What is the Confusion Assessment Method or CAM©?
The Confusion Assessment Method (CAM©) is a standardized evidence-based tool that enables non-psychiatric trained clinicians to identify and recognize delirium quickly and accurately in both clinical and research settings.¹ Time to administer CAM is about 5 to 10 minutes.

Population the CAM© Serves
CAM© is for older adults in acute, sub-acute and long term settings, hospitalized adults, adults with acute illness, and ICU patients ²

Importance of CAM©
The CAM© instrument assesses the presence, severity, and fluctuation of 9 delirium features: acute onset, inattention, disorganized thinking, altered level of consciousness, disorientation, memory impairment, perceptual disturbances, psychomotor agitation or retardation, and altered sleep-wake cycle.

Psychometric Properties
For studies including older adults, the results indicate sensitivity of 0.94-1.00, specificity of 0.90-0.95⁴ and high inter-rater reliability 0.81-1.0.³

Cut-Off Scores
The CAM diagnostic algorithm is based on four cardinal features of delirium: 1) acute onset and fluctuating course, 2) inattention, 3) disorganized thinking, and 4) altered level of consciousness.³ A diagnosis of delirium according to the CAM requires the presence of features 1, 2, and either 3 or 4.²,³
Resources


Video explaining more information about the CAM:

1. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GGmp32-l5rg

Links to Test:

1. Confusion Assessment Method for the ICU (CAM-ICU)
2. SHORT CONFUSION ASSESSMENT METHOD (SHORT CAM) ***
3. ED Delirium<!-- bCAM Calculator « EdDelirium →

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