SHORT CONFUSION ASSESSMENT METHOD (SHORT CAM) WORKSHEET

Note: This worksheet can used as an alternative to the Short CAM Questionnaire. Testing of orientation and sustained attention is recommended prior to scoring, such as digit spans, days of week, or months of year backwards. This page can only be used to identify delirium cases. Please note it cannot be used to score severity using the CAM-S scoring system.

EVALUATOR: DATE:

BOX 1

I. ACUTE ONSET AND FLUCTUATING COURSE

a) Is there evidence of an acute change in mental status from the patient's baseline? No ____ Yes ___________

b) Did the (abnormal) behavior fluctuate during the day, that is tend to come and go or increase and decrease in severity? No _____ Yes ___________

II. INATTENTION

Did the patient have difficulty focusing attention, for example, being easily distractible or having difficulty keeping track of what was being said? No _____ Yes ___________

BOX 2

III. DISORGANIZED THINKING

Was the patient's thinking disorganized or incoherent, such as rambling or irrelevant conversation, unclear or illogical flow of ideas, or unpredictable switching from subject to subject? No _____ Yes ___________

IV. ALTERED LEVEL OF CONSCIOUSNESS

Overall, how would you rate the patient's level of consciousness?

-- Alert (normal)

-- Vigilant (hyperalert)
-- Lethargic (drowsy, easily aroused)
-- Stupor (difficult to arouse)
-- Coma (unarousable)

Do any checks appear in the box above? No _____ Yes ___________

If Inattention and at least one other item in Box 1 are checked and at least one item in Box 2 is checked a diagnosis of delirium is suggested.

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