

How to perform initial “geriatric” assessment in VIP2

Clinical Frailty Scale[CFS]

This is the same scale as in VIP1. The correct CFS level is assessed after talking with the patient and or next-of-kin/caregiver. If you feel uncertain (between two levels), choose the higher score. For the purposes of this study self assessment is not performed. VIP2 will record who undertook the assessment: Physician, ICU nurse, study nurse or other.

Katz activity of daily life (ADL)

This simple questionnaire assesses six usual activities: Bathing, dressing, toileting, transferring, continence and feeding. A short explanation is given to each score where 1 represents Independence and 0 Dependence. The higher the score (max 6) the better the function of ADL are. This information should be obtained during the initial conversation with the patient/next-of kin as in CFS

Cognitive Decline Questionnaire (IQCODE)

This questionnaire must be completed in a conversation with a person that knows the patients for a significant time period, as all questions relate to the patients’ performance 10 years ago. Each question is rated from 1-5 where 3 is unchanged, and higher score illustrates declining performance. The questionnaire is self-evident, it is permissible to skip questions if the person being questioned does not know.

In the end the score is simply the mean of the questions answered. There are 16 questions, and if 13 is answered we will calculate the mean. The number of questions answered is recorded and the sum of scores calculated.

Co-morbidity and Polypharmacy score (CPS)

This is very simple method to measure comorbidity. All chronic co-morbid conditions are given 1 point, and each drug the patients is taking daily are given 1 point. The sum is the CPS score. Remember that cardiovascular dysfunction is counted per aspect (if relevant), e.g. a patient with hypertension, atrial fibrillation and congestive heart failure would be given 3 points, even if all are CV comorbidities. The sum is then recorded in the e-CRF.

Since such information relates to before ICU and even hospital admission, this may be scored at a convenient time-point within the first 24 hours.