

## Dementia

It is important when documenting dementia to state whether the patient’s current mental status is at their baseline or if is acutely decompensated.

If the patient’s acute decompensation is due to their underlying dementia, please consider documenting:

- Acute Confusion or Acute Delirium on Chronic Dementia
- Dementia with Behavioral Disturbance
- Sundowning linked with Dementia
  - Are there changes in the patient’s mental status at night?

However, if the changes in the patient’s mental status are due to an acute systemic medical problem, such as a UTI, hepatic encephalopathy, adverse medication reaction, etc., please consider documenting:

- Acute Encephalopathy
- Toxic encephalopathy
- Septic encephalopathy
- Metabolic encephalopathy

NO SOI	LOW SOI	HIGH SOI
Altered Mental Status	Acute delirium Sundowning	Metabolic or Toxic Encephalopathy

SOI=Severity of Illness