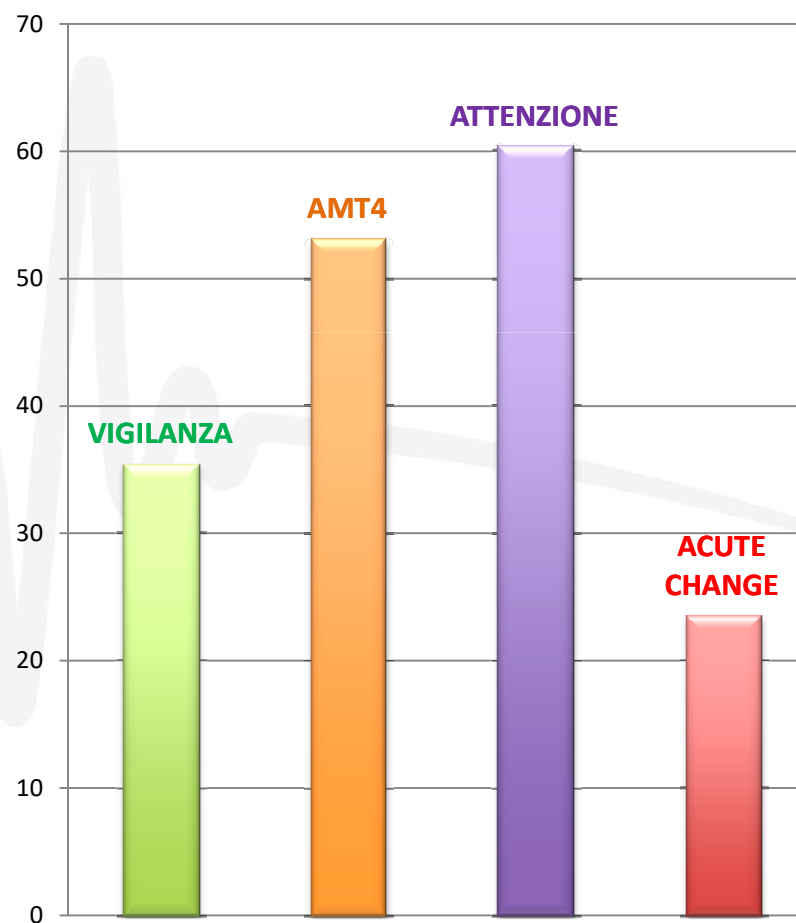
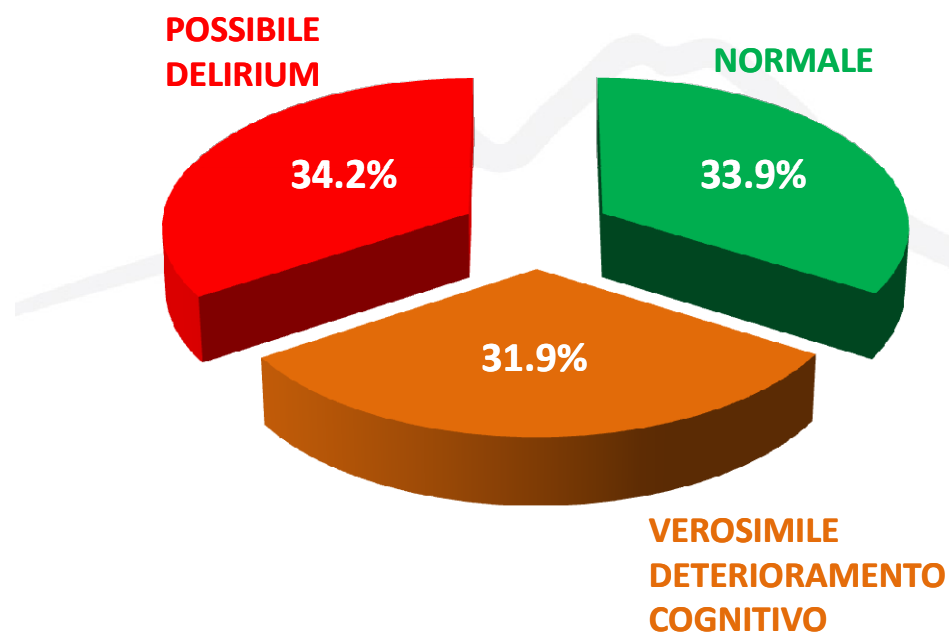
no	0
si	4

4AT SCORE:

4AT: DATI AGU



260 PAZIENTI; ETÀ MEDIA 85.7 ± 5.3 anni; 62% DONNE



OUTLINE

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 - Chi
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 - Perché
 - Take-home Messages
- 

DIAGNOSTIC ACCURACY OF A RAPID CHECKLIST TO IDENTIFY DELIRIUM IN OLDER PATIENTS TRANSPORTED BY EMS

Delirium Checklist Item	Total (n = 259)	Delirium (n = 24)	No Delirium (n = 235)	p-Value
Acute change	27 (10%)	9 (38%)	18 (8%)	< 0.0001
Inattention	49 (19%)	12 (50%)	37 (16%)	< 0.0001
Disorganized thinking	30 (12%)	11 (46%)	19 (8%)	< 0.0001
Abnormal level of consciousness	24 (9%)	9 (37%)	15 (6%)	< 0.0001

