



# The Delirium Subtyping Initiative

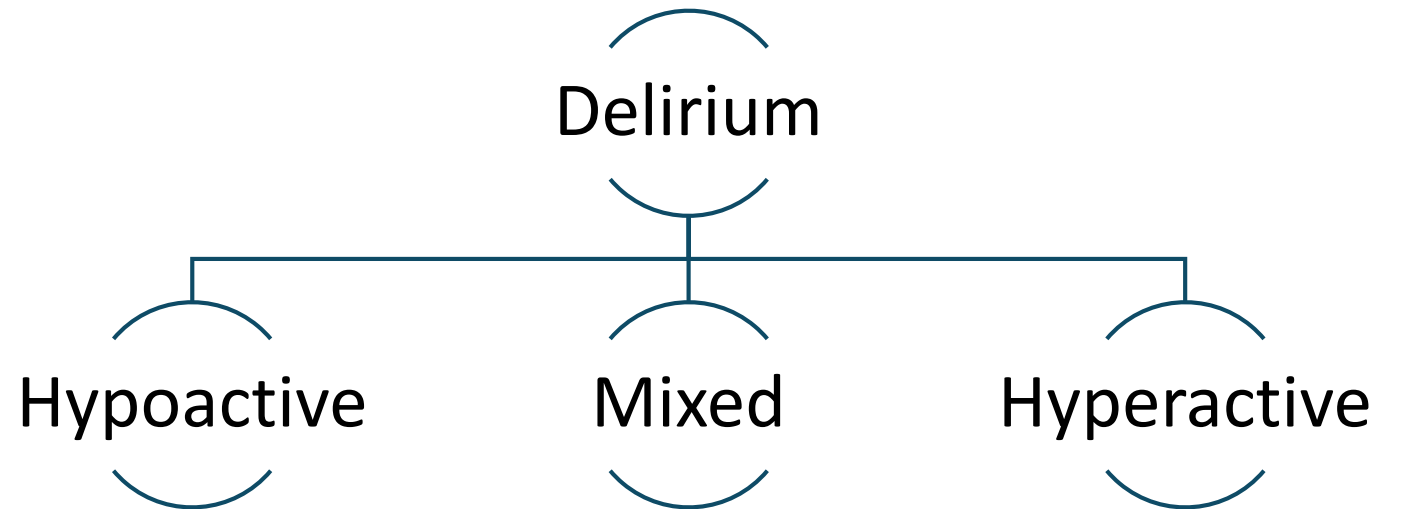
Emily Bowman, BSc (Hons), PhD




Zbigniew J. Lipowski  
1924-1997

**“Delirium, or ‘phrenitis,’ was one of the first mental disorders to be recognized by Western medical writers 2500 years ago.”**

– Lipowski, 1990




# *Delirium Characterisations*



**Delirium Present?**

☒

☐




**Psychomotor Subtype**

☐ Hypoactive

☐ Hyperactive

☐ Mixed

☐ No subtype



**Severity**

①

②

③

④

↓

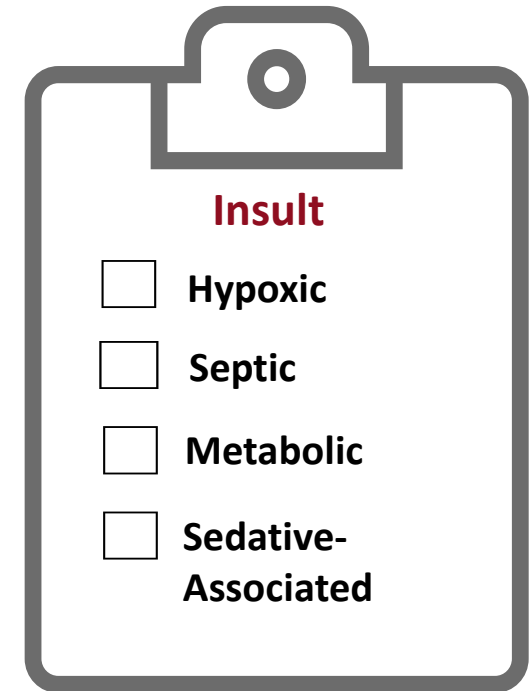
**More accurate classification is required**

Published in final edited form as:

*Lancet Respir Med.* 2018 March ; 6(3): 213–222. doi:10.1016/S2213-2600(18)30062-6.

## **Clinical phenotypes of delirium during critical illness and severity of subsequent long-term cognitive impairment: a prospective cohort study**

**Timothy D Girard, MD, MSCI<sup>1,2</sup>, Jennifer L Thompson, MPH<sup>1,8</sup>, Pratik P Pandharipande, MD, MSCI<sup>1,3,4,13</sup>, Nathan E Brummel, MD MSCI<sup>1,4,5,7</sup>, James C Jackson, PsyD<sup>1,4,5,9,14</sup>, Mayur B Patel, MD, MPH<sup>1,4,10,11,15</sup>, Christopher G Hughes, MD<sup>1,3,4,13</sup>, Rameela Chandrasekhar, PhD<sup>1,8</sup>, Brenda T Pun, DNP, RN<sup>1</sup>, Leanne M Boehm, PhD<sup>1,12</sup>, Mark R Elstad, MD<sup>17,18</sup>, Richard B Goodman, MD<sup>19,20</sup>, Gordon R Bernard, MD<sup>1,3</sup>, Robert S Dittus, MD, MPH<sup>1,4,6,7,16</sup>, E Wesley Ely, MD, MPH<sup>1,4,5,7,16</sup>**



RESEARCH ARTICLE

Open Access



# Association between components of the delirium syndrome and outcomes in hospitalised adults: a systematic review and meta-analysis

Zoë Tieges<sup>1,2\*</sup>, Terence Quinn<sup>3</sup>, Lorn MacKenzie<sup>4</sup>, Daniel Davis<sup>5</sup>, Graciela Muniz-Terrera<sup>6</sup>, Alasdair M. J. MacLulich<sup>1</sup> and Susan D. Shenkin<sup>1</sup>

Todd et al. *BMC Geriatrics* (2017) 17:283  
DOI 10.1186/s12877-017-0661-7

BMC Geriatrics

RESEARCH ARTICLE

Open Access

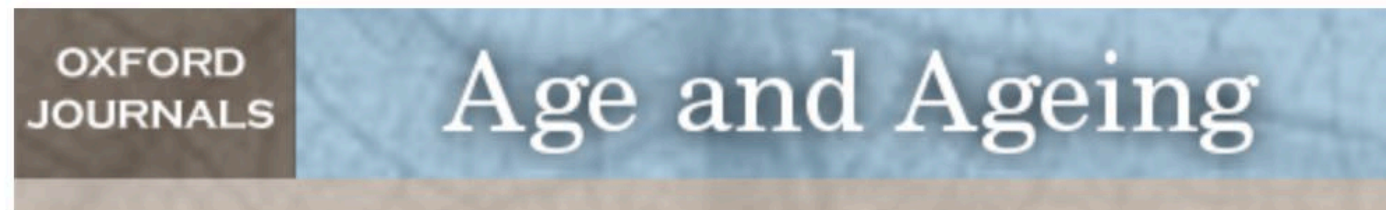


# Reduced level of arousal and increased mortality in adult acute medical admissions: a systematic review and meta-analysis

Amy Todd<sup>1</sup>, Samantha Blackley<sup>1</sup>, Jennifer K. Burton<sup>2,3,7</sup>, David J. Stott<sup>4</sup>, E. Wesley Ely<sup>5,6</sup>, Zoë Tieges<sup>3,7</sup>, Alasdair M. J. MacLulich<sup>3,7</sup> and Susan D. Shenkin<sup>3,7\*</sup> 



