

## CIRUGÍA ESPAÑOLA



www.elsevier.es/cirugia

### Original article

# Prospective Study of Factors Associated With Postoperative Delirium After Urgent Abdominal Surgery\*



Pablo Sánchez Acedo,\* Inés Eguaras Córdoba, Cruz Zazpe Ripa, Javier Herrera Cabezón, Antonio Tarifa Castilla

Cirugía General, Complejo Hospitalario de Navarra, Navarra, Spain

#### ARTICLE INFO

Article history:
Received 19 December 2019
Accepted 22 January 2020
Available online 1 October 2020

Keywords:
Urgent abdominal surgery
Delirium
Postoperative complications

#### ABSTRACT

Introduction: Delirium is a frequent complication in elderly patients after urgent abdominal surgery.

Methods: Prospective study of consecutive patients aged  $\geq$  65 years who had undergone urgent abdominal surgery from 2017–2019. The following variables were recorded: age, sex, ASA, physiological state, cognitive impairment, frailty (FRAIL Scale), functional dependence (Barthel Scale), quality of life (Euroqol-5D-VAS), nutritional status (MNA-SF), preoperative diagnosis, type of surgery (BUPA Classification), approach and diagnosis of postoperative delirium (Confusion Assessment Method). Univariate and multivariate analyses were performed to analyze the correlation of these variables with delirium.

Results: The study includes 446 patients with a median age of 78 years, 63.6% were ASA  $\geq$  III and 8% had prior cognitive impairment. 13.2% were frail and 5.4% of the patients had a severe or total degree of dependence. 13.6% developed *delirium* in the postoperative period. In the univariate analysis, all the variables were statistically significant except for sex, type of surgery (BUPA) and duration. In the multivariate analysis the associated factors were: age (P < .001; OR: 1,08; 95% CI: 1,038-1,139), ASA (P = .026; OR: 3.15; 95% CI: 1.149-8.668), physiological state (P < .001; OR: 5.8; 95% CI: 2.176-15.457), diagnosis (P = .006) and cognitive impairment (P < .001; OR: 5.8; 95% CI: 2.391-14.069).

Conclusion: The factors associated with *delirium* are age, ASA, physiological state in the emergency room, preoperative diagnosis and prior cognitive impairment.

© 2020 AEC. Published by Elsevier España, S.L.U. All rights reserved.

<sup>\*</sup> Please cite this article as: Sánchez Acedo P, Eguaras Córdoba I, Zazpe Ripa C, Herrera Cabezón J, Tarifa Castilla A. Estudio prospectivo de los factores asociados al delirium en el postoperatorio de la cirugía abdominal urgente. Cir Esp. 2020;98:450–455.

<sup>\*</sup> Corresponding author.

## Estudio prospectivo de los factores asociados al delirium en el postoperatorio de la cirugía abdominal urgente

RESIMEN

Palabras clave:
Cirugía abdominal
Ancianos
Cirugía urgente
Delirium
Síndrome confusional agudo

Introducción: El delirium es una complicación frecuente en pacientes ancianos intervenidos de cirugía abdominal urgente.

Métodos: Estudio prospectivo que incluye pacientes consecutivos  $\geq$  65 años intervenidos de cirugía abdominal urgente entre 2017 y 2019. Se registró: edad, sexo, ASA, estado fisiológico, deterioro cognitivo, fragilidad (escala de Frail), dependencia funcional (escala de Barthel), calidad de vida (Euroqol-5D-EVA), estado nutricional (MNA-SF), diagnóstico preoperatorio, tipo de cirugía (clasificación BUPA), vía de abordaje y diagnóstico de delirium postoperatorio (Confusion Assessment Method). Se realizó un analysis univariante y multivariante para analizar la relación de estas variables con el delirium.

Resultados: El estudio incluye 446 pacientes con una median de edad de 78 años; el 63,6% eran ASA  $\geq$  III y el 8% presentaban un deterioro cognitivo previo. El 13,2% eran frágiles y el 5,4% de los pacientes tenían un grado de dependencia grave o total. Un 13,6% desarrollaron delirium en el postoperatorio. En el analysis univariante todas las variables son estadísticamente significativas salvo el sexo, el tipo de cirugía (BUPA) y la duración. En el analysis multivariante los factores asociados fueron: la edad (p < 0,001; OR: 1,08 [IC 95%: 1,038-1,139]), el ASA (p = 0,026; OR: 3,15 [IC 95%: 1,149-8,668]), la alteración fisiológica (p < 0,001; OR: 5,8 [IC 95%: 2,176 15,457]), el diagnóstico (p = 0,006) y el deterioro cognitivo (p < 0,001; OR: 5,8 [IC 95%: 2,391-14,069]). Conclusión: Los factores asociados al delirium son la edad, el ASA, la alteración fisiológica a su llegada a urgencias, el diagnóstico preoperatorio y el deterioro cognitivo previo.