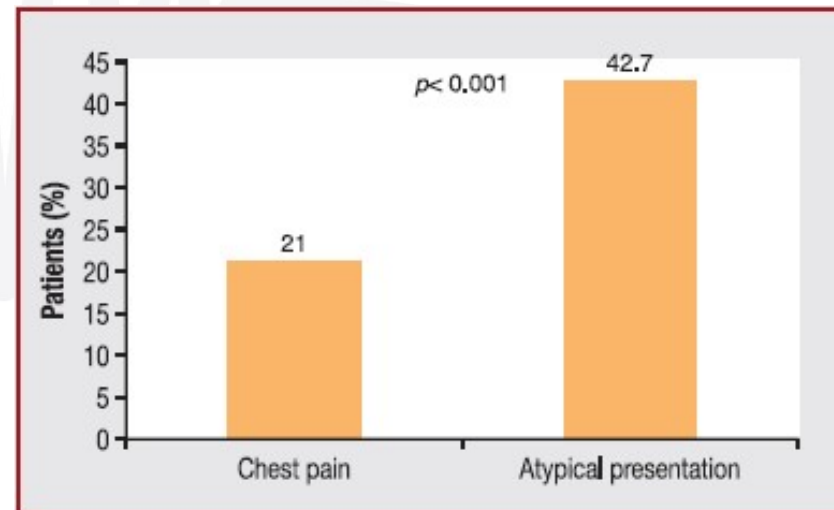
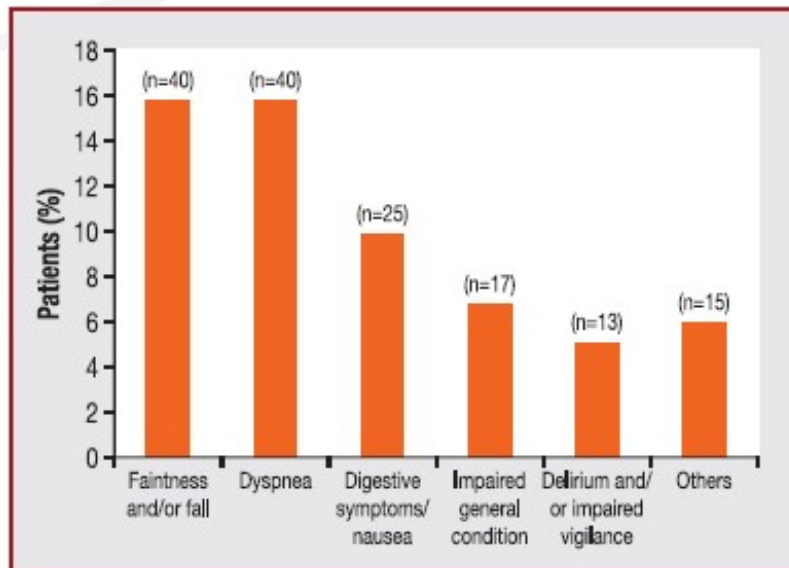
Number of Abnormal Responses	Sensitivity	Specificity	Classified	LR+	LR-
(= 0)	100.00%	0.00%	9.27%	1	
(≤1)	62.50%	78.72%	77.22%	2.9375	0.4764
(≤2)	54.17%	90.21%	86.87%	5.5344	0.5081
(≤3)	33.33%	94.04%	88.42%	5.5952	0.7089
(≤4)	20.83%	99.15%	91.89%	24.4791	0.7985
(>4)	0.00%	100.00%	90.73%		1

TOP TEN OF CHIEF COMPLAINTS

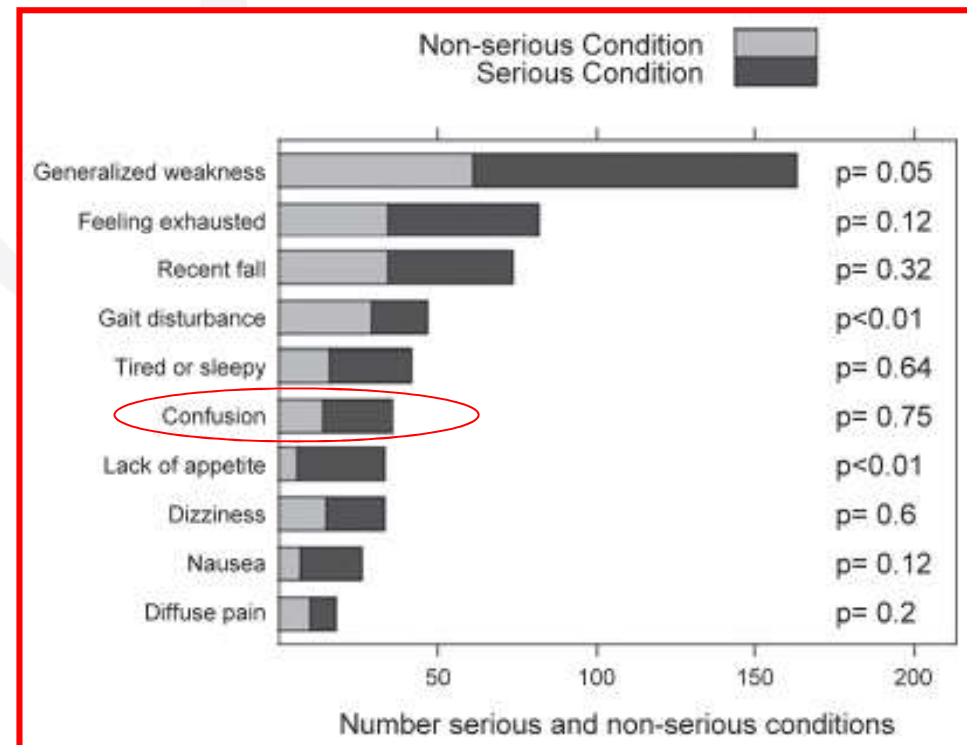
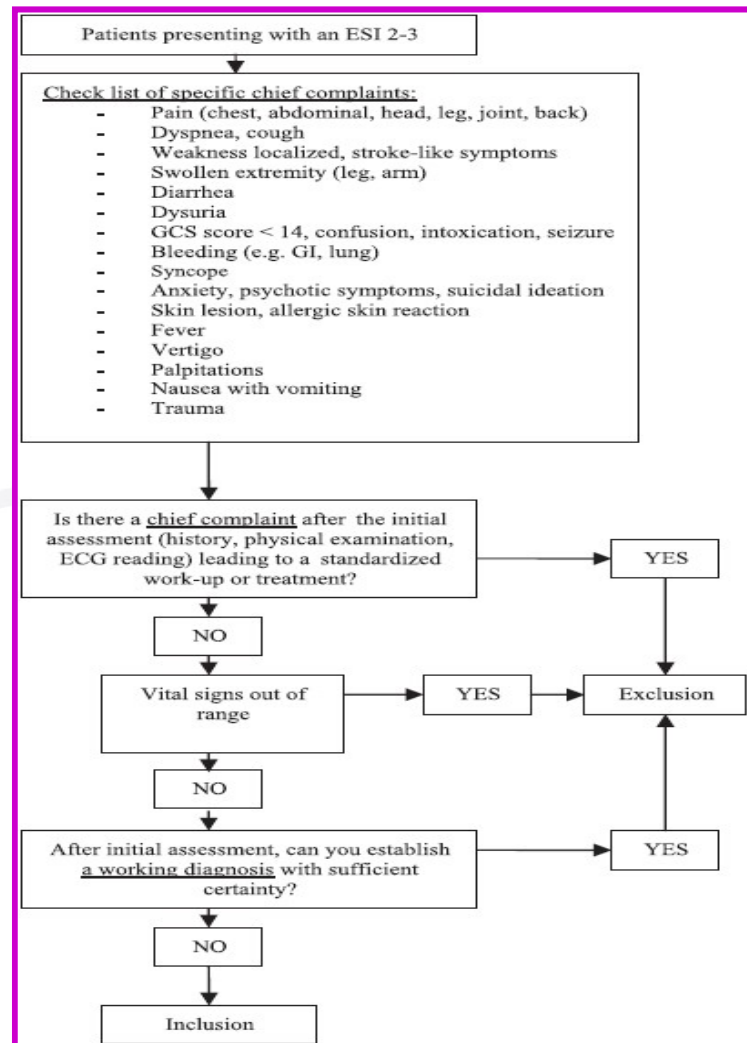
Trauma Enclosed		Trauma Excluded	
Young adults	Elderly	Young adults	Elderly
Lower limbs trauma 589 (13.3)	Dyspnea 134 (9.6)	Abdominal pain 296 (6.7)	Dyspnea 134 (9.6)
Upper limbs trauma 405 (9.1)	Lower limbs trauma 127 (9.1)	Fever 202 (4.6)	Abdominal pain 125 (9)
Abdominal pain 296 (6.7)	Abdominal pain 125 (9)	Lower limbs pain 135 (3)	Chest pain 64 (4.6)
Column trauma 261 (5.9)	Chest pain 64 (4.6)	Chest pain 135 (3)	Palpitations 62 (4.5)
Fever 202 (4.6)	Palpitations 62 (4.5)	Skin problems 129 (2.9)	Lower limbs pain 55 (4)
Lower limbs pain 135 (3)	Upper limbs trauma 56 (4)	Foreign body (eye) 127 (2.9)	Weakness 50 (3.6)
Chest pain 135 (3)	Lower limbs pain 55 (4)	Headache 113 (2.5)	Syncope 40 (2.9)
Skin problems 129 (2.9)	Weakness 50 (3.6)	Eye pain 96 (2.2)	Fever 31 (2.2)
Foreign body (eye) 127 (2.9)	Syncope 40 (2.9)	Back pain 92 (2.1)	Headache 31 (2.2)
Headache 113 (2.5)	Column trauma 35 (2.5)	Dyspnea 87 (2)	Paresthesias 27 (1.9)