# *Heterogeneity of symptoms and their description*



► [Age Ageing](#). 2024 Apr 18;53(4):afae077. doi: [10.1093/ageing/afae077](https://doi.org/10.1093/ageing/afae077) [↗](#)

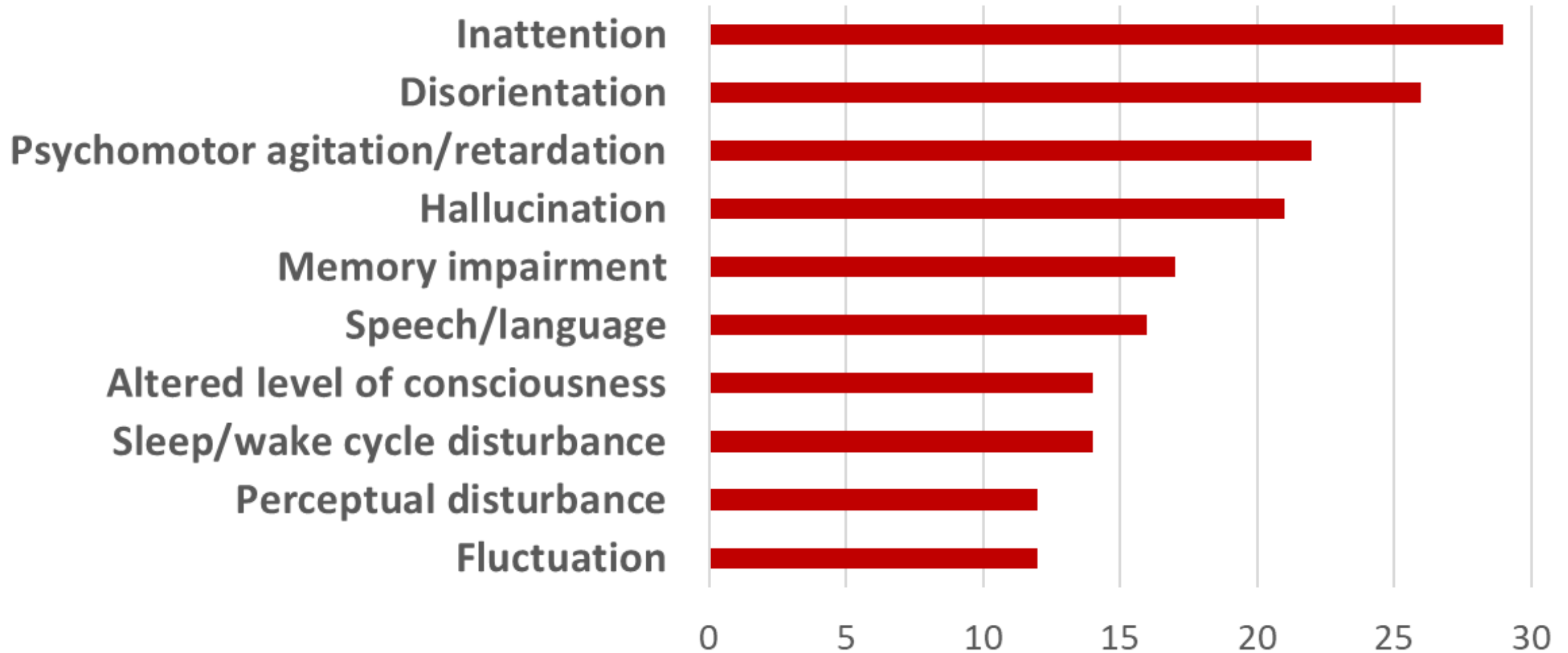
## **Assessment and report of individual symptoms in studies of delirium in postoperative populations: a systematic review**

[Emily M L Bowman](#)<sup>1,2,✉</sup>, [Aoife M Sweeney](#)<sup>3</sup>, [Danny F McAuley](#)<sup>4</sup>, [Chris Cardwell](#)<sup>5</sup>, [Joseph Kane](#)<sup>6</sup>, [Nadine Badawi](#)<sup>7</sup>,  
[Nusrat Jahan](#)<sup>8</sup>, [Halla Kiyan Iqbal](#)<sup>9</sup>, [Callum Mitchell](#)<sup>10</sup>, [Jessica A Ballantyne](#)<sup>11</sup>, [Emma L Cunningham](#)<sup>12</sup>

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PMCID: PMC11028403 PMID: [38640126](#)

