

AN APPROACH TO EARLY RECOGNITION AND PREVENTION OF THE DELIRIUM IN A TRAUMA PATIENT

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Starting points: The purpose of this research is to develop an assessment tool for determining the probability of delirium development in a patient aged over 60 years who is hospitalised in a department of traumatology. **Methods:** As a starting point for data collection we used the descriptive working method based on literature study. The problem of delirium is better studied abroad, therefore we reviewed mostly foreign literature. Thus we came to know several different approaches to recognition and development of delirium in the elderly and how they are applied to the hospitalised patients abroad. With the help of previously published approaches we will develop our own scale of identifying and preventing this complication during hospitalisation. **Results:** The literature review showed that the problem of delirium is also encountered abroad, as it prolongs hospitalisation, complicates the possibility of discharge and reduces the patients' satisfaction. Furthermore, we found out that different algorithms for early recognition of delirium are already used abroad, which results in positive outcomes, both among the employees and in the quality of patient's treatment. **Conclusions:** The importance of identifying risk factors in the development of delirium, early recognition, and adequate treatment reduce the development of delirium, improve diagnosis, and enable quality treatment of patients. The implementation of clinical algorithms for early recognition and treatment of delirium is feasible and yields positive results.