ATYPICAL PRESENTATIONS

- Solo il 40% degli anziani segue la regola “1 sintomo = 1 malattia”
 - IMA senza dolore toracico
 - FA come sintomo di crisi tireotossica; iposodiemia/ipotiroidismo
 - Astenia (deficit funzionale acuto) quale sintomo principale di scompenso cardiaco, infezione (polmonite; sepsi)
 - Sincope quale presentazione di embolia polmonare



Patients Presenting to the Emergency Department With Non-specific Complaints: The Basel Non-specific Complaints (BANC) Study



TOP TEN OF ED DIAGNOSES

TRAUMI

Younger adults	Older adults
Contusion 569 (33.5)	Contusion 95 (26.8)
Wound 325 (19.1)	Wound 78 (22.0)
Distractive trauma 206 (12.1)	Hip fracture 29 (8.2)
Sprain 151 (8.9)	Distractive trauma 23 (6.5)
Head trauma 88 (5.2)	Head trauma 19 (5.4)
Forearm fracture 53 (3.1)	Sprain 13 (3.7)
Hand fracture 53 (3.1)	Forearm fracture 12 (3.4)
Eye trauma 29 (1.7)	Vertebral/sacrum fracture 9 (2.5)
Finger fracture 28 (1.6)	Foot fracture 9 (2.5)
Foot fracture 26 (1.5)	Rib fracture 8 (2.3)

NON TRAUMI

Younger adults	Older adults
Fever 180 (6.7)	Atypical chest pain 46 (4.5)
Atypical chest pain 107 (4.0)	Atrial fibrillation 31 (3.0)
Skin problem (undefined) 96 (3.6)	Dyspnea 31 (3.0)
Gynecological problem 91 (3.4)	Fever 31 (3.0)
Foreign body (eye) 86 (3.2)	Heart failure 30 (2.9)
Abdominal colic 86 (3.2)	Pneumonia 29 (2.8)
Abdominal pain 79 (2.9)	Stroke 26 (2.5)
Headache 72 (2.7)	Kidney stone 25 (2.4)
Red eye 70 (2.6)	Back pain 23 (2.2)
Kidney stone 65 (2.4)	Epigastric pain 23 (2.2)
Red or painful ear 58 (2.3)	Dehydration 23 (2.2)

OUTLINE

- Cosa
- Chi
- Come
- **Quando**
 - diagnosticare/screenare il delirium
 - il delirium insorge in PS?
- Perché
- Take-home Messages

DELIRIUM INCIDENTE

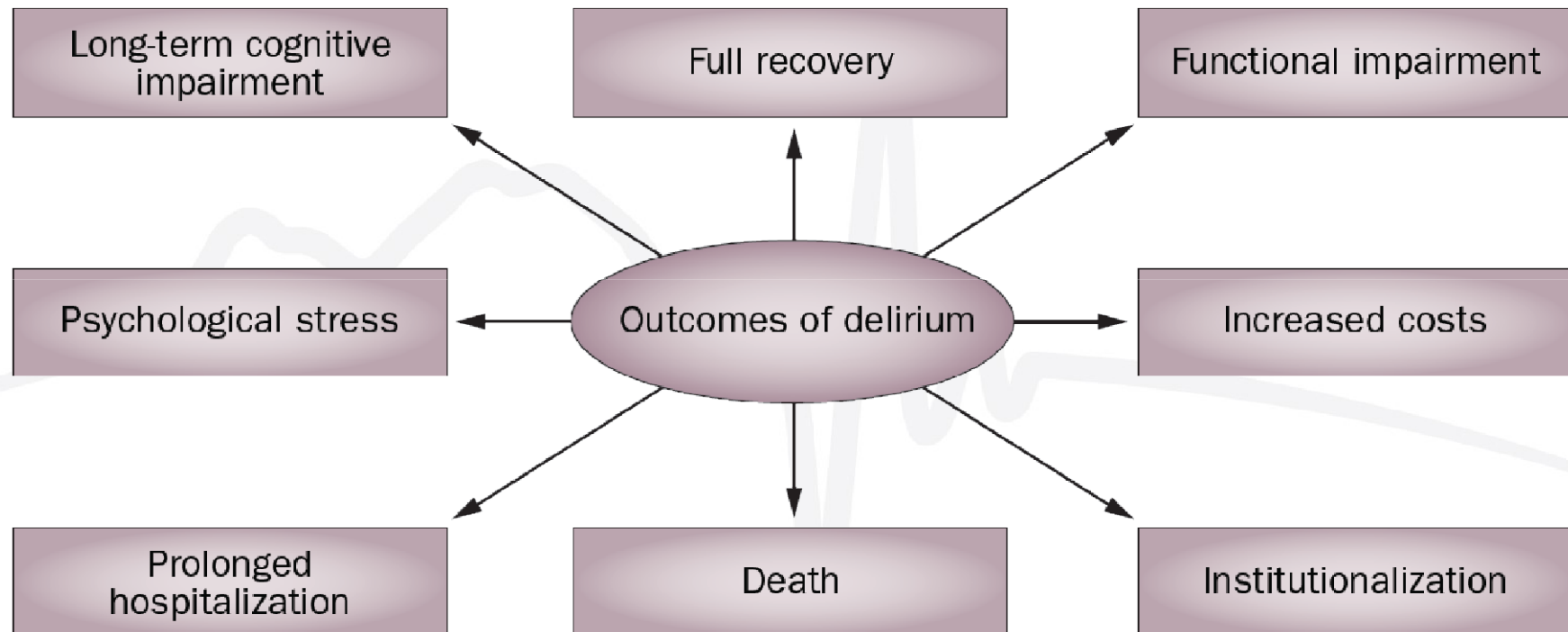
- Stazionamento prolungato (>10h OR 2.23; 95% CI 1.13-4.41)
- Ambiente rumoroso e poco confortevole
- Illuminazione artificiale
- Restraints
- Dolore/malattie acute-gravi in corso