© 2020 AEC. Publicado por Elsevier España, S.L.U. Todos los derechos reservados.

#### Introduction

Acute confusional state or delirium is an acute, fluctuating disorder, characterized by deterioration of cognitive function, decreased level of consciousness, attention disorders and increased or decreased psychomotor activity. It is a frequent complication of hospitalized elderly patients, including those who have undergone surgical treatments, and it has been related to increased postoperative stay, morbidity and mortality.2 Today's longer life expectancy and better quality of life have led to a change in the type of patients undergoing urgent abdominal surgery. Currently, 20%-30% of the population is over the age of 65 (and this percentage is expected to increase in coming decades), and after urgent surgery these patients have a higher risk of presenting postoperative delirium.<sup>3-6</sup> Even so, delirium is generally an underdiagnosed complication, especially in surgical patients, which is why it does not always receive adequate treatment.7

The objective of this study is to analyze the incidence and factors associated with postoperative delirium in patients aged 65 or older who underwent urgent abdominal surgery at our hospital. Knowledge of these factors can help identify patients with a higher risk of developing delirium in the postoperative period in order to diagnose and treat it early.

#### Methods

Our prospective study included elderly patients aged 65 or older who had undergone urgent abdominal surgery at a third-level hospital between January 2017 and January 2019.

#### Variables Analyzed

A prospective database was designed to collect the demographic variables and different risk factors of the patients during hospitalization. The following were recorded: age, sex, ASA,<sup>8</sup> physiological status of the patient upon arrival to the emergency room, previous comorbidity (renal failure, COPD, heart failure, liver failure, acute myocardial infarction), previous cognitive impairment, frailty (using the FRAIL scale),<sup>9</sup> functional dependence (Barthel scale<sup>10</sup>), quality of life (Euroqol-5D-EVA<sup>11</sup>), nutritional status (MNA-SF<sup>12</sup>), preoperative diagnosis, type of surgery (BUPA<sup>13</sup>), surgical approach (open or laparoscopic) and the development of postoperative delirium. For the diagnosis of delirium, the Confusion Assessment Method<sup>14</sup> (CAM) was used.

#### Statistical Analysis

First of all, a univariate analysis was performed to analyze the association between postoperative delirium and the different variables evaluated. Subsequently, among the variables that presented a statistically significant association, those with a greater number of events were selected, and a multivariate analysis was performed. For this, the SPSS 22.0 program was used; a P value of <.05 was considered statistically significant.

#### **Ethical Aspects**

The study was approved by the Ethics Committee of our hospital. An anonymized database was created to register the variables. All patients agreed to participate in the study and signed a specific informed consent form.

#### Results

#### Demographic Variables

During the study period, 446 patients over the age of 65 underwent urgent abdominal surgery. Median age was 78 (Table 1); 63.7% were ASA patients  $\geq$  III; 8% of the patients had cognitive impairment prior to the operation; 13% of the patients were frail; 5.4% were severely or totally dependent, and 94.6% were independent or mildly-moderately dependent. Malnutrition was detected preoperatively in 6.7% of the patients. The incidence of delirium in elderly patients undergoing urgent abdominal surgery was 13.6% (61 patients).

#### Univariate Analysis

We conducted a univariate analysis of the recorded variables, and their correlation with the appearance of delirium was determined (Table 2). All the variables presented a statistically significant association, except for sex (P = .39), type of surgery (according to the BUPA classification) (P = .055) and the duration of the surgical intervention (P = .37).

#### Multivariate Analysis

Subsequently, a multivariate analysis was performed (Table 3). The factors associated with delirium were: age (P < .001; OR: 1.08 [95% CI: 1.038–1.139]), ASA  $\geq$ III (P = .026; OR: 3.15 [95% CI: 1.149–8.668]), physiological alteration upon arrival at the emergency department (P < .001; OR: 5.8 [95% CI: 2.17–15.45]), preoperative diagnosis (P = .006), and intestinal ischemia, which was the diagnosis more closely associated with delirium (OR 7.9 [95% CI: 1.54–40.79]) and previous cognitive deterioration (P<.001; OR 5.8 [95% CI: 2.39–14]).