## Ten Most Reported Symptoms

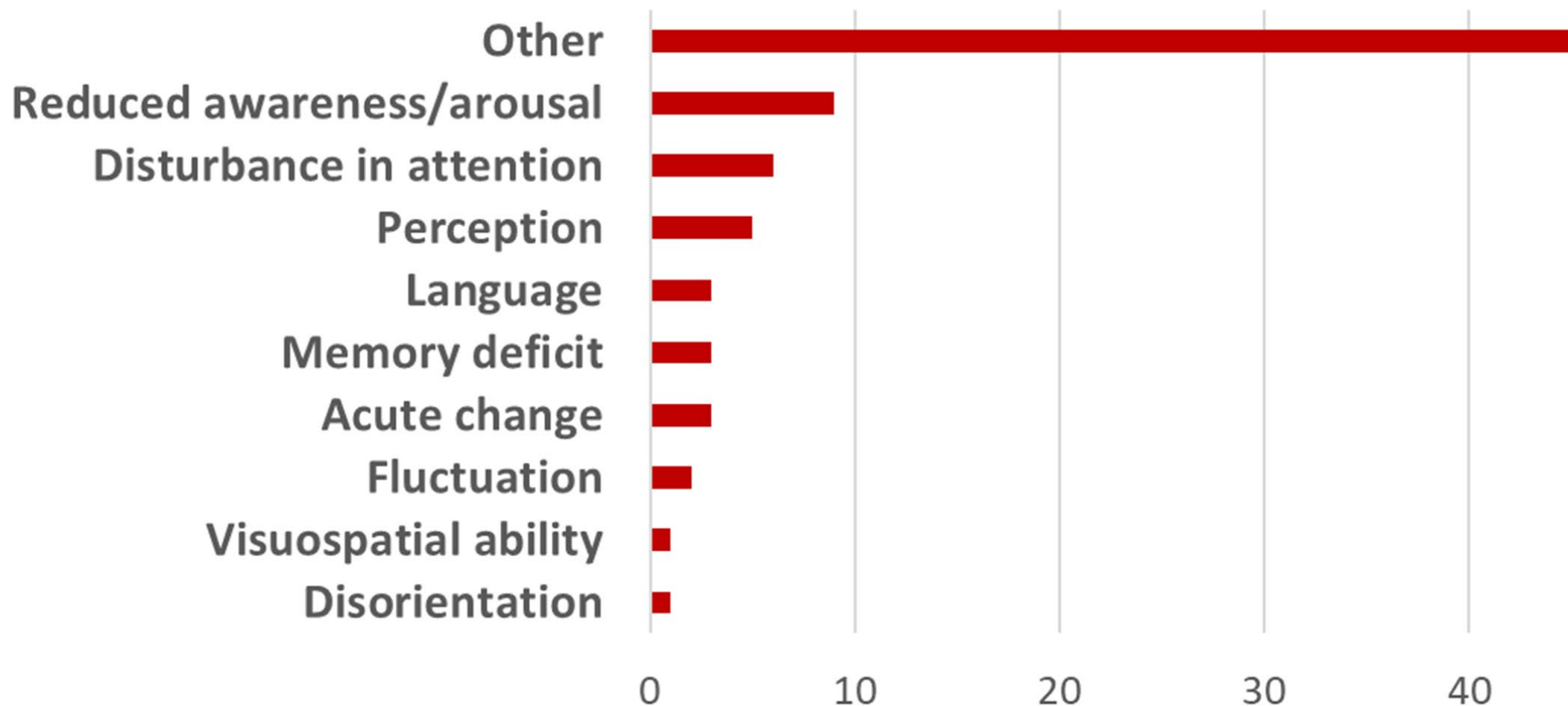


Total patients= 12,442

Total delirious patients= 2,243

Reported symptoms= 78

## N Symptoms falling under each DSM-5-TR Symptom Category



Total patients= 11,377

Total delirious patients= 2,049

Reported symptoms= 78



# Integration Required





The American Journal of Geriatric Psychiatry

Volume 26, Issue 9, September 2018, Pages 913-924



Regular Research Articles


## Refining Delirium: A Transtheoretical Model of Delirium Disorder with Preliminary Neurophysiologic Subtypes

Mark A. Oldham M.D.<sup>a</sup>  , Joseph H. Flaherty M.D.<sup>b</sup>, Jose R. Maldonado M.D.<sup>c</sup>

July 28, 2020; 95 (4) **CONTEMPORARY ISSUES**

## Delirium disorder

### Integrating delirium and acute encephalopathy

 Mark A. Oldham, Robert G. Holloway

First published June 9, 2020, DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1212/WNL.00000000000009949>

*Journal of the Academy of Consultation-Liaison Psychiatry* 2023;64:248–261  
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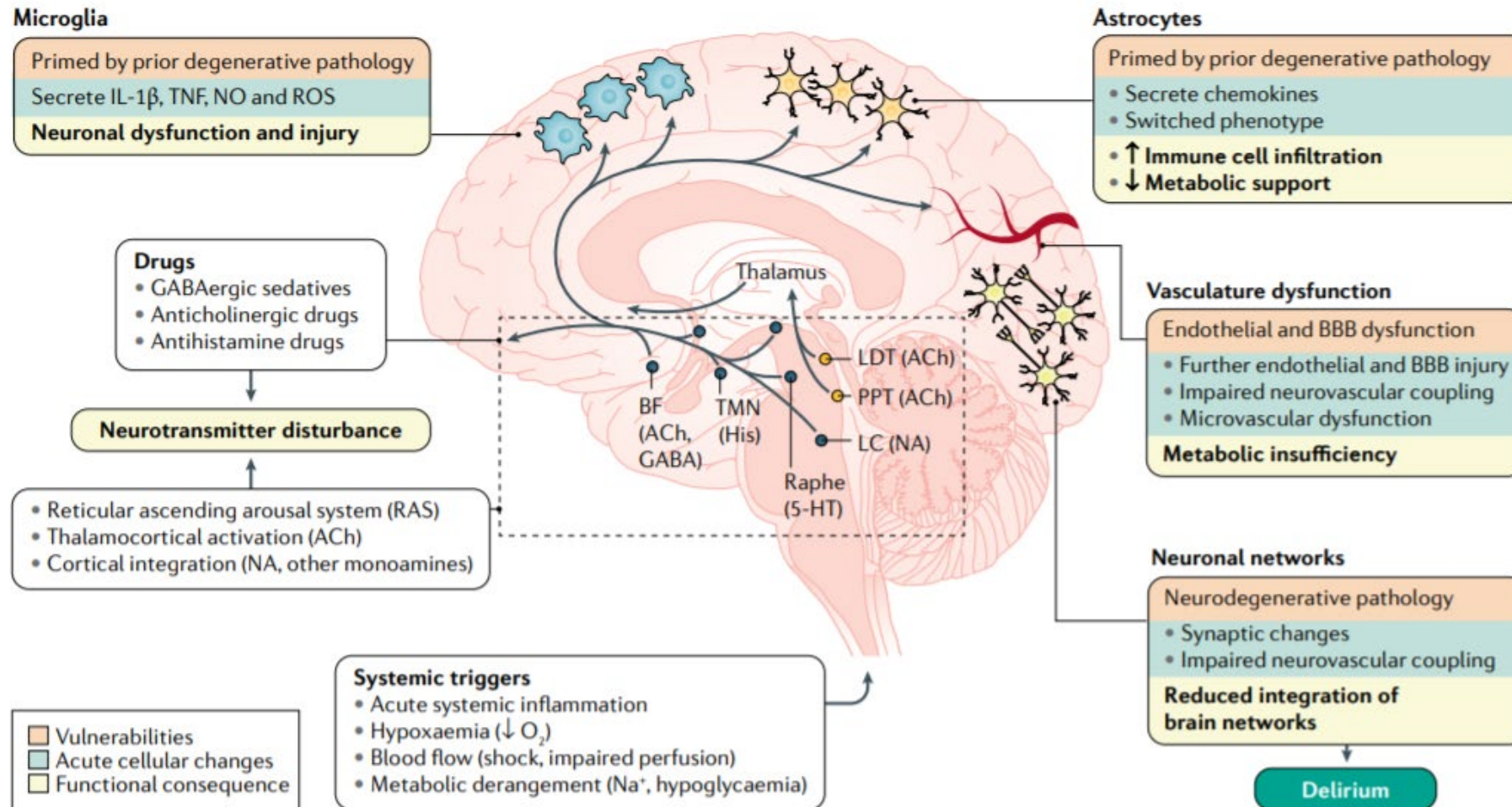
## Special Article