	Coma		Stupor		Delirium					
RASS	-5	-4	-3	-2	-1	0	+1	+2	+3	+4
	Unarousable No response to voice or physical stimulation	Arousable to pain only No response to voice, but responds to physical stimulation	Severely Drowsy Responds to voice, but does not make eye contact	Moderately Drowsy Responds to voice, but can only make eye contact for < 10 seconds	Slightly Drowsy Responds to voice and can make eye contact for > 10 seconds	Alert and calm	Restless Anxious, but movements not aggressive	Agitated Frequent, non-purposeful movement	Very Agitated Pulls or removes tubes or catheters, aggressive	Combative Overtly combative, violent, danger to staff

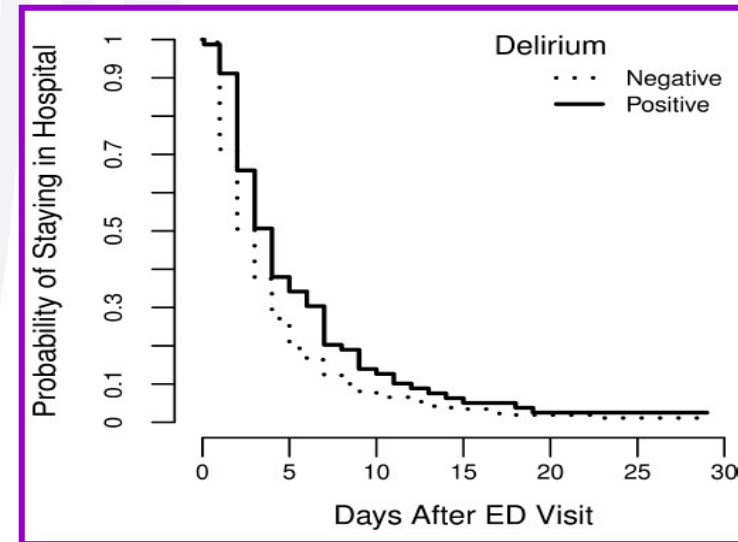
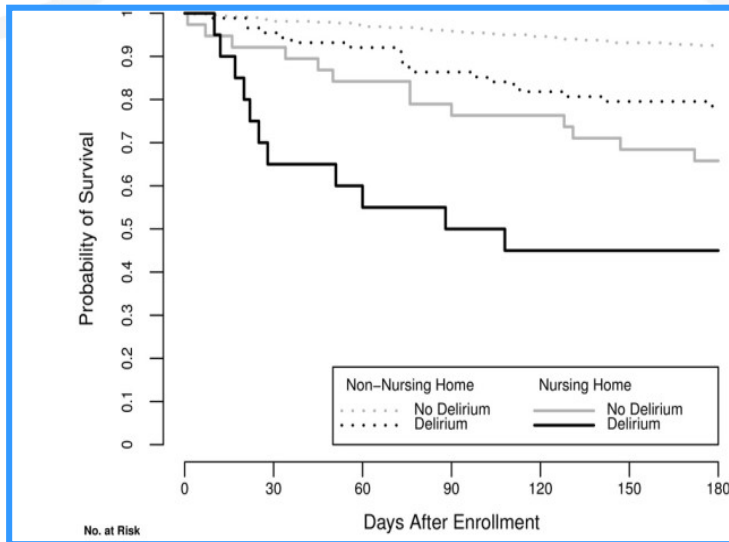
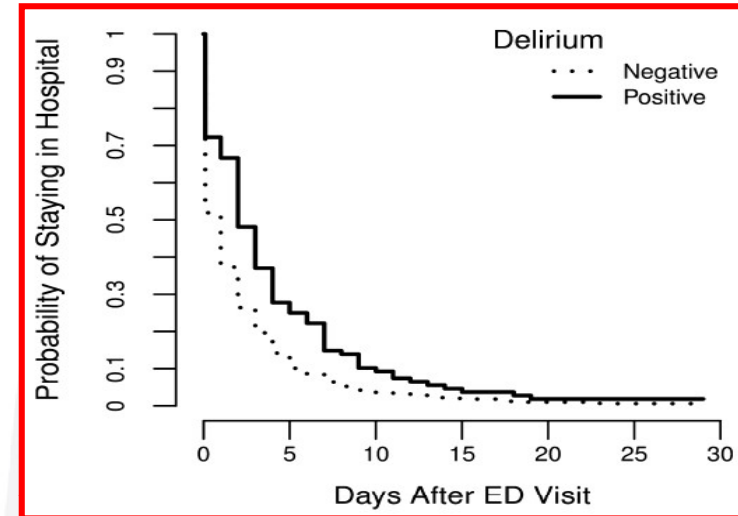
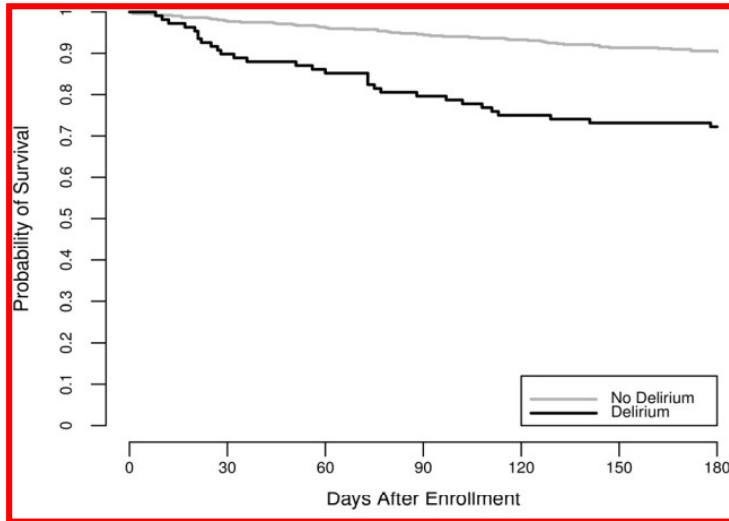
OUTLINE

