### Guideline topic: Delirium

*General comments: New guideline*

#### Search coverage

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Guidelines search</th>
<th>Source</th>
<th>No. of results</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>Various websites</td>
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**Patient search**

The patient search was conducted using the generic stem search strategy outlined below in conjunction with the patient search filter.

*Databases covered: Medline, Embase, Cochrane Library, Cinahl, PsycInfo*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date searched</th>
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<th>Total Hits:</th>
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<tr>
<td>Feb 2017</td>
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**Systematic reviews**

The systematic review search was conducted using the generic stem search strategy outlined below in conjunction with the SIGN systematic review filter.

*Databases covered: Medline, Embase, Cochrane Library, Cinahl, PsycInfo*

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<tr>
<td>28/02/2017</td>
<td>2012-Feb 2017</td>
<td>877</td>
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</table>

**RCTs**

*Databases covered: Medline, Embase, Cochrane Library, Cinahl, PsycInfo*

| Dates covered | (with variations depending on topic; see Scope of Searches below) |

**Observational studies/ Searches without filter (NOF)**

*Databases covered: Medline, Embase, Cochrane Library, Cinahl, PsycInfo*

| Dates covered | (with variations depending on topic; see Scope of Searches below) |
Economic searches
Databases covered: Medline, Embase, NHSEED

Date searched: 09/06/17
Total hits: 673
Sifted results: 25

Search strategies
The following are listings of the main Medline strategies used for this guideline. All conventions and symbols
are from the Ovid implementation of Medline. Strategies used in other databases were substantially the
same, though different terminology may have been used to take account of different thesauri used in non-
Medline databases.
Search filters were added to identify studies of a particular type (systematic review, RCT etc.) Listings of the
search filters used by SIGN can be found on the SIGN Web site.

Generic Stem (Medline):
1. exp Delirium/
2. Confusion/
3. deliri*.tw.
4. (acute adj3 confusion*).tw.
5. (confusion* adj3 state*).tw.
6. acute brain failure.tw.
7. acute brain syndrome.tw.
8. organic psychosyndrome.tw.
9. psychoorganic syndrome.tw.
10. toxic confusion*.tw.
11. toxic psychosis.tw.
12. or/1-11

Scope of searches for SR/MA*, RCTs, observational studies (OBS), no filter (NOF) and
economics searches

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KQ</th>
<th>Type of studies</th>
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<th>Date range</th>
<th>Initial recall</th>
<th>Sifted result</th>
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*SR/MA search done as one search for whole topic and sifted for individual questions.
Medline Search strategies used for specific key questions:

KQ 1 (assessment tools for delirium)

1. (assessment adj2 scale*).tw.
2. (screening adj2 scale*).tw.
3. (assessment adj2 scor*).tw.
4. (screening adj2 scor*).tw.
5. (screening adj2 tool*).tw.
6. (assessment adj2 tool*).tw.
7. Mass Screening/
8. *Psychiatric Status Rating Scales/
9. "Sensitivity and Specificity"/
10. or/1-9
11. 4AT.tw.
12. 4-AT.tw.
13. 4As test.tw.
14. confusion assessment method.tw.
15. CAM.tw.
16. 3D-CAM.tw.
17. CAM-ICU.tw.
18. FAM-CAM.tw.
19. b-CAM.tw.
20. delirium observation screening scale.tw.
21. DOSS.tw.
22. single question.tw.
23. SQID.tw.
24. memorial delirium assessment scale.tw.
25. MDAS.tw.
26. recognizing acute delirium.tw.
27. RADAR.tw.
28. delirium rating scale*.tw.
29. DRS*.tw.
30. intensive care delirium screening checklist.tw.
31. ICD-SC.tw.
32. Richmond agitation.tw.
33. RASS.tw.
34. m-RASS.tw.
35. nursing delirium screening scale.tw.
36. NUDESC.tw.
37. Nu-DESC.tw.
38. Neecham.tw.
39. organic brain syndrome scale.tw.
40. OBS.tw.
41. or/11-40
42. (delirium adj2 screen*).tw.
43. (delirium adj2 detect*).tw.
44. (delirium adj2 scor*).tw.
45. (delirium adj2 scale*).tw.
46. or/42-45
47. 10 or 41 or 46

KQ 2 (monitoring tools for delirium)

Search as for KQ1.

