

When evaluating change in mental status, consider...

D	Drugs Dementia Discomfort	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BEERS criteria (e.g., anticholinergic, benzodiazepines, hypnotics) OR dose change • Behavioral problems in dementia • Pain, insomnia, depression
E	Eyes Ears Environment	<p>Sensory deprivation; vulnerability to environment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Glasses/hearing aids • Noise level/lighting
L	Low Oxygen States	Myocardial infarction, stroke, pulmonary embolus
I	Infection	Pneumonia, sepsis, symptomatic UTI, cellulitis
R	Retention	<p>Urinary retention, constipation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check post-void residual (PVR), rectal exam
I	Ictal States	Seizure disorder
U	Underhydration/Nutrition	<p>Dehydration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check BMP
M	Metabolic Causes	<p>Low or high blood sugar, sodium abnormalities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check BMP
S	Subdural Hematoma	Head trauma