- Cosa
 - Chi
 - Come
 - Quando
 - Perché
 - Take-home Messages
- 

DELIRIUM: OUTCOMES



DELIRIUM IN PS: DEATH & LOS



Han JH et al. Ann Emerg Med 2010
Han JH et al. Acad Emerg Med 2011

The Effect of Cognitive Impairment on the Accuracy of the Presenting Complaint and Discharge Instruction Comprehension in Older Emergency Department Patients

Table 3. Proportional odds logistic regression model for the analysis of the accuracy of the patient's presenting complaint.*

Variables	Proportional Odds Ratio (95% CI)
Cognitive impairment	
No cognitive impairment	Reference
Delirium only	0.42 (0.19–0.93)
Dementia only	1.40 (0.72–2.70)
Delirium superimposed on dementia	0.20 (0.09–0.43)
Age	0.95 (0.92–0.99)
Health literacy	0.93 (0.81–1.08)
Education	0.81 (0.61–1.08)
Nonwhite race	0.75 (0.38–1.50)
Hearing impairment	1.13 (0.66–1.92)

Table 6. Multivariable proportional logistic regression models to determine whether cognitive impairment is associated with decreased comprehension of ED discharge instructions, adjusted for health literacy, education, nonwhite race, and hearing impairment.*

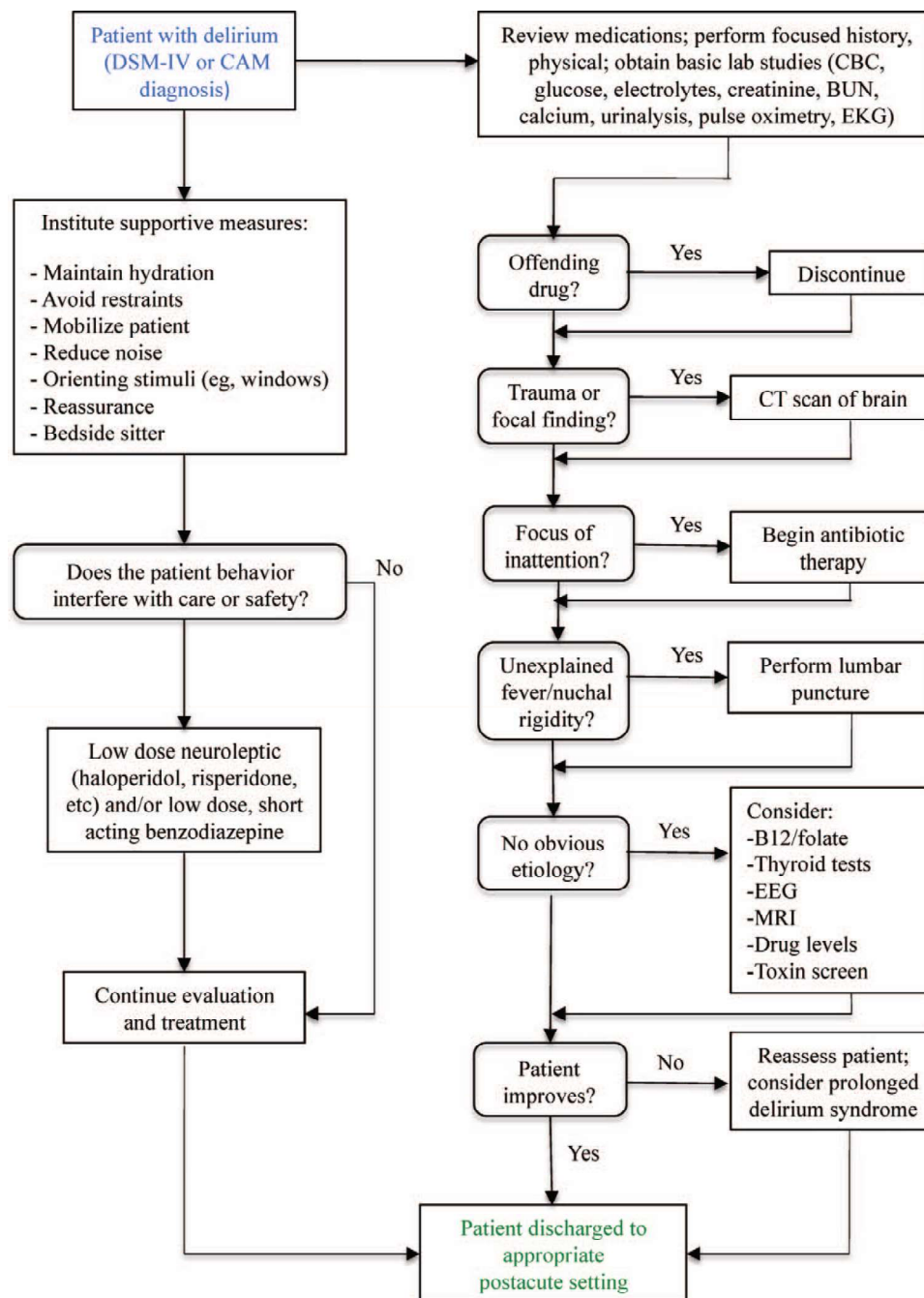
Variables	Proportional Odds Ratio (95% CI)
Discharge diagnosis	
Cognitive impairment	
No cognitive impairment	Reference
Delirium only	0.94 (0.27–3.28)
Dementia only	0.72 (0.33–1.60)
Delirium superimposed on dementia	0.13 (0.04–0.47)
Age	1.00 (0.95–1.05)
Health literacy	0.95 (0.79–1.13)
Education	1.20 (0.84–1.73)
Nonwhite race	0.37 (0.17–0.83)
Hearing impairment	1.15 (0.55–2.40)
Return to the ED instructions	
Cognitive impairment	
No cognitive impairment	Reference
Delirium only	0.39 (0.10–1.57)
Dementia only	0.58 (0.26–1.32)
Delirium superimposed on dementia	0.18 (0.04–0.82)
Age	0.94 (0.89–0.99)
Health literacy	1.01 (0.84–1.22)
Education	1.34 (0.91–1.98)
Nonwhite race	0.65 (0.27–1.57)
Hearing impairment	2.03 (0.91–4.51)
Follow-up instructions	
Cognitive impairment	
No cognitive impairment	Reference
Delirium only	2.23 (0.65–7.64)
Dementia only	0.56 (0.26–1.21)
Delirium superimposed on dementia	0.09 (0.02–0.35)
Age	1.02 (0.98–1.08)
Health literacy	0.74 (0.62–0.89)
Education	0.89 (0.63–1.27)
Nonwhite race	0.50 (0.23–1.10)
Hearing impairment	1.00 (0.49–2.06)