KQ 3 (other investigations for assessing delirium)

1. exp Neuroimaging/
2. exp Tomography, X-Ray Computed/
3. exp Magnetic Resonance Imaging/
4. exp Magnetic Resonance Spectroscopy/
5. exp Positron-Emission Tomography/
6. exp Tomography, Emission-Computed, Single-Photon/
7. (computed adj2 tomography).tw.
8. magnetic resonance imaging.tw.
9. magnetic resonance spectroscopy.tw.
10. positron emission tomography.tw.
11. single photon emission tomography.tw.
12. (cT or MRI or MRS or PET or SPECT).tw.
13. neuroimaging.tw.
14. imaging.tw.
15. or/1-14
16. exp Electroencephalography/
17. electroencephalography.tw.
18. electroencephalogram*.tw.
19. EEG.tw.
20. or/16-19
21. Spinal Puncture/
22. lumbar puncture.tw.
23. or/21-22
24. exp Antibodies/
25. antibod*.tw.
26. autoimmune encephalitis.tw.
27. (24 or 25) and 26
28. toxicology screen*.tw.
29. 15 or 20 or 23 or 27 or 28

KQ 4 (risk reduction strategies for patients at risk of delirium)

1. Primary Prevention/
2. prevent*.tw.
3. reduc*.tw.
4. stop*.tw.
5. taper*.tw.
6. avoid*.tw.
7. cut* down.tw.
8. or/1-7

KQ 5 (non-pharmacological strategies for managing delirium)

1. nonpharma*.tw.
2. non-pharma*.tw.
3. multicomponent*.tw.
4. (multiple adj3 component*).tw.
5. (single adj3 component*).tw.
6. Hospital Elder Life Program.tw.
7. exp Chronotherapy/
8. exp Phototherapy/
9. Lighting/
10. Noise/
11. Sound/
12. exp Sleep/
13. Ear Protective Devices/
14. Eye Protective Devices/
15. (light adj3 therap*).tw.
16. earplugs.tw.
17. eye mask*.tw.
18. eye shades.tw.
19. exp Nursing Care/
20. Nursing/
21. one-to-one nursing.tw.
22. Safety Management/
23. Family/
24. (family or families).ti.
25. exp Cognitive Therapy/
26. Recreation Therapy/
27. cognitive stimulation.tw.
29. (recreation* adj3 activit*).tw.
30. (recreation* adj3 stimul*).tw.
31. exp Orientation/
32. (orientation or reorientation).tw.
33. distraction.mp.
34. deeslation.mp.
35. de-escalation.mp.
36. reassurance.mp.
37. Occupational Therapy/
38. mobility limitation/
39. Early Ambulation/
40. mobili?ation.tw.
41. (room adj3 chang*).tw.
42. single room*.tw.
43. (bed adj3 move*).tw.
44. sensory impairment.mp.
45. (sleep adj promot*).tw.
46. or/1-45

KQ 6 (pharmacological strategies for managing delirium)

1. exp Antipsychotic Agents/
2. haloperidol.tw.
3. risperidone.tw.
4. olanzapine.tw.
5. quetiapine.tw.
6. aripiprazole.tw.
7. chlorpromazine.tw.
8. ondasetron.tw.
9. antipsychotic*.tw.
10. or/1-9
11. exp Benzodiazepines/
12. lorazepam.tw.
13. midazolam.tw.
14. benzodiazepine*.tw.
15. or/11-14
16. exp Cholinesterase Inhibitors/
17. rivastigmine.tw.
18. acetylcholinesterase*.tw.
19. cholinesterase*.tw.
20. or/16-19
21. Melatonin/
22. ramelteon.tw.
23. 21 or 22
24. exp Antidepressive Agents/
25. antidepressant*.tw.
26. trazodone.tw.
27. or/24-26
28. Dexmedetomidine/
29. dexmedetomidine.tw.
30. Clonidine/
31. clonidine.tw.
32. Propranolol/
KQ 7 (follow-up care after delirium)

1. exp Aftercare/
2. aftercare.tw.
3. after care.tw.
4. (after adj3 delirium).tw.
5. Follow-Up Studies/
6. followup.tw.
7. follow-up.tw.
8. "Recovery of Function"/
9. or/1-8