

ACOC Reference Tool

Linking Observed Signs and Symptoms to the Resident's Pre-existing Conditions

Observed ACOC Signs and Symptoms	Specific Pre-existing Conditions	Associated Risks/ Meaning for Resident
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Calf pain, tenderness and swelling • Sudden, severe substernal pain, acute dyspnea, diaphoresis, pallor, tachypnea, tachycardia, anxiety 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acute myocardial infarction 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deep vein thrombosis (DVT)/ pulmonary embolism • Dysrhythmia
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rectal bleeding, epistaxis • Visual, sensory, and motor disturbances, altered level of consciousness, vertigo 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Atrial fibrillation with anti-coagulation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bleeding (related to coagulation status) • Stroke
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respiratory distress, i.e., shallow, moist respirations, crackles • Tachycardia, pallor, diaphoresis, anxiety 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Congestive heart failure (CHF) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acute dyspnea; • Pulmonary edema
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respiratory distress, i.e., shallow, Moist respirations, crackles • Fever, tachycardia, restlessness, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acute dyspnea • Lower respiratory tract infection
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hypotension or hypertension; bradycardia or tachycardia • Acute confusion, lethargy, weakness, headache, shaking, sweating, irritability 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diabetes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fluid/electrolyte imbalance • Hypoglycemia
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Calf pain, tenderness and swelling • Sudden, severe substernal pain, acute dyspnea, diaphoresis, pallor, tachypnea, tachycardia, anxiety 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hip fracture 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Venous thrombosis; • Pulmonary embolism
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rectal bleeding, tarry stool or melena • Hematemesis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gastrointestinal bleeding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acute recurrence of bleeding
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urinary frequency, hematuria, cloudy/ foul-smelling urine, acute onset of confusion and fluctuating course 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Neurogenic bladder 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urinary tract infections
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hypotension, hypertension, vertigo • Acute onset of confusion and fluctuating course, inattention, disorganized thinking, altered level of consciousness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New medications 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Falling • Delirium (altered mental status)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hallucinations and delusions without confusion (psychotic behaviours) • Hallucinations and delusions with confusion, acute onset of confusion and fluctuating course, inattention, disorganized thinking, altered level of consciousness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parkinson's Disease 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acutely agitated, combative behaviour • Delirium (altered mental status)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visual, sensory, and motor disturbances, altered level of consciousness, vertigo • Rectal bleeding, epistaxis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stroke, transient ischemic attack (TIA) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recurrence of stroke; • Acute bleeding from anticoagulation

Permission Granted: Advanced Practice Nurses – Sunnybrook Hospital Toronto – Aging and Veterans Care

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