

Instrument	Saskatoon Delirium Checklist
	NOTE: This card is populated with information from the instrument's original validation study only.
Acronym	SDC
Primary use	Delirium screening
Area assessed (Number of questions)	DSM-III criteria for delirium 10 items
Description	The SDC measures drug-induced changes in cognition due to high levels of serum anticholinergic activity in elderly presurgical patients. It can be scored after brief observation and, by assignment of numerical ratings to the DSM-III criteria for delirium, allows for within-subject and between group comparisons. The checklist is filled out once prior to preoperative medication and once after preoperative medication but before leaving the floor for surgery.
Versions	1
Scoring information	Rating: 9 symptoms based on how often they occur using scale of 0-4, with 0=always, 1=usually, 2=sometimes, 3=very rarely, and 4=never. Rating of physical cause of symptoms on scale of 0-4, with 0=None, 1=Scant, 2=Fair, 3=Good, and 4=Conclusive. Lower scores indicate greater impairment
Cognitive testing	Not needed or required
Estimated time to rate	5 minutes
Require trained rater	Yes – trained lay raters or clinicians
Administer to	Patient, in person
How to obtain	Available in https://doi.org/10.1176/ajp.145.3.342 (Note-article may be behind paywall)
Licensing Fee*	None
Languages available	English
Highest COSMIN** rating	0/6 [†]
Test Performance Characteristics	Miller 1988 No reliability or validity data are presented for the Saskatoon Delirium Checklist

* Fees and licensing information is effective as of 2021, but is subject to change over time

** COSMIN is used to rate a study's evaluation of a survey or test's measurement properties. COSMIN does NOT rate the instrument itself, but helps readers understand if they can have confidence in the results of studies evaluating measurement properties of surveys and tests. For example, a rigorous study evaluating a test with poor measurement properties will receive a "good" COSMIN rating, while a poorly-conducted study evaluating a test with good measurement properties will receive a "poor" COSMIN rating. Small sample size can impact all COSMIN ratings. You must consider both the COSMIN rating and the results of studies provided when forming your opinion about that test. *COSMIN ratings shown are based solely on the instrument's original validation study.*

† COSMIN breakdown: criterion validity: NONE, effect indicators: GOOD, internal consistency: NONE, inter-rater reliability: NONE, construct validity: NONE, external validity: GOOD

Reference:

Miller PS, Richardson JS, Jyu CA, Lemay JS, Hiscock M, Keegan DL. Association of low serum anticholinergic levels and cognitive impairment in elderly presurgical patients. *Am J Psychiatry*. 1988;145:342-5.

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