

Point prevalence of delirium in recently hospitalized elderly

El-Aukl, M. A.

Ain-Shams Univ., Cairo (EGY). Fac. of Med.

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The study was made to test the hypothesis that delirium is common among elderly persons recently admitted to two teaching hospitals at the Ain-Shams University, Cairo, Egypt. Two hundred and one subjects were eligible for the study purpose. Screening for the symptom domains of delirium was done using the Delirium Symptom Interview (DSI), and diagnosis was based on the DSM-III-R criteria of delirium. The prevalence rate of delirium was 14.4%, and that of partial delirium was 10.5%. In the multivariant analysis there was a protective relation between delirium and chronic onset of illness, and an association between delirium and systolic blood pressure, random plasma glucose level and body temperature.