# ST2-CL-EPA1 – Delirium

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area of practice</th>
<th>Consultation–liaison psychiatry</th>
<th>EPA identification</th>
<th>ST2-CL-EPA1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stage of training</td>
<td>Stage 2 – Proficient</td>
<td>Version</td>
<td>v0.4 (BOE-approved 04/05/12)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The following EPA will be entrusted when your supervisor is confident that you can be trusted to perform the activity described at the required standard without more than distant (reactive) supervision. Your supervisor feels confident that you know when to ask for additional help and that you can be trusted to appropriately seek assistance in a timely manner.

**Title**

**Care for a patient with delirium.**

**Description**

Maximum 150 words

The trainee can assess, make an accurate diagnosis, conduct appropriate physical and cognitive assessment and describe the evidence for the use of a specific management strategy. They are able to communicate the concept of delirium to patients and families within the general hospital setting. The trainee demonstrates awareness of challenges posed by a consultative model of care provision where a patient is not under the direct care of the psychiatrist.

**Fellowship competencies**

| ME  | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 |
| COM | 1, 2                     |
| COL | 1, 2, 3, 4               |
| MAN | 4, 5                     |
| HA  | 1                        |
| SCH | 1, 2                     |
| PROF| 1, 2, 3, 4               |

**Knowledge, skills and attitude required**

The following lists are neither exhaustive nor prescriptive.

**Ability to apply an adequate knowledge base**

- Considers appropriate use of mental health and other relevant legal frameworks.
- Understands additional resources, eg. special nurses, out-of-hours psychiatry review.
- Understands most suitable setting for patient care.
- Accesses, appraises and applies best level of evidence.

**Skills**

- Comprehensive assessment, including:
  - appropriate cognitive tests
  - laboratory/relevant investigations
  - collateral history
- medication review.
  - Explains the nature of delirium to families and staff.
  - Integrates information from the assessment into a comprehensive formulation, accurate diagnosis and differential diagnosis.
  - Develops an appropriate management plan for the specific patient and setting.
  - Considers the patient’s capacity to consent and any implications.
  - Uses effective and empathic verbal and non-verbal communication skills:
    - verbally communicated information is understandable, concise and accurate
    - information is documented in an understandable, concise and accurate manner.
  - Negotiates an appropriate management plan with the treating team.
  - Clarifies the referring agent’s expectation of the consult.
  - Negotiates clinical role throughout the course of the delirium episode.
  - Appropriately prioritises allocation of their own time to the case.
  - Identifies possible stigma surrounding delirium.
  - Demonstrates effective conflict resolution skills, as needed.

### Attitude
- Models and encourages a non-judgemental approach to the patient.
- Takes on teaching opportunities as they arise in the case.
- Treats the patient and referring team with respect.
- Seeks appropriate supervision.

### Assessment method
Progressively assessed during individual and clinical supervision, including three appropriate WBAs.

### Suggested assessment method details
(these included, but are not limited to, WBAs)
- Case-based discussion.
- Mini-Clinical Evaluation Exercise.
- Direct Observation of Procedural Skills (DOPS).
- Observed Clinical Activity (OCA).
- Feedback from appropriate sources.

### References
COL, Collaborator; COM, Communicator; HA, Health Advocate; MAN, Manager; ME, Medical Expert; PROF, Professional; SCH, Scholar