In contrast, comorbidity, frailty, nutritional status, and functional dependence were not statistically associated with delirium in the multivariate analysis.

#### Discussion

The appearance of postoperative delirium is an increasingly frequent and more commonly studied complication because, due to increased life expectancy and less invasive procedures, a growing percentage of elderly patients are undergoing urgent surgery. The incidence of delirium in patients over the age of 65 treated with urgent abdominal surgery at our hospital was 13.6%. This percentage falls within the range published by several studies of elderly patients after both scheduled and urgent surgery, which is around 15%; however, percentages can vary between 3% and 27%, and even up to 50% in patients over 80. 15

Delirium is a multifactorial pathology, in which patient-specific and intercurrent factors can be identified. <sup>16</sup> Our study has identified patient age, ASA classification  $\geq$  III and previous cognitive impairment as patient-related factors.

Age is a known risk factor. There are multiple studies that support the relationship between a higher percentage of delirium at an older age or after the age of 70. One of the most

Table 1 – Demographic	Data	of the	Study	Patients
(n = 446).				

(n = 446).	
Mean Age (range)	78 (65-103)
Sex	, ,
Female	248 (55.6%)
Male	198 (44.4%)
AGA	, ,
ASA anesthesia risk	160 (06 00/)
ASA II-II	162 (36.3%)
ASA III-IV BUPA classification	284 (63.6%)
Not complex	174 (39%)
Complex	272 (60.9%)
	( (
Preoperative diagnosis	
Appendicitis, cholecystitis,	253 (56.7%)
incarcerated hernia	
Intestinal ischemia	8 (1.8%)
Obstruction/perforation of	91 (20.4%)
the small intestine	/
Obstruction/perforation of	71 (15.9%)
the colon Other	22 /E 19/\
[0,1–2]	23 (5.1%)
Physiological state (BP, HR, RR, oliguria-anuria, Sato	On altered level of
consciousness)	52, unterea level of
No alterations	416 (93.3%)
Alterations in ≥ 2 organs	30 (6.7%)
	` '
Comorbidity (advanced cancer, CKD, CHF, COPD, ce	rebrovascular disease,
AMI, liver failure)	20.0 (00.00/)
No comorbidities	396 (88.8%)
≥ 2 comorbidities  Previous cognitive decline	50 (11.2%) 36 (8%)
Trevious cognitive decline	30 (876)
Previous hospitalization	
None	360 (80.7%)
Yes	86 (19.2%)
Senior care home	7 (15.7%)
Frailty	
Not frail	387 (86.7%)
Frail	59 (13.2%)
Barthel Index	Mean: 93.62
	SD 14.58
	Median 100
0 17 6176 11 150	(Range 100(0–100)
Quality of life-Euroqol 5D	Mean: 0.81
	SD 0.227 Median 0.79
	(Range 1(-0.025-1)
Quality of life-EVA	Mean: 70.7
2	SD 19.07
	Median: 70
	(Range 10-100)
Three of currents	
Type of surgery Clean-Clean/contaminated	207 (46 5%)
Contaminated/Dirty	207 (46.5%) 238 (53.5%)
Gontammated, Dirty	230 (33.370)
Approach	
Open	287 (64.3%)
Laparoscopic	159 (35.6%)
Surgical time	Mean 104.2
	SD 54.7
	Median 90
Nutritional assessment	Range (20–330)
(MNA-SF)	
No malnutrition	415 (93%)
Malnutrition	30 (7%)
Postoperative delirium	61 (13.6%%)
COPD: chronic obstructive pulmonary disease;	
dorb. emonic obstructive pullifoliary disease,	TILL HEART TALE, IN.

COPD: chronic obstructive pulmonary disease; HR: heart rate; RR: respiratory rate; AMI: acute myocardial infarction; CHF: congestive heart failure; CKD: chronic kidney disease; BP: blood pressure; Sat  $O_2$ : oxygen saturation.