OUTLINE

- Cosa
- Chi
- Come
- Quando
- Perché
- Take home Messages

DELIRIUM: A GERIATRIC APPROACH

- Medical history (**recent therapy modification**) and physical exam (search for **acute urinary retention** → BladderScan and/or **fecal impaction** → digital rectal exploration); search for **pain** (non-verbal communication; analgesia ex-adjuvantibus)
- EKG (blood gas if oxygen saturation is <92%)
- Urinary stick and glucometer test
- Labs (Hb-WBC, glycemia, urea & creatinine → BUN/creatinine ratio, electrolytes, AST/ALT, albumin, but including cardiac enzymes, BNP, PCR and, when indicated, FDP and/or TSH reflex)
- Rx (chest and/or abdomen) if indicated
- Brain CT-scan only in the presence of focal neurological signs, head trauma, a fall or in the event that another cause has not been found



Gower LEJ et al. West J Emerg Med 2012

NewYork-Presbyterian The University Hospital of Columbia and Cornell GERIATRIC EMERGENCY MEDICINE

PROTOCOL FOR ED MANAGEMENT OF DELIRIUM IN OLDER ADULTS

DIAGNOSIS / RECOGNITION

BRIEFLY ASSESS MENTAL STATUS

1. acute onset & fluctuating course
2. inattention
3. disorganized thinking
4. altered level of consciousness

Delirium diagnosis requires both of these and one of these

ACQUIRE COLLATERAL Contact family and/or nursing facility to find out baseline mental status and any recent acute changes

CHECK VITAL SIGNS Results may dramatically change diagnostic investigations, management, and disposition

MANAGEMENT

EVALUATE FOR & TREAT COMMONLY MISSED CONTRIBUTING CAUSES

CHECK	A	B	C	D	E	F
NALGESIA	Fully expose skin Palpate long bones and joints Consider if current diagnosis pain-related Check for chronic pain condition	LADDER-URINE RETENTION Check bladder ultrasound (positive if measurement > 150cc)	ONSTIPATION Perform abdominal exam Perform rectal exam for stool Check for constipation-causing meds	EHYDRATION Check if BUN:Creatinine is ≥ 18	ENVIRONMENT Move patient from hallway Check if patient too hot or cold Check if tethered to sheets / IVs / wires Check for wet or soiled diaper	ARMACY (MEDICATIONS) Perform med reconciliation (for new, changed, or missing meds) Avoid delirium-causing medications
TREATMENT	Give adequate analgesia	Straight cath avoid foley unless necessary	Give stool softener unless contraindicated Bowel disimpaction Consider holding	Give 500cc IV isotonic bolus & reassess	Move to room or document why not poss Give blanket or uncover Untangle Change diaper	Give regular daily medications NEVER START & CONSIDER HOLDING: diphenhydramine oxybutrin

*concerns about meds should NOT prevent adequate pain control

REMEMBER TO RULE OUT LIFE-THREATENING CAUSES

- Infection
- Head Trauma
- Electrolyte disturbance
- MI / ACS
- Hypoxia
- Hypoglycemia
- CVA
- Renal Insufficiency
- Liver Failure

OTHER ACTIONS THAT MAY PREVENT OR HELP TREAT

- Reorient patient frequently
- Arrange for family members to stay with patient
- Address patient face-to-face
- Talk clearly, slowly repetitively
- Keep your hands in sight when possible, avoiding gestures or rapid movements that may be misinterpreted as aggressive
- Use interpreters if difficulty with comprehension of the language
- Optimize lighting in room
- Replace hearing aids
- Put glasses on
- Put dentures in
- Check if patient hungry
- Avoid room/location changes as much as possible

	Initial Dose	Redose	Max Dose	always start low and go slow
Olanzapine	2.5mg PO/SL	q2hr	30mg	good choice if concerned about swallowing pill, history of EPS, long QT avoid if orthostatic hypotension
Risperidone	0.25mg PO	q1hr	15mg	good choice in demented patients avoid if long QT syndrome
Quetiapine	12.5mg PO	q1.5hr	50mg	good choice if concerned about history of EPS, long QT avoid if movement disorder, may cause sedation
Haloperidol	0.5mg IM	q30min	10mg	good choice if sedation desired avoid if Parkinson disease, history of EPS, long QT, seizures
Ativan	0.5mg IV	q15min	6mg	good choice in EOH withdrawal, procedural sedation, can give IV or IM avoid if concern for hypotension, respiratory depression

MEDICATION INTERVENTIONS if necessary

- Avoid and remove physical restraints
- Redose patients with their chronic psychotropic meds
- Check for prior psychotropic use and adverse reactions

DISPOSITION

PRIORITIZE FOR BED ON ACE Unity or any appropriate bed if ACE Unit full → Contact in-patient bed coordinator
Contact Admitting Office

ASSURE CONTINUITY OF CARE → Include mention of delirium and management in Nursing and MD verbal sign-out

Rosen T et al. Adv Emerg Nurs J 2015

The Elder-Friendly Emergency Department Assessment Tool: Development of a Quality Assessment Tool for Emergency Department–Based Geriatric Care

Education of ED staff in elder-friendly ED care
Educational initiatives exist for nursing and allied health professionals
Educational initiatives exist for ED physicians
Elder-Friendly physical environment and design principles
Prepared environment (e.g., clutter-free environment, noise-reduction methods, appropriate lighting and signage)
Adaptive furniture that promotes function and safety (e.g., low stretchers, thick mattresses, upright and reclining chairs)
Access to adaptive equipment (e.g., walkers, canes, hearing amplifiers)
Presence of staff with geriatrics expertise
Designated clinical coordinator or team leader for ED-based geriatric care on site
Advanced practice nurse or nurse clinician providing geriatrics assessment and management support on site
Social worker on site
Physiotherapist or occupational therapist available
Pharmacist available
Geriatrics consultation service available
Presence of geriatric screening and assessment protocols for vulnerable elderly adults using validated tools
High-risk screening tools to identify vulnerable elderly adults
Cognitive, functional, and mobility assessments
Medication review and reconciliation
Standardized protocols for identification, prevention, and management of delirium, falls, functional decline, dehydration, incontinence, and pain
Discharge planning of vulnerable elderly adults from ED to community
Nurse or nurse clinician for supportive discharge planning
Medication reconciliation at discharge
Transfer of clinical information to primary care physician
Transfer of clinical information to home care services
Key information given in writing/explained to older patients and caregivers at discharge
Linkages between ED and relevant community care and services to ensure service delivery occurs after discharge to community and appropriate information exchange occurs
Primary care physicians
Home care services
Rehabilitation and convalescence services
Geriatric outpatient clinic or day hospital services
Evaluation and monitoring of ED-based geriatric care processes
Hospital admission rate
ED and hospital lengths of stay
ED repeat visits and subsequent hospital admission rate
Patient, caregiver, and provider satisfaction with service

THE GERIATRIC ED

SUONI E LUCI (sleep protocol)

- Ambiente sereno
- Luci soffuse
- Musica

I PARENTI..

