


Confusion Assessment Method for the ICU (CAM-ICU)

Name:

Date:

Assessor:

Assessor Signature: 

Instructions: Complete this clinical assessment every shift (8-12 hours) to assess delirium in your patient.

CAM-ICU	Criteria	Present
FEATURE 1: Alteration/Fluctuation in Mental State		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is the patient's mental status different than his/her baseline? OR Has the patient had any fluctuation in mental status in the past 24 hours as evidenced by fluctuation on a sedation scale (eg, RASS, Glasgow Coma Scale [GCS]), or previous delirium assessment? 	Either question Yes →	<input type="checkbox"/>
FEATURE 2: Inattention		
<p>Letters Attention Test</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Say to the patient, "I am going to read you a series of 10 letters. Whenever you hear the letter 'A,' indicate by squeezing my hand." Read letters from the following letter list in a normal tone 3 seconds apart: S A V E A H A A R T Errors are counted when the patient fails to squeeze on the letter "A" and when the patient squeezes on any letter other than "A." 	More than 2 errors →	<input type="checkbox"/>
FEATURE 3: Altered Level of Consciousness (LOC)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Present if the RASS score is anything <u>other than</u> Alert and Calm (zero) OR If SAS is anything <u>other than</u> Calm (4) 	If RASS is anything other than Zero OR If SAS score is anything other than 4 →	<input type="checkbox"/>
FEATURE 4: Disorganized Thinking		
<p>Yes/No Questions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ask the patient to respond: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Will a stone float on water? Are there fish in the sea? Does 1 pound weigh more than 2 pounds? Can you use a hammer to pound a nail? Count errors (each time patient answers incorrectly). <p>Commands</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ask the patient to follow your instructions: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> "Hold up this many fingers." (Hold 2 fingers in front of the patient.) "Now do the same thing with the other hand." (Do not demonstrate the number of fingers this time.) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If unable to move both arms, for part "b" of command ask patient to "Hold up one more finger." Count errors if patient is unable to complete the entire command. 	If the combined number of errors is more than 1 →	<input type="checkbox"/>

If Features 1 and 2 are both present and either Features 3 or 4 are present: CAM-ICU is positive, delirium is present

Delirium Present Delirium Absent

Additional Notes