	Patients With No Delirium	Patients With Delirium	P
Median age (range)	76 (65–103)	82 (66–94)	< .0
Sex			
Female	211 (85.1%)	37 (14.9%)	.393
Male	174 (87.9%)	24 (12.1%)	
SA			
ASA I-II	157 (96.9%)	5 (3.1%)	< .0
ASA III-IV	228 (80.3%)	56 (19.7%)	
UPA score			
Less complex	157 (90.2%)	17 (9.8%)	.05
More complex	228 (83.4%)	44 (16.2%)	
reoperative diagnosis			< .
Appendicitis, cholecystitis, incarcerated hernia	234 (92.5%)	19 (7.5%)	
Intestinal ischemia	4 (50%)	4 (50%)	
Obstruction/perforation, small intestine	68(74.7%)	23 (25,3%)	
Obstruction/perforation, colon	60 (84.5%)	11(15,5%)	
Other	19 (82.6%)	4 (17,4%)	
hysiological status (BP, HR, RR, oligoanuria-anuria, SatO	<sub>2</sub> , altered level of consciousness)		
Not altered	368 (88.5%)	48 (11.5%)	< .
Altered in $\geq$ 2 organs	17 (56.7%)	13 (43.3%)	
omorbidity (advanced cancer, CKD, CHF, COPD, cerebrou	ascular disease, AMI, liver failure)		
No comorbidities	352 (88.9%)	44 (11.1%)	<
$\geq$ 2 comorbidities	33 (66.0%)	17 (34.0%)	
revious cognitive decline			
No	366 (89.2%)	44 (10.7%)	< .
Yes	19 (52.8%)	17(47.2%)	
revious hospitalization			
No	319 (88.6%)	41 (11.4%)	.00
Yes	66 (76.5%)	20 (23.3%)	
enior care home			
No	382 (87%)	57 (12.9%)	.00
Yes	3 (42.8%)	4 (57.2%)	
railty			
Not frail	344 (88.9%)	43 (11.1%)	< .
Frail	41 (69.5%)	18 (30.5%)	
arthel index	Mean: 95.62	Media: 83.33	
	Median: 100 (Range 100(0–100)	Median: 90 (Range 75 (25–100)	< .
Quality of life-Euroqol 5D	Mean: 0.848	Mean: 0.663	
	Median: 1 (Range 1(-0.025–1)	Median: 0.735 (Range 1 (-0.025–1)	<
Quality of life-EVA	Mean: 71.87	Mean: 60.69	
	Median: 70 (Range 80(20–100)	Median: 60 (Range 90 (10–100)	<
Type of surgery			
Clean-Clean/contaminated	183 (88.4%)	24 (11.6%)	.27
Contaminated/Dirty	202 (84.9%)	36 (15.1%)	
Approach			
Open	232(80.8%)	55(19.2%)	<.
Laparoscopic	153(96.2%)	6(3.8%)	
urgical time	Mean: 102 minutes	Mean: 115 minutes	
	Median: 90 (Range 310(20–330)	Median: 105 (Range 295 (25–320)	.37
lutritional status (MNA-SF)			
No malnutrition	363 (87.5%)	52 (12.5%)	.04
Malnutrition	22 (73.3%)	8 (26.7%)	

COPD: chronic obstructive pulmonary disease; HR: heart rate; RR: respiratory rate; AMI: acute myocardial infarction; CHF: congestive heart failure; CKD: chronic kidney disease; BP: blood pressure; Sat  $O_2$ : oxygen saturation.

	Exp(B)	IC 95%		P
		Inferior	Superior	
Age	1.087	1.038	1.139	.000
ASA classification	3.155	1.149	8.668	.026
Diagnosis (appendicitis, cholecystitis)	Reference			.006
Diagnosis (intestinal ischemia)	7.937	1.544	40.793	.013
Diagnosis (colon Obstruction, perforation)	3.521	1.630	7.606	.001
Diagnosis (small intestine occlusion)	1.501	0.567	3.971	.414
Diagnosis (other)	1.145	0.270	4.859	.854
Physiological state	5.800	2.176	15.457	.000
Previous cognitive decline	5.800	2.391	14.069	.000
Barthel Index	0.988	0.967	1.010	.277
Frailty	1.305	0.517	3.297	.573

complete publications is a retrospective study from 2018<sup>17</sup> from Annals of Surgery, with 2168 patients admitted by the surgery service. This study concluded that age is the main associated factor, more so than previous functional status or history of cerebrovascular disease.

