

Encounter Form for Assessing Delirium Risk in Hospitalized Older Patients

Patient's name: _____ Medical record #: _____ Age: _____

I. RISK OF DELIRIUM DURING THIS HOSPITALIZATION

Risk factors (check, if present)

- Visual impairment (20/70 or worse)
- Blood urea nitrogen/creatinine ratio more than 17
- Severe illness*
- Cognitive impairment†

Total risk factors present: _____

Percentage of patients diagnosed with delirium during the hospitalization

Score (assign one point for each risk factor present)	Original cohort of hospitalized patients	Validation cohort of hospitalized hip surgery patients
0 points (low risk)	3	4
1 or 2 points (moderate risk)	16	11
3 or 4 points (high risk)	32	37

*—APACHE II (Acute Physiology and Chronic Health Evaluation) score⁴ of more than 16 or severe illness by nurse assessment.

†—MMSE (Mini-Mental State Evaluation) score⁶ of less than 24 points (maximum score, 30 points).

Information from references 4 through 6.

II. RISK OF PERSISTENT DELIRIUM AT HOSPITAL DISCHARGE

Risk factors (check, if present)

- Visual impairment (20/70 or worse)
- Dementia‡
- Restraints used during delirium
- Impairment in at least one activity of daily living
- Charlson comorbidity score of 4 or more§

Total risk factors present: _____

Score (assign one point for each risk factor present)	Number of patients with persistent dementia at discharge/total number of patients with this score (%)
0 or 1 points (low risk)	9/338 (3)
2 or 3 points (moderate risk)	16/112 (14)
4 or 5 points (high risk)	3/11 (27)

‡—Dementia diagnosis or mBDRS (modified Blessed Dementia Rating Scale) score of 4 or more.

§—Assign one point each for acute myocardial infarction, peripheral arterial disease, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, dementia, heart failure, collagen vascular disease, cerebrovascular disease, and peptic ulcer disease; two points each for hemiplegia and moderate or severe renal disease; six points for autoimmune deficiency syndrome; one point for diabetes without end-organ damage; two points for diabetes with end-organ damage; one point for mild liver disease; three points for moderate or severe liver disease; six points for metastatic solid malignancy; and two points each for leukemia, lymphoma, and other malignancy.⁷

Information from references 7 and 8.

ASSESSMENT/PLAN

- Avoid sleep deprivation
- Assess hearing; correct impairment, if possible
- Assess hydration, maintain adequate hydration during hospitalization
- Other: _____
- Assess cognition; if impaired, provide cues regarding orientation
- Encourage and assist with mobility
- Assess vision; correct impairment, if possible

Physician/nurse signature: _____ Date: _____