

CONFUSION ASSESSMENT METHOD: **SCREENING TOOL FOR DELIRIUM**

THE DIAGNOSIS OF DELIRIUM BY CAM REQUIRES the presence of BOTH features A and B		
<p>CAM Confusion Assessment Method</p>	<p>A <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>ACUTE ONSET</p> <p>AND</p> <p>FLUCTUATING COURSE</p>	<p>Is there evidence of an acute change in mental status from patient baseline? Does the abnormal behavior:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ COME AND GO? ➤ FLUCTUATE DURING THE DAY? ➤ INCREASE/DECREASE IN SEVERITY?
	<p>B <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>INATTENTION</p>	<p>Does the patient:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ HAVE DIFFICULTY FOCUSING ATTENTION? ➤ BECOME EASILY DISTRACTED? ➤ HAVE DIFFICULTY KEEPING TRACK OF WHAT IS SAID?

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AND the presence of EITHER feature C or D		
<p>CAM Confusion Assessment Method</p>	<p>C <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>DISORGANIZED THINKING</p>	<p>Is the patient's thinking</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ DISORGANIZED ➤ INCOHERENT <p>For example does the patient have</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ RAMBLING SPEECH/IRRELEVANT CONVERSATION? ➤ UNPREDICTABLE SWITCHING OF SUBJECTS? ➤ UNCLEAR OR ILLOGICAL FLOW OF IDEAS
	<p>D <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>ALTERED LEVEL OF CONSCIOUSNESS</p>	<p>Overall, what is the patient's level of consciousness:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ ALERT (NORMAL) ➤ VIGILANT (HYPER-ALERT) ➤ LETHARGIC (DROWSY BUT EASILY ROUSED) ➤ STUPOROUS (DIFFICULT TO ROUSE) ➤ COMATOSE (UNROUSABLE)