### An Interdisciplinary Reappraisal of Delirium and Proposed Subtypes

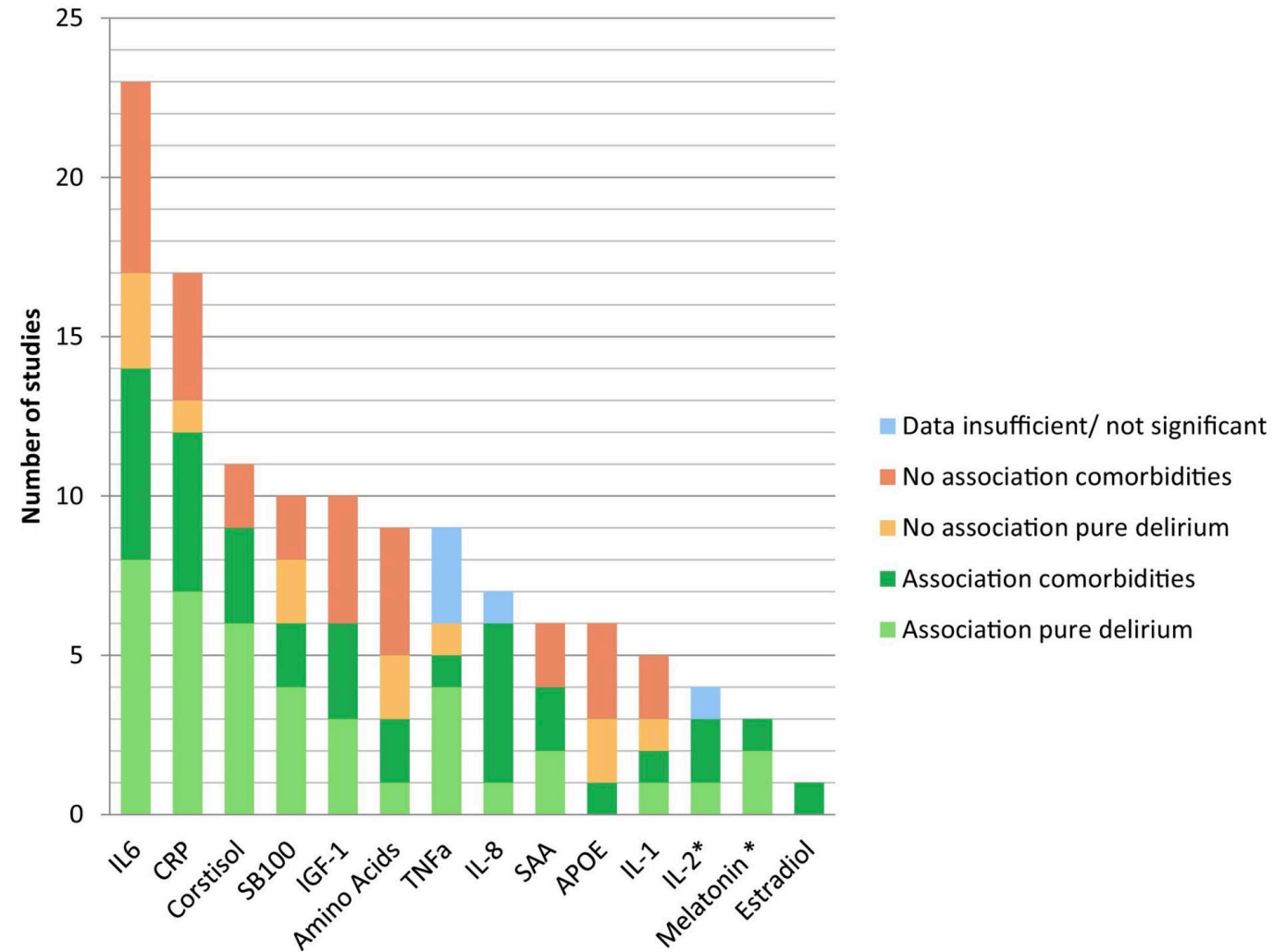


Mark A. Oldham, M.D., Arjen J.C. Slooter, M.D., Ph.D., E. Wesley Ely, M.D., M.P.H.,  
Cathy Crone, M.D., José R. Maldonado, M.D., Lisa J. Rosenthal, M.D.


# Pathophysiology



# Heterogeneity of biomarkers



\* Although graph indicates a high proportion of associations found, these findings were contradictory. Associations were with both high and low levels of these markers.

► Nat Med. 2024 Jun 17;30(7):2076–2087. doi: [10.1038/s41591-024-03057-9](https://doi.org/10.1038/s41591-024-03057-9) 

## Personalized brain circuit scores identify clinically distinct biotypes in depression and anxiety

[Leonardo Tozzi](#)<sup>1</sup>, [Xue Zhang](#)<sup>1</sup>, [Adam Pines](#)<sup>1</sup>, [Alisa M Olmsted](#)<sup>1,2</sup>, [Emily S Zhai](#)<sup>1</sup>, [Esther T Anene](#)<sup>3</sup>, [Megan Chesnut](#)<sup>1</sup>, [Bailey Holt-Gosselin](#)<sup>4</sup>, [Sarah Chang](#)<sup>5</sup>, [Patrick C Stetz](#)<sup>1,2</sup>, [Carolina A Ramirez](#)<sup>6</sup>, [Laura M Hack](#)<sup>1,2</sup>, [Mayuresh S Korgaonkar](#)<sup>7,8</sup>, [Max Wintermark](#)<sup>9</sup>, [Ian H Gotlib](#)<sup>10</sup>, [Jun Ma](#)<sup>11</sup>, [Leanne M Williams](#)<sup>1,2,∞</sup>



► Schizophr Bull. 2021 Aug 19;48(1):56–68. doi: [10.1093/schbul/sbab090](https://doi.org/10.1093/schbul/sbab090) 

## Psychosis Biotypes: Replication and Validation from the B-SNIP Consortium

[Brett A Clementz](#)<sup>1,∞</sup>, [David A Parker](#)<sup>1</sup>, [Rebekah L Trotti](#)<sup>1</sup>, [Jennifer E McDowell](#)<sup>1</sup>, [Sarah K Keedy](#)<sup>2</sup>, [Matcheri S Keshavan](#)<sup>3</sup>, [Godfrey D Pearlson](#)<sup>4,5</sup>, [Elliot S Gershon](#)<sup>2</sup>, [Elena I Ivleva](#)<sup>6</sup>, [Ling-Yu Huang](#)<sup>1</sup>, [S Kristian Hill](#)<sup>7</sup>, [John A Sweeney](#)<sup>8</sup>, [Olivia Thomas](#)<sup>1</sup>, [Matthew Hudgens-Haney](#)<sup>6</sup>, [Robert D Gibbons](#)<sup>2</sup>, [Carol A Tamminga](#)<sup>6</sup>

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PMCID: PMC8781330 PMID: [34409449](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/34409449/)

# THE LANCET



## Respiratory Medicine

Volume 8, Issue 6, June 2020, Pages 631-643



Review

## Subphenotypes in critical care: translating research into clinical practice

Kiran Reddy MB <sup>a</sup>  , Pratik Sinha PhD <sup>b</sup>, Prof Cecilia M O'Kane PhD <sup>c</sup>, Prof Anthony D'Arcy PhD <sup>d</sup>, Prof Carolyn S Calfee MD <sup>b</sup>, Prof Daniel F McAuley MD <sup>c, e</sup>



## NIH Public Access

### Author Manuscript

*Lancet Respir Med.* Author manuscript; available in PMC 2015 August 01.

Published in final edited form as:

*Lancet Respir Med.* 2014 August ; 2(8): 611–620. doi:10.1016/S2213-2600(14)70097-9.

## Latent Class Analysis of ARDS Subphenotypes: Analysis of Data From Two Randomized Controlled Trials

Carolyn S. Calfee, M.D., MAS<sup>1</sup>, Kevin Delucchi, PhD<sup>2</sup>, Polly E. Parsons, M.D.<sup>3</sup>, B. Taylor Thompson, M.D.<sup>4,5</sup>, Lorraine B. Ware, M.D.<sup>6</sup>, Michael A. Matthay, M.D.<sup>1,7</sup>, and the NHLBI ARDS Network

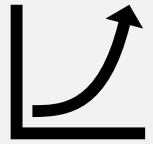
## T-helper Type 2–driven Inflammation Defines Major Subphenotypes of Asthma

Prescott G. Woodruff<sup>1,2</sup>, Barmak Modrek<sup>3</sup>, David F. Choy<sup>4</sup>, Guiquan Jia<sup>4</sup>, Alexander R. Abbas<sup>3</sup>, Almut Ellwanger<sup>1</sup>, Joseph R. Arron<sup>4\*</sup>, Laura L. Koth<sup>1,5</sup>, and John V. Fahy<sup>1,2\*</sup>

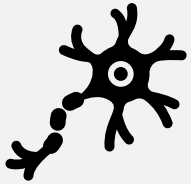
<sup>1</sup>Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine and <sup>2</sup>Cardiovascular Research Institute, Department of Medicine, Cardiovascular Research Institute, University of California, San Francisco, San Francisco, California; <sup>3</sup>Department of Bioinformatics and <sup>4</sup>ITGR Biomarker Group, Genentech, Inc., South San Francisco, California; and <sup>5</sup>Lung Biology Center, Department of Medicine, Cardiovascular Research Institute, University of San Francisco, San Francisco, California



