



Patient Fall Prevention

1. Identify the fall rate per 1,000 patient days for each unit. Regularly and frequently communicate the fall rate to staff.
2. On admission implement the universal fall prevention protocol including
 - Familiarize the patient with the environment.
 - Have the patient demonstrate call light use and keep the call light within reach.
 - Keep patient personal possessions within the patient's reach.
 - Have sturdy handrails in patient bathrooms, room and hallway.
 - Place the hospital bed in a low position and keep the brakes locked.
 - Keep non-slip, well-fitting footwear on patient.
 - Utilize a night light or supplemental lighting.
 - Keep floor surfaces clean and dry.
 - Educate all caregivers to identify fall risk indicators.
3. Screen every patient for fall risk factors using a validated tool on admission, after a change in a patient's condition, after a fall and at change of shift for high risk patients.
5. Communicate the assessed fall risk to patients, family members as well as staff by using yellow colored patient bracelets, signs on doors, bulletin boards in the room and face to face patient education.
6. Develop a toileting schedules for high risk patients.
7. Avoid single occupancy rooms for confused and disoriented patients.
8. Provide adequate staffing to assist and monitor patients.
9. Minimize the use of restraints and side rails.
10. Regularly evaluate the results of the fall prevention program and make modifications as necessary based on feedback.