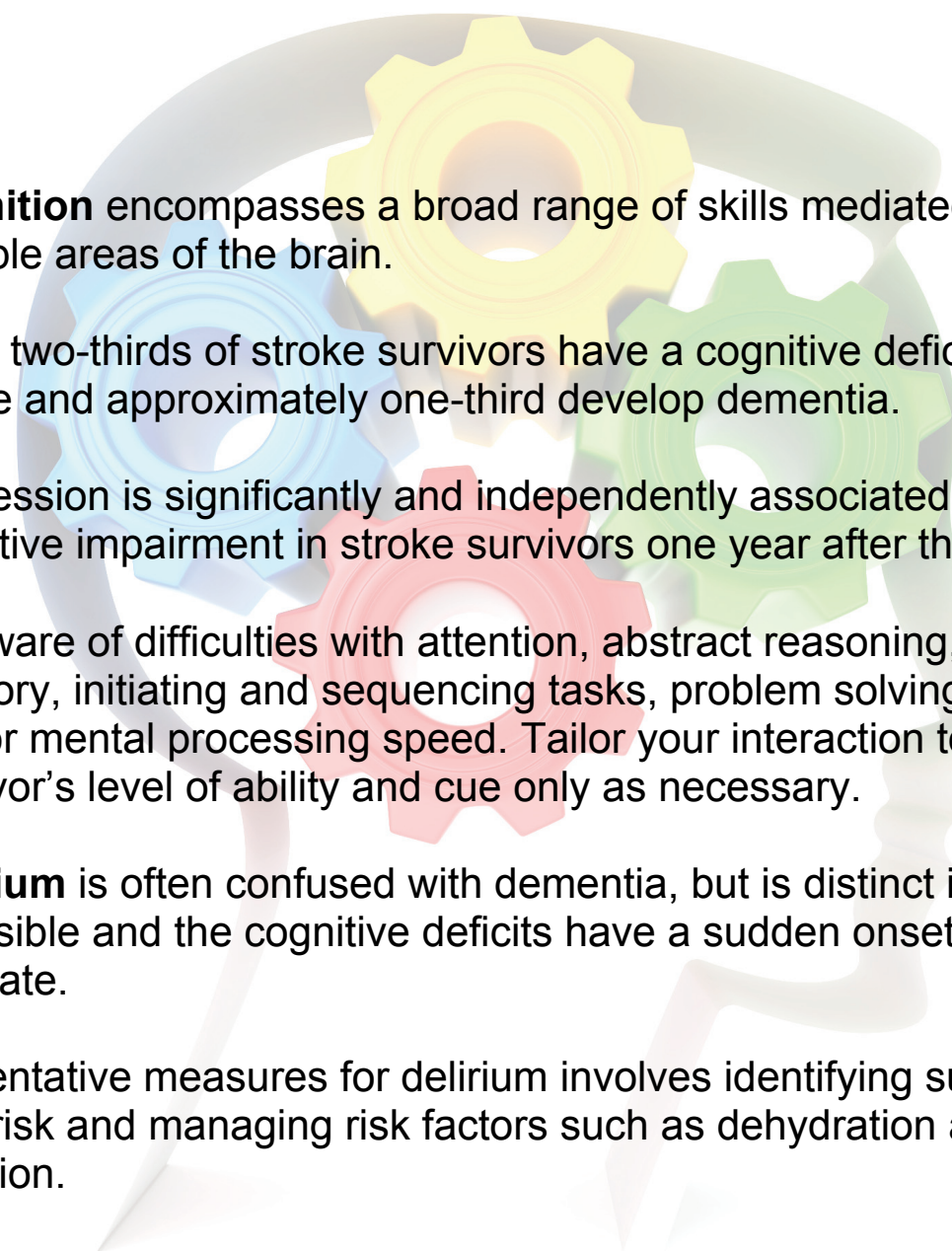


Practical Considerations- Cognitive Disorders Post-Stroke



Cognition encompasses a broad range of skills mediated by multiple areas of the brain.

Up to two-thirds of stroke survivors have a cognitive deficit following stroke and approximately one-third develop dementia.

Depression is significantly and independently associated with cognitive impairment in stroke survivors one year after the stroke.

Be aware of difficulties with attention, abstract reasoning, judgment, memory, initiating and sequencing tasks, problem solving, orientation and/or mental processing speed. Tailor your interaction to the survivor's level of ability and cue only as necessary.

Delirium is often confused with dementia, but is distinct in that it is reversible and the cognitive deficits have a sudden onset and fluctuate.

Preventative measures for delirium involves identifying survivors at high risk and managing risk factors such as dehydration and infection.