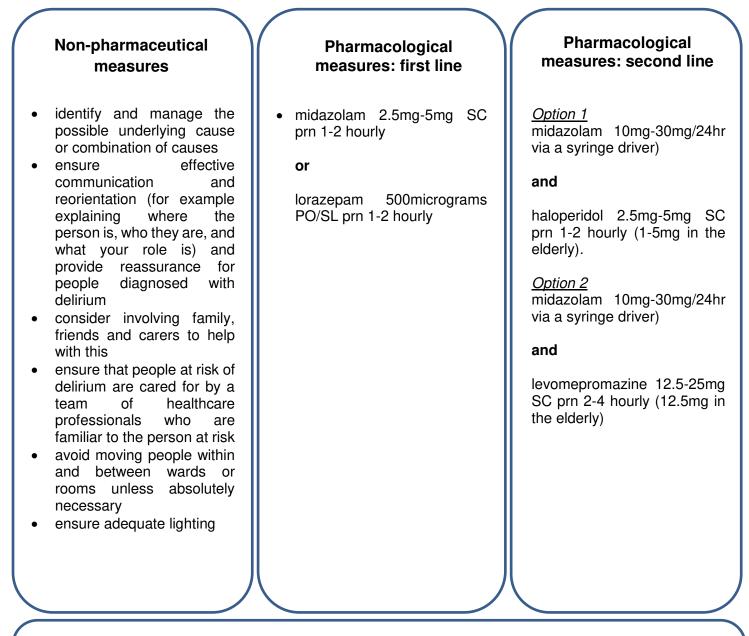


Management of delirium COVID-19 Outbreak



Association for Palliative Medicine Of Great Britain and Ireland

Delirium is an acute confusional state that can happen when someone is ill. It is a SUDDEN change over a few hours or days, and tends to vary at different times of day. People may be confused at some times and then seem their normal selves at other times. People who become delirious may start behaving in ways that are unusual for them- they may become more agitated than normal or feel more sleepy and withdrawn.



Management of this symptom, which is distressing for both relatives and staff (patients are usually unaware of what they are doing at this time) can be troublesome. Through use of the medications below, titrated appropriately, this can usually be managed effectively.

- Prevention of delirium better than cure, so meticulous adherence to delirium prevention strategies (orientation, prevention of constipation, management of hypoxia, etc) is essential
- Adoption of daily screening, using Single Question in Delirium (SQiD) and / or 4AT rapid test for delirium (https://www.the4at.com/) to detect early and treat cause