

## Chronic Subdural Hematoma: A Sentinel Health Event

- Chronic subdural hematoma (CSDH) should be conceived as a sentinel event in elderly patients.
- Mortality after diagnosis of CSDH increases with increased age at presentation.
- Rapid decline in health in elderly individuals is often preceded by sentinel health events, which, although not being the cause of decline, may be an indicator of subsequent morbidity and mortality.
- Comorbid conditions requiring anticoagulation therapy and propensity to falls may increase the risk of CSDH in elderly patients.
- As expected, elderly patients have decreased survival after diagnosis of SDH.
- Patients surviving hospitalization have worsened health as measured by a readmission rate of 9% and discharges to self-care for only half of patients.



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