

Single Question in Delirium

SQID

Delirium is a common and treatable condition that often affects older people with frailty in hospital.

Delirium may be present on admission, but often develops during the hospital stay.

Identification of delirium should prompt specific measures to identify the cause of delirium and to manage the condition appropriately (see TIME bundle and Delirium/Dementia Care Pathway).

One way of identifying delirium is to ask the Single Question in Delirium (SQID):

Is your patient more confused or drowsy than normal?

A positive response should prompt consideration of the presence of delirium.

SQID should be asked on a daily basis by nursing or multidisciplinary staff.

'SQID+ve' or 'SQID-ve' should be clearly written into the nursing record at least once in every 24 hour period, and the result should be routinely included in any handover and/or multi-disciplinary communication (e.g. at board rounds).