COLOR-RISK PSYCHIATRIC TRIAGE

User’s Name: ___________________________ Date and Hour: ___________________________

Instructions: There are described ahead some Psychiatric Emergency Presentations (PEP). Assess directly or indirectly each PEP in progressive order. Each statement provides guidance for its evaluation. The evaluator has to write an “X” to sort the most risky, acute and severe color/risk level (one from five), and also has to circle a single number code which also represents a score, which best describes the actual PEP of the patient (one from thirty two). Once sorted a certain risk/color and score, interview has to be stopped at once, and evaluator has to notify outcomes to medical staff, which has to prioritize attendance of high risk over low risk PEP.

FIVE COLOR/RISK LEVELS AND FIVE D’S MNEMONICS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1: Brown Medical Emergency</th>
<th>2: Red High Risk PEP</th>
<th>3: Yellow Middle Risk PEP</th>
<th>4: Green Mild Risk PEP</th>
<th>5: White No Risk PEP</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Delirium, Disease</td>
<td>Drug, Danger (Others)</td>
<td>Danger-Self; Disturbing</td>
<td>Demand, Distress</td>
<td>Delayed, Detached</td>
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NEED OF ADVANCED LIFE SUPPORT

01 Unconscious patient with immediate need of Circulation, Airway and Breath Support
02 Confused patient, with immediate need of Circulation, Airway and Breath Support

ACUTE AND COMPLICATED MEDICAL CONDITIONS

03 Recent neuropsychiatric symptoms with cognitive and/or motor impairment of rapid onset
04 Fluctuation attention disturbance with altered or unknown vital signs or laboratory outcomes
05 Active convulsive or epileptic features with or without treatment
06 Structural or functional instability due to physical or chemical self-induced damage

ACUTE SUBSTANCE INTOXICATION OR WITHDRAWAL

07 Substance intoxication or withdrawal with unconscious or confused mental state
08 Substance intoxication or withdrawal with autonomic symptoms
09 Substance intoxication or withdrawal without autonomic symptoms

ACUTE AGRESSIVE BEHAVIOR TO OTHERS

10 Hits or tries to hit others with a weapon or an object
11 Hits or tries to hit others with own body
12 Threats others with an imminent physical aggression with no hitting
13 Yells, Insults or curses others with no threatening nor hitting
14 Hostile, irritable, defiant, or combative behavior, with no yelling, threatening or hitting

SUICIDE THOUGHT, THREAT OR SUICIDE BEHAVIOR

15 Current suicidal or self-injure behaviors during assessment
16 Current suicidal intentions during assessment
17 Suicide attempts or threats in the past week
18 Structured suicidal thoughts in the past week

ACUTE AND SEVERE AGITATION WITH NO AGGRESSIVE BEHAVIOR

19 Psychotic/Manic Agitation: Suspicious, hallucinated, expansive and/or overactive behavior
20 Depressive/Anxious Agitation: Cries and/or presents severe anxious agitation
21 Dissociative/Conversive Agitation: Agitation due to psychological Symptoms with potential risky behaviors
22 Dissociative/Conversive Agitation: Agitation due to psychological Symptoms with no potential risky behaviors
23 At least one drug-induced symptom, with altered vital signs (Must be aware about body temperature)
24 At least one drug-induced symptom which provokes partial or general motor disability
25 At least one drug-induced symptom which provokes restlessness or distress

SPECIAL EXPECTATIVES AND NEGATIVISM

26 Demands to get special attention or imposes her/his own procedures
27 Actively or passively rejects to receive attention without other risk behaviors

SUBJECTIVE PSYCHIATRIC EMERGENCY PRESENTATION

28 Subjective Psychiatric Emergency with mainly physical symptoms
29 Subjective Psychiatric Emergency with mainly emotional symptoms

SEEKING ATTENTION DUE TO PERSONAL CONDITION OR DETACHED BEHAVIOR

30 Personal Reasons that cuts off regular outpatient treatment
31 Economical Reasons that cuts off regular outpatient treatment
32 Schedule Reasons that cuts off regular outpatient treatment

Color/Risk: ___________________________ Score: ___________________________

(Level and color of most acute and risky PEP, 1 to 5) (Number/Code of most acute and risky PEP, 1 to 32)

Original Version of Color-Risk Psychiatric Triage created by Molina-Lopez A MD, MSc ©2008