

DELIRIUM

Common Risk Factors & Underlying Medical Conditions Associated with Delirium

Predisposing and/or Precipitating Factors

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▲ Dementia ▲ Admission from hospital ▲ Unfamiliar environment and/or people ▲ Severity of illness ▲ Hearing and/or vision impairments ▲ Fear/anxiety ▲ Dehydration ▲ Poor nutrition ▲ Poorly controlled pain ▲ Constipation and/or fecal impaction ▲ Urinary retention ▲ Urinary tract infections ▲ Male gender | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▲ Alcohol use ▲ History of depression ▲ Substance/medication intoxication and/or interaction ▲ Substance/medication withdrawal ▲ Psychoactive drug use ▲ Postoperative state/post-trauma, esp. hip fracture ▲ Sleep deprivation ▲ Fever ▲ Hypothermia ▲ Immobility ▲ Hypoxia/anoxia |
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Other Medical Conditions to Consider

Central Nervous System Disorders

- Seizures
- CNS lesions
- Neurological degenerative disorders
- Recent CVA

Cardiopulmonary Disorders

- Myocardial infarction
- Congestive heart failure
- COPD
- Upper respiratory infection
- Severe hypertensive episode
- Hypotension

Metabolic Disorders

- Renal failure
- Hepatic failure
- Azotemia
- Hypoglycemia
- Thiamine deficiency
- Hypothyroidism
- Diabetes
- Fluid & electrolyte imbalance
- Acid-base imbalance