# *The Problem*



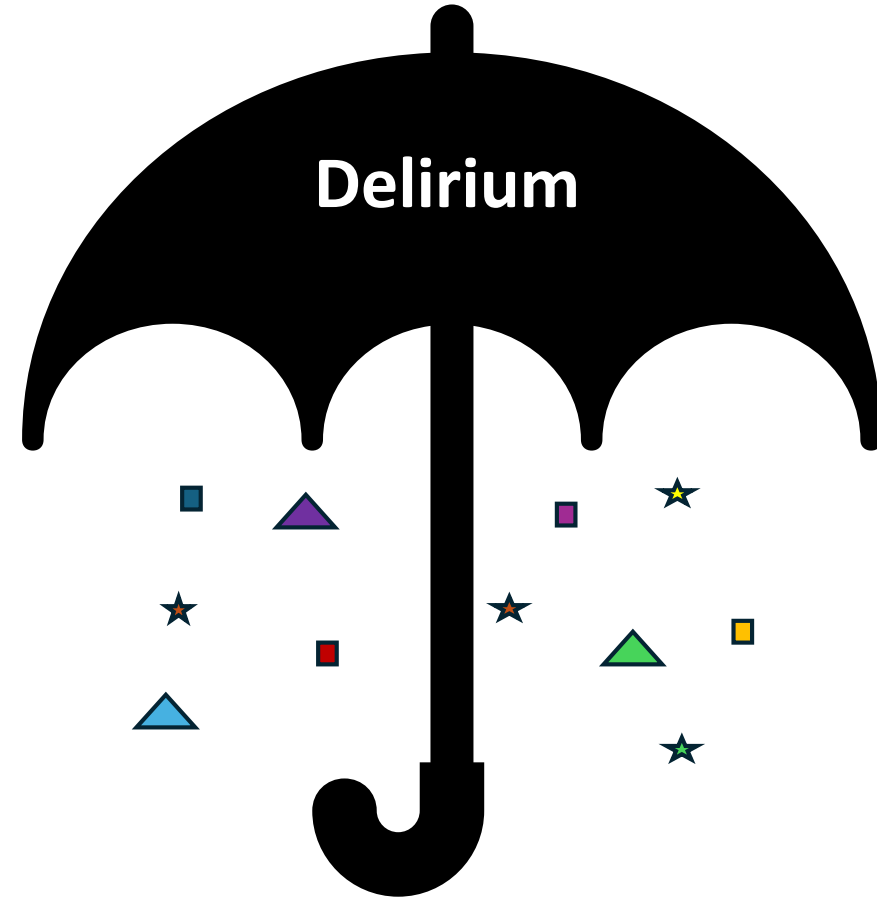
Delirium research



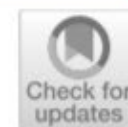
Understanding low



Delirium is common





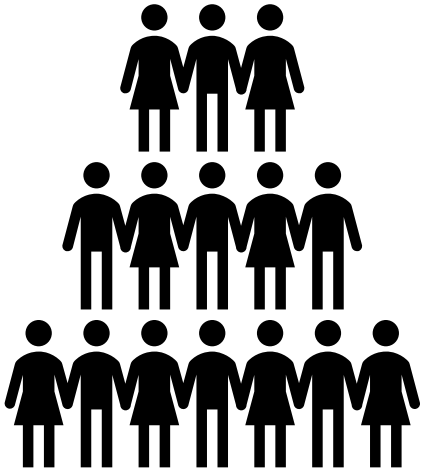
**REVIEW****Open Access**

# Phenotypes and subphenotypes of delirium: a review of current categorisations and suggestions for progression

Emily M. L. Bowman<sup>1\*</sup> , Emma L. Cunningham<sup>1</sup>, Valerie J. Page<sup>2</sup> and Daniel F. McAuley<sup>3</sup>

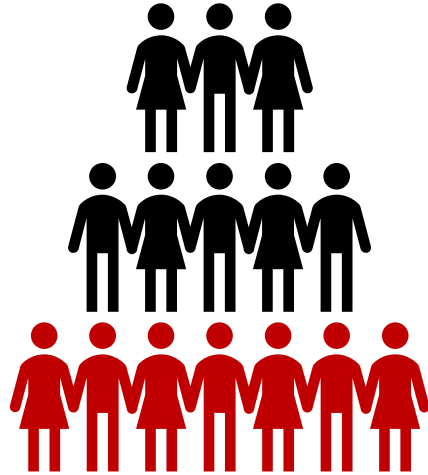
# Definitions

## Phenotypes



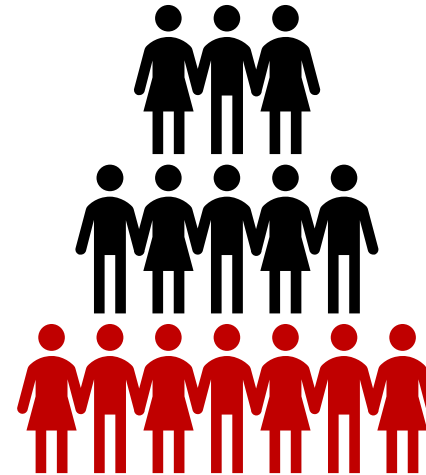
All have delirium  
(based on clinical  
features)

