Is the patient: easily distracted?
2. Is the patient: motor restlessness reported (e.g. by family) or observed?
3. Are hallucinations reported or observed?
4. Is there a recent change in cognitive function?

Is the answer on one of these questions “yes”, follow “YES”

YES

Treat as delirium

Haloperidol 2 mg at 18.00 hour; lorazepam 1 mg or temazepam 10 mg at bedtime (if no other sleep medication is used).

NO

Ask the following questions:
1. Was the patient delirious or confused during a previous episode of illness or hospitalization?
2. Are there memory disturbances, or has the patient been diagnosed with dementia (ask relatives)?
3. Is there excessive alcohol use?

Is the answer on one of these questions “yes”, follow YES

YES

NO

No medication

Start prophylactic treatment: haloperidol 2 mg before the operation, and haloperidol 2 mg at 18.00 hour on the days after operation. Prescribe only non-medical preventive measures if the patient has been diagnosed with Parkinson’s disease or Parkinsonism.

For all patients:
1. Take non-medical measures for delirium prevention
2. Perform delirium observation scores daily
3. Request geriatric consultation

1: If the patient has been diagnosed with Parkinson’s disease or Parkinsonism treat after consultation with the geriatrician.