- Perché non un parente sempre vicino al paziente??
- Evitare “ricambi” troppo frequenti di visitatori



SPAZI

- Fornire informazioni ed illustrare l'ambiente
- Uso di calendari ed orologi
- Evitare cambiamenti di stanza e spazi, soprattutto di notte
- Creare un ambiente libero da rischi
- Ridurre, quando possibile, i sistemi di contenzione

Optimal Older Adult Emergency Care: Introducing Multidisciplinary Geriatric Emergency Department Guidelines From the American College of Emergency Physicians, American Geriatrics Society, Emergency Nurses Association, and Society for Academic Emergency Medicine

Christopher R. Carpenter, MD, MSc*; Marilyn Bromley, RN; Jeffrey M. Caterino, MD, MPH; Audrey Chun, MD; Lowell W. Gerson, PhD;
Jason Greenspan, MD; Ula Hwang, MD; David P. John, MD; William L. Lyons, MD; Timothy F. Platts-Mills, MD, MSc;
Betty Mortensen, RN; Luna Ragsdale, MD, MPH; Mark Rosenberg, DO, MBA; Scott T. Wilber, MD, MPH; for the
ACEP Geriatric Emergency Medicine Section, American Geriatrics Society, Emergency Nurses Association, and SAEM Academy of
Geriatric Emergency Medicine

**Corresponding Author. E-mail: carpenterc@wusm.wustl.edu, Twitter @GeriatricEDNews.*

0196-0644/\$-see front matter

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<http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.annemergmed.2014.03.002>

EDUCATION

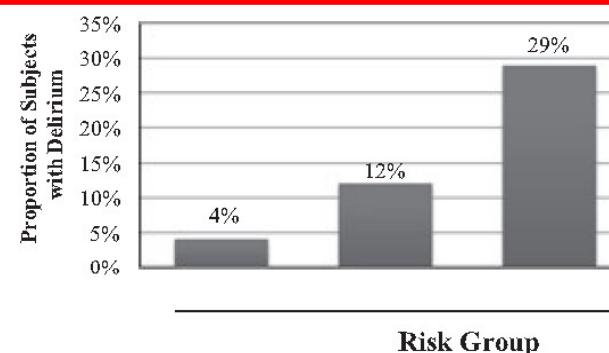
- Atypical presentations of disease
- Trauma, including falls and hip fracture
- Cognitive and behavioral disorders
- Modifications for older patients of emergent interventions
- Medication management
- Transitions of care and referrals to services
- Pain management and palliative care
- Effect of comorbid conditions
- Functional impairments and disorders
- Management of the group of diseases peculiar to the geriatric adult, including conditions causing abdominal pain
- Weakness and dizziness
- Iatrogenic injuries
- Elder abuse and neglect

PROTOCOLLI

- Triage and initial evaluation
 - Family/care provider presence/participation in the triage process is highly encouraged
- Initial screening tool to recognize and evaluate at-risk seniors * **(ISAR)**
- Patient safety
- Suspected elder/dependent adult abuse and neglect
- Sedation/analgesia in the geriatric patient
- Assessment and evaluation of delirium/agitation *
 - Restraint policies
- DNR/POLST/palliative care
- Patient Death
 - Inclusion of the grieving family in the “code” situation is encouraged
- Urinary catheter placement guidelines *
- Fall risk assessment and clinical guideline for the evaluation of the “geriatric adult fall” *
- Wound assessment and care
- Transition of Care and Follow-up
- Medication reconciliation and pharmacy review *

Delirium Risk Prediction, Healthcare Use and Mortality of Elderly Adults in the Emergency Department

Covariate Entered in Model	Odds Ratio (95% CI)	Points Assigned for Risk Prediction Rule
Age ^a		
65–69	1.6 (1.1–2.3)	0
70–79		1
80–89		2
≥90		3
History of dementia	4.3 (2.2–8.5)	3
History of transient ischemic attack or ischemic stroke	3.3 (1.7–6.2)	2
Respiratory rate >20 beats per minute	2.8 (1.2–6.1)	2
Suspected infection ^b	3.2 (1.7–6.0)	2
ED diagnosis of intracranial hemorrhage	8.4 (1.8–40)	5



Delirium Risk Group (Score)	Low Risk (≤2 point)	Moderate Risk (3-4 points)	High Risk (≥5 points)
Subjects with Delirium, n (%)	15 (4%)	18 (12%)	30 (29%)
Total Subjects, n (%)	416 (62%)	156 (23%)	104 (15%)

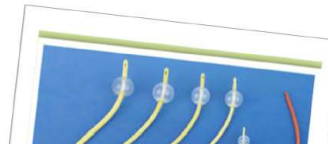
Soddisfare i bisogni
assistenziali..



Idratare, accompagnare in bagno, alimentare..

Mancato soddisfacimento
accentuazione dei sintomi
comportamentali

Sono sempre necessari?



Comunicare..

- Eloquio semplice, scandito bene
- Alzando il tono se c'è ipoacusia
- Attendere con pazienza la risposta
- Dire ciò che si vuole sia fatto
- Usare il non verbale



Registered Nurses Association of Ontario (RNAO). Screening for delirium, dementia and depression in older adults. Toronto (ON): Registered Nurses Association of Ontario (RNAO); 2003