## Subphenotypes



Red all have delirium  
and a shared risk factor,  
eg sepsis

## Endotypes

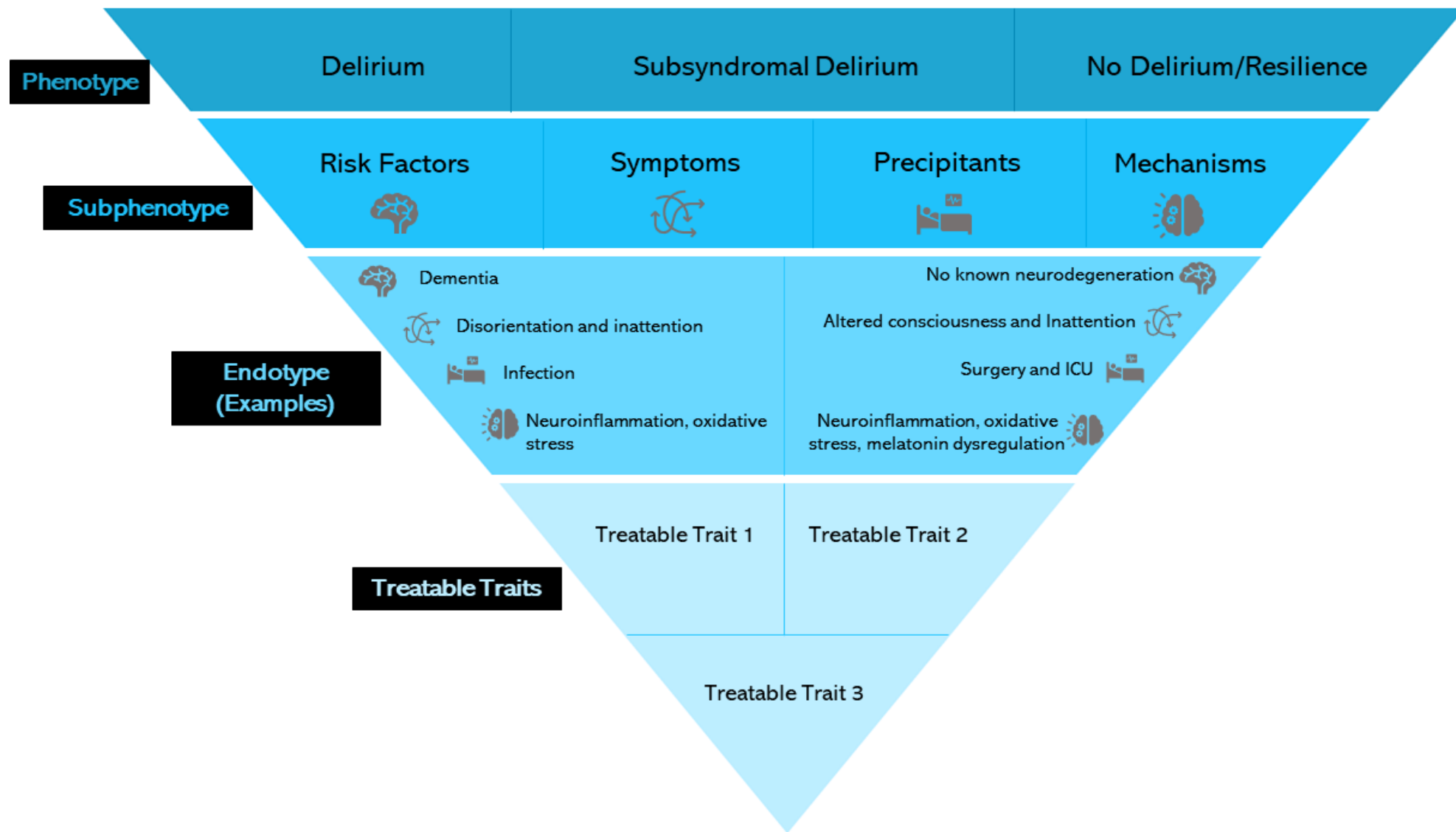


Red all share a  
mechanism, eg  
neuroinflammation

## Treatable Traits



Characteristics  
targeted by an  
intervention.



# *Delirium Subtyping Initiative Steering Committee*



# *Overall Meeting Aims*

## **Reach consensus on:**

1. Methods for selecting primary symptoms to be considered/recorded in delirium diagnosis.
2. Definitions for subtyping
3. Which clinical and biomarker features should be considered with most importance

## **Discuss ideas on:**

1. How to update and validate new subtypes.
2. What we can learn from previous subtyping works.
3. A plan to conquer logistical challenges in data sharing and combination.

# Session 1- Clinical Features

## Problems

Indexical approach- **DSM-5-TR** is a partial picture.

Delirium normally recorded as a **binary outcome**.

How to **define and operationalise core features**, eg inattention.

**Boundaries** between clinical syndromes, e.g., delirium and dementia, can be **indistinct**.

Variability in **outcomes assessment** make study comparison difficult- even in similar populations.

Currently defined by **clinical features only**.

How to describe those unable to engage with delirium assessment? **Possible/probable delirium?**

Is the **number of delirium symptoms** predictive of outcomes?

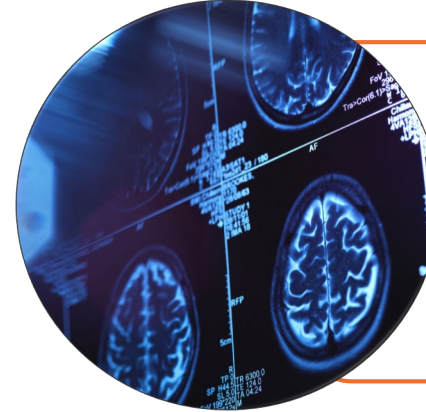


# *Session 1- Clinical Features*

## *Recommendations*



Operationalisation of features must be standardised across studies for combination and comparison of results.



Delirium subtyping methods should consider including all “delirium-spectrum syndromes”.



Delirium screening should involve a patient’s level of communication and reasoning.



Creation of distinct research and clinical criteria should be considered.

# *Session 1- Clinical Features*

## ***Future Aims***

- ✓ Robust collection of **individual, routine and well-classified clinical features.**
- ✓ Delirium identification and severity assessment tools for all **medical settings and communicative abilities.**
- ✓ **Consistent** collection of **clinical feature data** and **biomarker data** in both clinical and research settings.

# *Session 2- Refinement and Validation*

## ***Problems***

Potentially limited **translatability** of statistical clustering methods **into clinical practice** (imputation).

Categories of clinical and biomarker features are **not consistently measured**.

Subtyping success requires **establishing validation and** methods for regular updates.

# *Session 2- Refinement and Validation*

## *Recommendations*



Use of large datasets incorporating **clinical and biomarker** variables.



Analysis of similar and different cohorts, with caution, for understanding **variability and validity**.

## *Session 2- Refinement and Validation*

### ***Future Goals***

- ✓ Application of **cluster analysis techniques** (e.g., latent class analysis)
- ✓ **Data complexity** and **feature quality** should dictate clinical phenotypes.
- ✓ Methods used must be **replicable** and **easily understood**.
- ✓ Strong phenotypes must be **discrete, consistent, reproducible, validated and clinically useful**.
- ✓ Multivariable phenotyping and **prognostic enrichment** needed to identify groups of patients with specific treatment responses or treatable traits.

# *Session 3- Methods for handling data & statistics*

## ***Problems***

Heterogeneity in medical setting, clinical features, demographics, precipitants, insults, cognition and outcomes.

**Transiency**, patient **multimorbidity** and treatment response.

Ensuring ease of **data sharing**.

**Variability** in data records and thresholds used.

Potential differences between **hypothesis driven** studies and **data/sample driven** studies.



# *Session 3- Methods for handling data & statistics*

## *Recommendations*



Large multicentre studies should collect data using **repeated, frequent** and **standardised** measures of clinical features.