Another associated patient-specific factor is the ASA physical status classification system. In our study, patients with an ASA  $\geq$  III<sup>18</sup> had a higher risk of developing postoperative delirium. This concurs with other studies, such the Raats group study from 2015, 19 which concluded that, in addition to patient age and previous decline, patients with higher ASA have a higher risk of postoperative delirium. Similarly, the patient's previous cognitive impairment or dementia is another known factor that predisposes them to developing delirium; in our study, 47.2% of patients with previous deterioration developed delirium, compared to 10.7% of those without. Although dementia and delirium can present similar symptoms<sup>16</sup> and are sometimes difficult to differentiate postoperatively, the causes are different: delirium is an acute and potentially reversible state, while the origin of dementia is generally organic and irreversible.

In a second group, we have found factors that precipitate or favor the appearance of delirium. All the patients in our study underwent urgent surgery and required postoperative hospitalization, so this cannot be considered a factor, but the physiological alteration that patients presented upon arrival to the emergency room and the preoperative diagnosis were found to be related factors in the multivariate analysis.

The physiological alteration upon arrival to the emergency department reflects the hemodynamic impact of the process on the patient, and the greater the alteration, the greater the risk of developing delirium later. A similar situation occurs with preoperative diagnosis, where pathologies that require more aggressive surgeries (intestinal ischemia or colon occlusion) pose a greater risk compared to less aggressive surgeries (acute appendicitis or small intestine occlusion). Both factors refer to the severity of the intercurrent process for which patients are being treated and how this poses a greater risk for patients.

Other studies also refer to the physiological alteration<sup>15</sup> of patients or to the severity of the diagnosis and the surgery required (major surgery versus minor surgery) and the development of delirium. Following this result, it could be argued that less invasive surgeries or treatments (laparoscopy,

endoscopy, etc) could reduce surgical aggression and, consequently, the development of delirium. In our study, patients who underwent laparoscopy had an incidence of 3.8% versus 19.2% in open surgery. However, this data is biased because the diagnoses were not the same and, therefore, these two groups are not comparable. It would be interesting to conduct a prospective study, selecting a single indication in order to compare patients with urgent laparoscopic procedures versus open surgery in order to assess the effect on delirium.

There are a number of limitations to consider when analyzing our study. Mainly, certain variables were not included, such as postoperative complications or the medication administered during the postoperative period, which in other studies have been associated with the development of delirium. Another possible limitation is that the days of hospital stay until the onset of delirium were not taken into account. Some publications 17 refer an average of 4-5 days of hospitalization; this is an interesting fact, but it can also be biased, since it excludes patients undergoing less aggressive surgeries who may be discharged before developing delirium, and it also excludes patients who die in the immediate postoperative period, generally after being treated for a serious pathology. We also did not register other variables that were associated in other studies, such as prior alcoholism<sup>20</sup> (abstinence during admission increases risk of delirium) or factors that cause patients to become more disoriented, such as prolonged ICU care or visual/hearing deficiencies. We believe it would be appropriate to include these variables in future studies on this matter.

Lastly, there is no consensus among the various studies when it comes to specifying the age of the patients included. In our study, we selected patients over the age of 65,  $^{21,22}$  since this age is currently used in epidemiological records as the beginning of old age when considering the legal retirement age. On the contrary, other studies include all surgically treated patients or select those older than 70 or 80, which may limit the ability to make comparisons.  $^{18,23}$ 

However, this study presents a large, homogeneous series of patients who had all been treated surgically at the same hospital, with objective diagnostic criteria based on international classifications and registered prospectively. Most studies on delirium in surgical patients are based on retrospective analyses, generally elective surgery, mainly colorectal, or mix urgent and elective patients. For this reason,

this study provides a more objective view of the development of delirium in patients undergoing urgent general surgery. Although the main risk factors cannot be modified (age, ASA, diagnosis, etc) and therefore cannot be altered to reduce the incidence, knowledge of these factors does allow us to identify patients at higher risk, thereby facilitating early diagnosis and treatment while avoiding other associated complications.

#### **Funding**

The authors have received no specific funding for this study from public, commercial or non-profit sectors.

#### **Conflict of Interests**

All the authors meet the criteria of the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE) and have no conflicts of interests.

