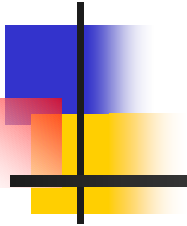


Reducing Confusion: Where Are The Opportunities?



Michael Wolff, M.D., F.A.C.P.

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Purpose:

- To help home health care agencies meet CMS requirement for reducing measured frequency of confusion among home care clients.



Where are the opportunities?

- **NOT** in advanced Alzheimer's or in severe post-stroke syndromes
- Most opportunity is in delirium.....
the focus for most of this
presentation



Delirium:

The Entire Textbook of Medicine

- Mild or severe
- Homeostatic reserve – definition
 - Loss of organ system reserve allows small problems to become big ones
- Toxic-metabolic encephalopathy



Examples of Problems

- Some mild
- Some major which can cause confusion if cognitive reserve is reduced



Examples of Problems

- Depression
 - Treatable
 - Old concept of pseudo-dementia
- Sensory Deprivation
 - Hearing
 - Vision



Examples of Problems

- Infection
- Metabolic
- Cerebrovascular
- Hypoglycemia



Medication

- Pain Management
 - Your presenter as dinosaur!
- Sleepers
 - OTC and prescribed
- Anticholinergics
- Renal clearance
- Psychoactives



Detection

- Not MMSE (Mini Mental State Examination)
- Home care advantages
 - Real slice of life



Interventions

- Drugs
- OTCs
- ETOH
- Pharmacist
- Specific communications to prescriber



Conclusion

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

COMMENTS & ISSUES