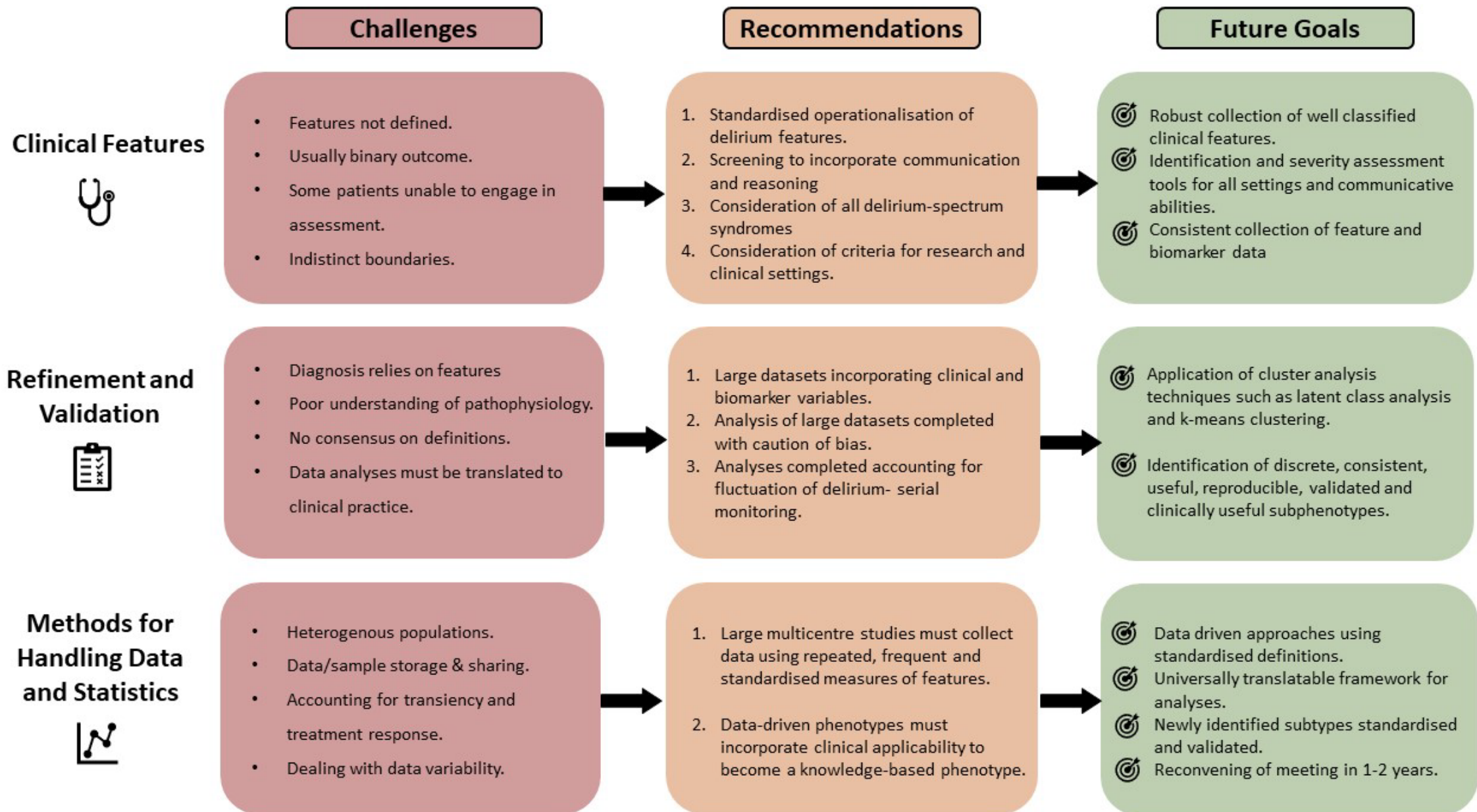



Data-driven phenotypes must incorporate **clinical applicability** to become a knowledge-based phenotype.

## *Session 3- Methods for handling data & statistics*

### ***Future Goals***

- ✓ **Data collection** (notes and samples) must be robust, consistent, and statistical protocols shared among all.
- ✓ **Operationalisation** and **standardisation** of all recommendations,
- ✓ A **universally translatable language** within which we are collecting data based on a framework.
- ✓ Newly identified subtypes must be **standardised** and **validated**.
- ✓ **Reconvening** of the Delirium Subtyping Initiative in 1-2 years for progress updates and review of goals.



► *Alzheimers Dement.* 2023 Jul 31;20(1):183–194. doi: [10.1002/alz.13419](https://doi.org/10.1002/alz.13419) 

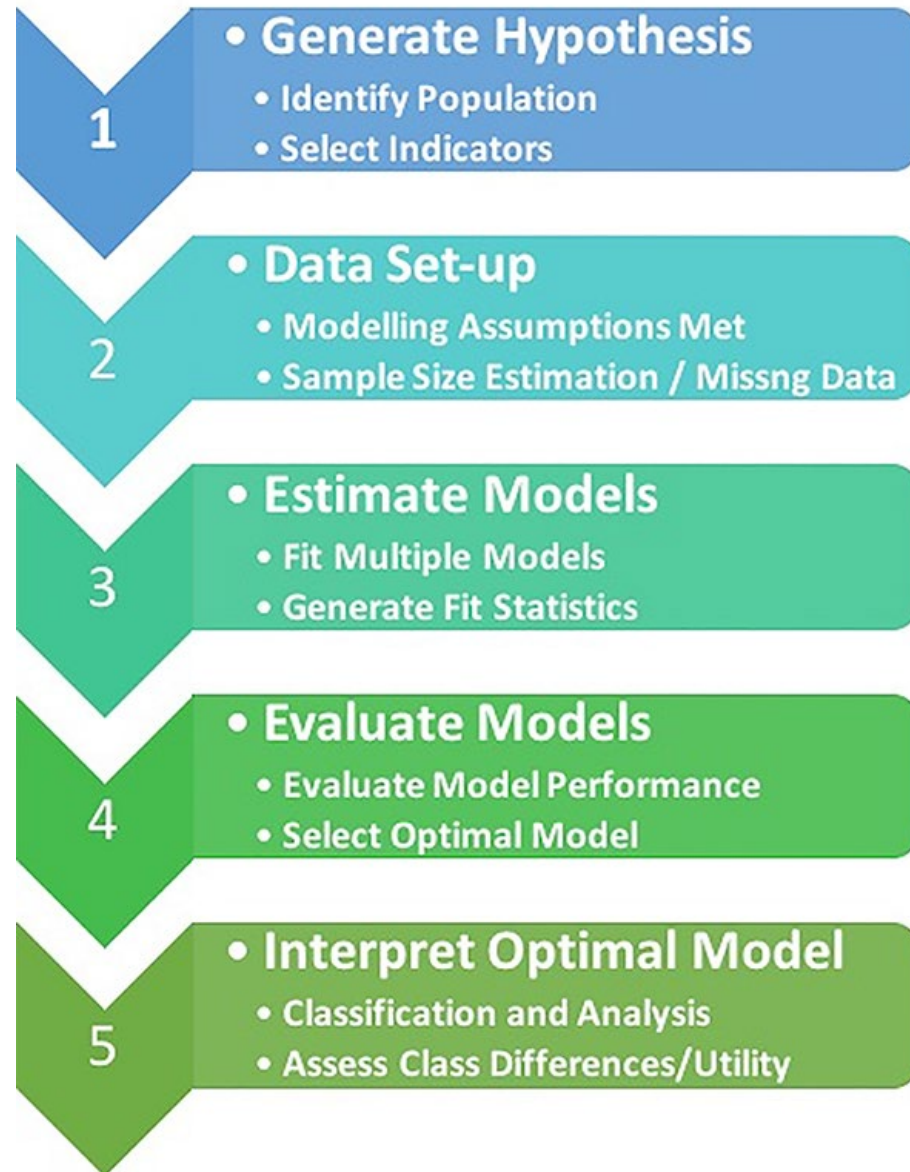
## Advancing specificity in delirium: The delirium subtyping initiative

[Emily M L Bowman](#)<sup>1,2,✉</sup>, [Nathan E Brummel](#)<sup>3</sup>, [Gideon A Caplan](#)<sup>4</sup>, [Colm Cunningham](#)<sup>5</sup>, [Lis A Evered](#)<sup>6,7,8</sup>, [Kirsten M Fiest](#)<sup>9,10,11,12,13</sup>, [Timothy D Girard](#)<sup>14</sup>, [Thomas A Jackson](#)<sup>15</sup>, [Sara C LaHue](#)<sup>16,17,18</sup>, [Heidi L Lindroth](#)<sup>19,20</sup>, [Alasdair M J MacLulich](#)<sup>21</sup>, [Daniel F McAuley](#)<sup>2</sup>, [Esther S Oh](#)<sup>22</sup>, [Mark A Oldham](#)<sup>23</sup>, [Valerie J Page](#)<sup>24</sup>, [Pratik P Pandharipande](#)<sup>25</sup>, [Kelly M Potter](#)<sup>14</sup>, [Pratik Sinha](#)<sup>26</sup>, [Arjen J C Slooter](#)<sup>27,28</sup>, [Aoife M Sweeney](#)<sup>1</sup>, [Zoë Tieges](#)<sup>21,29</sup>, [Edwin Van Dellen](#)<sup>27,28</sup>, [Mary Elizabeth Wilcox](#)<sup>30</sup>, [Henrik Zetterberg](#)<sup>31,32,33,34,35,36</sup>, [Emma L Cunningham](#)<sup>1</sup>

