Confusion - new onset

If any of the following RED FLAG presentations:
- Sepsis
- Hypoxia
- Hypoglycaemia
- Head injury / intracranial bleed / CVA (especially if on warfarin)
- Alcohol withdrawal
- Drug overdose / intoxication (e.g. opiates)
- Chest pain

Obtain collateral history from crew/family including a drug history. Is this ALL acute or does the patient have pre-existing dementia?

1) Fully undress, apply a gown and wrist band

2) Record vital signs: BP, HR, RR, SpO₂, Temp, GCS, pupils, BM
Commence Observation Chart and Early Warning Score - follow ED Escalation Plan

3) If signs of severe sepsis discuss with Senior Doctor - give antibiotics early and consider transfer to resus

4) Perform ECG and ensure it is reviewed. Consider - Could this be an MI?

5) If SOB, SpO₂ <94%, productive cough - ask doctor to examine in IAU and arrange CXR as needed

6) Urinalysis (+ MSU if positive for nitrites and leucocytes)

7) Cannulate and complete VIPS

8) Take bloods: FBC, UE, CRP, Calcium
If signs of sepsis: do VBG, add Blood Cultures

Any tasks NOT completed within IAU should be handed over verbally to the team and placed on NURSE ORDERS

Alert senior Doctor

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