POSSIAMO ANCHE DARE FARMACI

Table 6

Medication, preferred dosing regimen, and special considerations

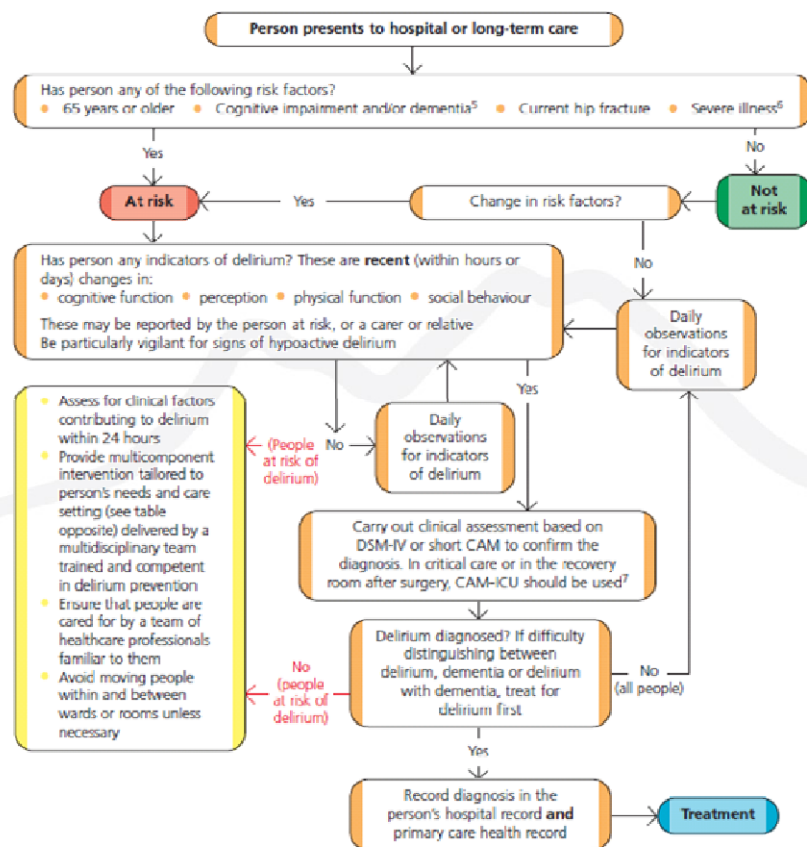
Haloperidol	0.5–1 mg IM/IV every 30–60 min as needed; 0.5–1 mg orally twice daily and every 4 h as needed	Preferred agent
Olanzapine	2.5–5 mg orally once per day	—
Risperidone	0.5 mg orally twice daily	—
Quetiapine	12.5–25 mg orally twice daily	Parkinson disease and hypoactive delirium
Ziprasidone	2 mg–5 mg IM	—

OUTLINE

- Cosa
 - Chi
 - Come
 - Quando
 - Perché
 - Cosa possiamo fare?
 - Take-home Messages
- 

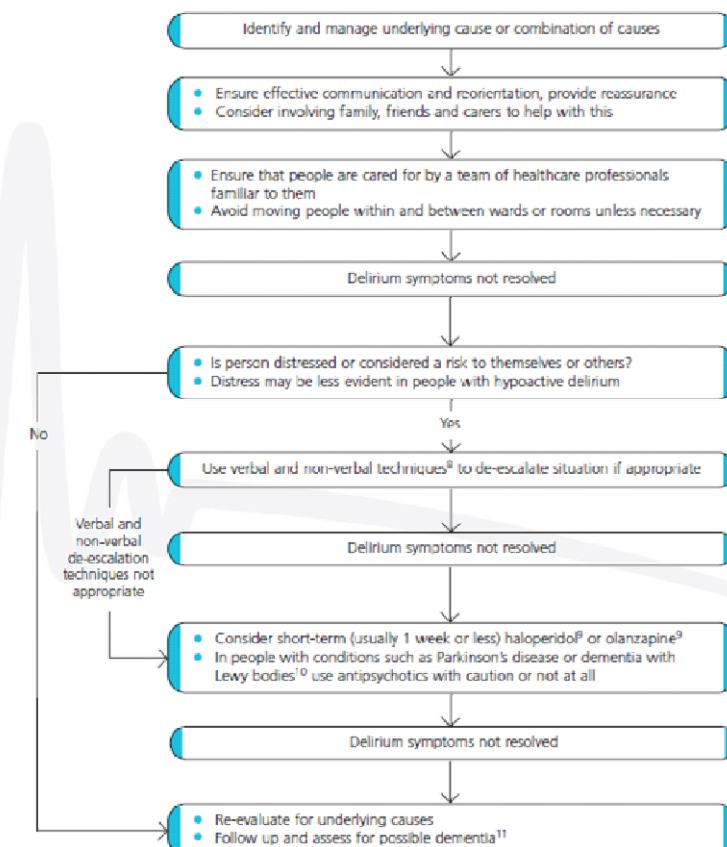
"THINK DELIRIUM"

Preventing and diagnosing delirium



⁵ If cognitive impairment is suspected, confirm using a standardised and validated cognitive impairment measure. If dementia is suspected, refer to 'Dementia: supporting people with dementia and their carers in health and social care' (NICE clinical guideline 42).
⁶ For further information on recognising and responding to acute illness in adults in hospital see 'Acutely ill patients in hospital' (NICE clinical guideline 50).
⁷ A healthcare professional trained and competent in the diagnosis of delirium should carry out this assessment.

Treating delirium



⁸ See 'Violence' (NICE clinical guideline 25).

⁹ Haloperidol and olanzapine do not have UK marketing authorisation for this indication.

¹⁰ For more information on the use of antipsychotics for these conditions, see 'Parkinson's disease' (NICE clinical guideline 35) and 'Dementia' (NICE clinical guideline 42).

¹¹ For more information on dementia see 'Dementia' (NICE clinical guideline 42).

"THINK DELIRIUM"

Cognitive impairment	• Orientation protocols • Provision of clocks and calendars
Functional impairment	• Early mobilization, including getting patient out of bed regularly and as tolerated starting on postoperative day 1 • Daily physiotherapy with occupational therapy as needed
Fluid and electrolyte imbalances	• Restoration of serum sodium, potassium and glucose levels to normal limits • Detection and treatment of dehydration or fluid overload
High-risk medications	• Discontinuation or minimization of use of benzodiazepines, anticholinergics, antihistamines and meperidine • Modification of dosage or discontinuation of drugs to minimize drug interactions and adverse effects
Pain	• Standing orders for acetaminophen use rather than use as needed • Treatment of breakthrough pain starting with low-dose narcotics; avoidance of meperidine

Impaired vision and hearing	• Appropriate use of glasses, hearing aids and adaptive equipment
Malnutrition	• Ensurance of proper use of dentures, proper positioning, assistance with eating if required and use of supplements if required
Iatrogenic complications	• Removal of urinary catheter by postoperative day 2, with screening for urinary retention and incontinence • Implementation of a skin-care program • Bowel regimen to ensure bowel movements by postoperative day 2 then every 48 hours • Chest physiotherapy and supplemental oxygen if indicated • Appropriate anticoagulation therapy • Screening and treatment of urinary tract infection
Sleep deprivation	• Unit-wide strategies to reduce noise • Scheduling of medications and procedures to allow for proper sleep • Use of nonpharmacologic measures to promote sleep



Grazie.

Fabio Salvi