

POLICIES & PROTOCOLS FOR MANAGING DEMENTIA IN THE EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT



Know (or create) your ED's policies and protocols around :

- Management of older people with cognitive impairment during the episode of care
- Caregiver involvement in the patient's care, including obtaining a Caregiver History and considering the ED visit as an opportunity to make a plan for unmet or evolving care needs after discharge
- Assessment and management of behavioral symptoms of older adults with cognitive impairment, including appropriate policies on chemical and physical restraints.
- Assessment and management of pain in older adults with cognitive impairment

References

For additional guidance on policies and protocols for managing dementia in the ED, reference:

- **The [Geriatric Emergency Department Guidelines](#)**
- **[Geriatricfastfacts.com](#)**
 - **Fact Fact Sheet #71:** [Creating a Dementia-Friendly Emergency Department](#)
 - **Fast Fact Sheet #72:** [Assessment of Dementia Patients in the Emergency Department](#)

The content in the left column is from the following publication:

Schnitker LM, Martin-Khan M, Burkett E, et al. Structural Quality Indicators to Support Quality of Care for Older People With Cognitive Impairment in Emergency Departments. *Academic Emergency Medicine*. 2015;22(3):273-284.