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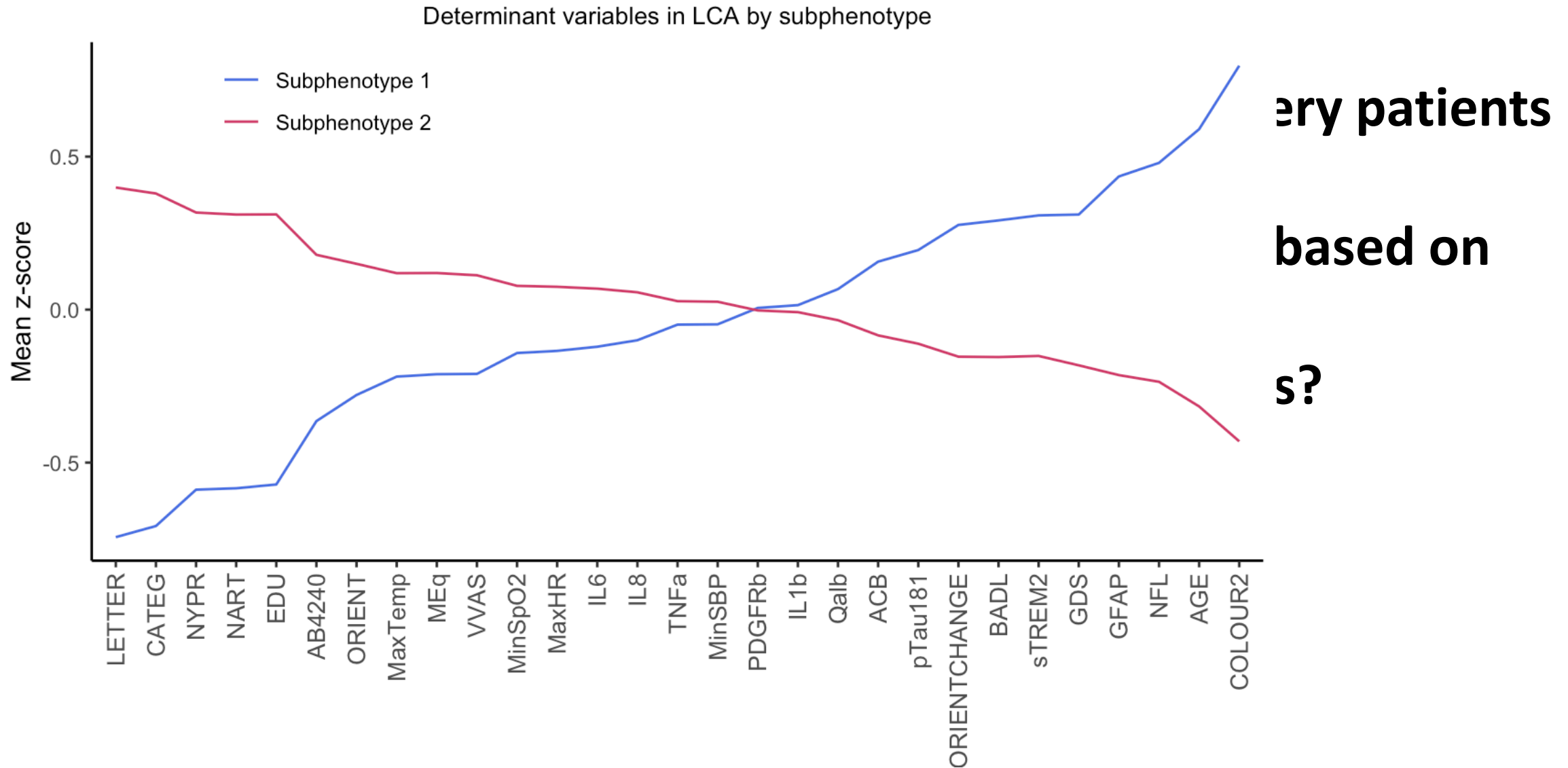
PMCID: PMC10917010 PMID: [37522255](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/37522255/)

# *Latent Class Analysis - Methods*





# Latent Class Analysis – PoDB Results





## *Two Subphenotypes of PoDB participants*

<b>Class 1</b>	<b>Class 2</b>
<p>N = 110</p> <p>28% Delirium</p> <p>Average age 78</p> <p>Shorter education</p> <p>More depression and dependency in ADL</p> <p>Higher levels of pain</p> <p>Worse preoperative and postoperative cognition</p> <p>More postoperative inattention and altered consciousness</p> <p>Lower oxygen saturation, temperature and numbers of morphine equivalents</p> <p>Higher CSF GFAP, NfL, and sTREM2, indicating higher levels or neuronal injury or neurodegeneration. Slightly higher levels plasma pTau181, a marker of AD.</p> <p>More likely to have died, have dementia or be institutionalised at 8-year follow up.</p>	<p>N = 205</p> <p>6.3% Delirium</p> <p>Average age 71</p> <p>Slightly higher CSF A<math>\beta</math>42/40 ratios, a marker of AD.</p>

# Acknowledgements



QUEEN'S  
UNIVERSITY  
BELFAST



Department for the  
**Economy**



Delirium Subtyping Initiative Steering Committee

Dr Emma Cunningham

Prof Danny McAuley

Prof Chris Cardwell

Dr Aoife Sweeney

Dr Valerie Page

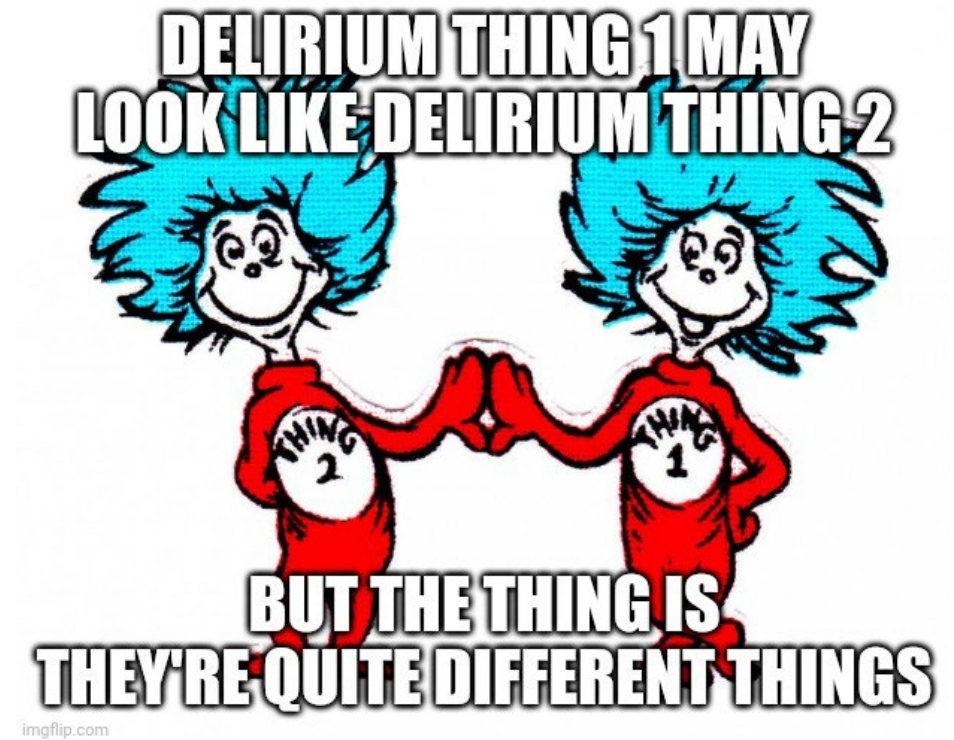
Prof Rich Jones

Dr Kiran Reddy

Mr John Conlon

CPH Ageing Research Forum

WWIEM Critical Care & Respiratory Research Group



(Credits to M. Oldham)



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