

# ALTERED MENTAL STATUS

Alcohol, Endocrine/Electrolytes, Ischemia, Opiates, Uremia, Trauma, Infection, Poisoning, Seizures/Stroke

## AEIOU TIPS

### Alcohol

Blood Alcohol Level

Thiamine

### Endocrine/Electrolytes

FSBG, Electrolytes, LFTs, TSH, Ammonia

### Ischemia (Cardiac)

EKG, Troponin

### Opiates

### Uremia

### Trauma

CT head/c-spine (w/o contrast)

### Infection

Urinalysis, Chest X-Ray, Lumbar Puncture, CBC, Lactic Acid, Blood Cultures

### Poisoning

### Seizure/Stroke

Full Neuro Exam

CT Head (w/o contrast)

## Approach to Altered Mental Status

### 1) Airway

If they can't speak, they can't open their airway

### 2) Point of Care Labs

Finger Stick Blood Glucose (FSBG)

EKG (Ischemia, Dysrhythmia, Abnormal Intervals)

Pregnancy Test

### 3) Consider Naloxone (0.4 mg)

Patients may get agitated

Don't forget the half life

### 4) AEIOU TIPS

Write out your differential

Cross out anything you can rule out clinically

Order the rest of the tests so you don't miss anything