



## PLS Mental Health Triage Tool for use in the Emergency Department during the COVID-19 Pandemic

<b>Stage 1: Medical Screening</b>		
New continuous cough or fever	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
NEWS score >0 (with the exception of tachycardia or high RR that is clearly due to anxiety)	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Psychotic symptoms in the absence of a psychiatric history	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
AMTS<8	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Evidence or suspicion of acute medical problem (includes drug/ alcohol withdrawal)	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Visual hallucinations present	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Disposition:</b> <u>Any "Yes"</u> : Parallel assessment in the Emergency Department 6x "No": direct referral to liaison psychiatry and diversion to the MH Hub if Stage 2 criteria met. <b>Give details of any medical follow-up needed</b>		

<b>Stage 2: Mental Health risk screening</b>	
Presentation with <u>acute</u> risk to self OR others that has to be managed imminently	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Ongoing</u> thoughts of harm to self OR others with risk of absconding	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Acute</u> distress/ risky behaviour in the Emergency Department	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Significant</u> previous risk of harm to self OR others to a degree that would make transport very unsafe	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Security</u> department has been involved during this presentation	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Medically compromised</u> as per Stage 1	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Appears to be under the influence of <u>drugs and/or alcohol</u>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Disposition:</b> <u>Any</u> "Yes": Parallel assessment in the Emergency Department 7x "No": direct referral to liaison psychiatry and diversion to the MH Hub if Stage 1 criteria met. <b>If known dementia or strongly suspected, please discuss with PLS old age consultants (or second on call out of hours)</b>	

### Stage 3: Completion of MH Triage tool on RiO

PLS consultants of Bedford and Luton & Dunstable Hospitals, April 2020. Medical screening adapted from Shah et al. A screening tool to medically clear psychiatric patients in the emergency dept. J Emer Med 2012. 43(5):871-5.

