

# ASSESSING, RECOGNIZING, & MANAGING DELIRIUM

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## INITIATIVE

Increase detection of Delirium through the use of  
The CAM assessment tool.

## OBJECTIVE

Improve care of the disoriented patient and heighten awareness of how to care of confused/delirious patient.

## OUTCOMES

- 88% of confused patients have a CAM assessment.
- No confused patient falls.
- Delirium recognized and treated appropriately: decreased or changed medications, IVF given, and fall interventions initiated.



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## BACKGROUND

Nebraska Spine Hospital recognized a lack of knowledge of appropriate delirium assessment, recognition, and management in a postoperative setting. Prior to Delirium Performance improvement project, only 20% of confused patients had a CAM completed. Two out of 10 patients fell while in a delirium.

## PDSA

**PLAN:** NICHE Committee devised plan to educate and train staff on Delirium and CAM.

**DO:** NICHE educational fair held requiring attendance by all nursing staff which exposed and promoted NICHE to frontline staff and educated staff on Delirium and CAM.

**STUDY:** Real time audit of disoriented patient cases conducted to ensure consistency of CAM and delirium management.

**ACT:** Nursing staff completes CAM on confused patients and alerts NICHE Coordinator of confused patient and CAM outcome. NICHE Coordinator reviews chart and assesses patient. Increasing number of GRN staff. NICHE Coordinator rounding with staff and patients for continued success.

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