#### REFERENCES

- American Psychiatric Association. Guía de consulta de los criterios diagnósticos del DSM-5®. American Psychiatric Publishing; 2013.
- Miyagawa Y, Yokoyama Y, Fukuzawa S, Fukata S, Ando M, Kawamura T, et al. Risk Factors for Postoperative Delirium in Abdominal Surgery: A Proposal of a Postoperative Delirium Risk Score in Abdominal Surgery. Dig Surg. 2017;34:95–102.
- 3. Desserud KF, Veen T, Søreide K. Emergency general surgery in the geriatric patient. Br J Surg. 2016;103:e52–61.
- 4. Aucoin S, McIsaac DI. Emergency General Surgery in Older Adults: A Review. Anesthesiol Clin. 2019;37:493–505.
- Torrance ADW, Powell SL, Griffiths EA. Emergency surgery in the elderly: challenges and solutions. Open Access Emerg Med. 2015;7:55–68.
- Søreide K, Desserud KF. Emergency surgery in the elderly: The balance between function, frailty, fatality and futility. Scand J Trauma Resusc Emerg Med. 2015;23.
- Martínez-Velilla N, Alonso Bouzón C, Ripa Zazpe C, Sánchez-Ostiz R. Síndrome confusional agudo postoperatorio en el paciente anciano. Cir Esp. 2012;90:75–84.
- 8. Haljamäe H. Anesthetic risk factors. Acta Chir Scand Suppl. 1989;550:11–9. discussion 19-21.

- Rolfson D, Majumdar S, Tsuyuki R, Tahir A, Rockwood K. Validity and reliability of the Edmonton. Age Ageing. 2006;35:526–9.
- 10. Mahoney F, Barthel D. Functional evaluation: The Barthel index. Md State Med J. 1965;14:61–5.
- Balestroni G, Bertolotti G. EuroQol-5D (EQ-5D): an instrument for measuring quality of life. Monaldi Arch Chest Dis. 2015;78.
- 12. Kaiser MJ, Bauer JM, Ramsch C, Uter W, Guigoz Y, Cederholm T, et al. Validation of the Mini Nutritional Assessment short-form (MNA®-SF): A practical tool for identification of nutritional status. J Nutr Heal Aging. 2009;13:782–8.
- 13. Kalina MA. B.U.P.A. (British United Provident Association). Lancet (London England). 1972;1:44–5.
- 14. Inouye SK, Van Dyck CH, Alessi CA, Balkin S, Siegal AP, Horwitz RI. Clarifying confusion: The confusion assessment method: A new method for detection of delirium. Ann Intern Med. 1990;113:941–8.
- Berian JR, Zhou L, Russell MM, Hornor MA, Cohen ME, Finlayson E, et al. Postoperative Delirium as a Target for Surgical Quality Improvement. Ann Surg. 2018;268:93–9.
- 16. Lippmann S, Perugula ML. Delirium or dementia? Innov Clin Neurosci. 2016;13:56–7.
- 17. Kubota K, Suzuki A, Ohde S, Yamada U, Hosaka T, Okuno F, et al. Age is the Most Significantly Associated Risk Factor With the Development of Delirium in Patients Hospitalized for More Than Five Days in Surgical Wards. Ann Surg. 2018:267:874–7.
- Scholz AFM, Oldroyd C, McCarthy K, Quinn TJ, Hewitt J. Systematic review and meta-analysis of risk factors for postoperative delirium among older patients undergoing gastrointestinal surgery. Br J Surg. 2016;103:e21–8.
- Raats JW, Steunenberg SL, Crolla RMPH, Wijsman JHH, te Slaa A, van der Laan L. Postoperative delirium in elderly after elective and acute colorectal surgery: A prospective cohort study. Int J Surg. 2015;18:216–9.
- Sousa G, Pinho C, Santos A, Abelha FJ. Delirio postoperatorio en pacientes con historial de abuso de alcohol. Rev Esp Anestesiol Reanim. 2017;64:214–22.
- Inouye SK, Robinson T, Blaum C, Busby-Whitehead J, Boustani M, Chalian A, et al. Postoperative Delirium in Older Adults: Best Practice Statement from the American Geriatrics Society. J Am Coll Surg. 2015;220136-148.e1.
- Pérez Díaz J, Abellán García A. Retos sanitarios de los cambios demográficos. Med Clin (Barc). 2016;146:536–8.
- Gleason LJ, Schmitt EM, Kosar CM, Tabloski P, Saczynski JS, Robinson T, et al. Effect of Delirium and Other Major Complications on Outcomes After Elective Surgery in Older Adults. JAMA Surg. 2015;150:1134.