



Ascension

## Upcoming Implementation of Morse Fall Risk Scale and Fall TIPS

### What is Changing?

- **Fall TIPS (Tailoring Interventions for Patient Safety)** will be implemented alongside the **Morse Fall Scale** in adult, acute care settings.
- Go-Live for sites in Cohort 1 is December 5
- Go-Live for sites in Cohort 2 is February 13

### Setting-specific considerations:

- Emergency, pediatric, and behavioral health settings **will not** implement Fall TIPS at this time.

### Why is This Changing?

Ascension is implementing an evidence-based fall prevention program, which includes universal fall precautions, 3-step fall prevention program, and post fall management.

The Fall TIPS program includes fall risk assessment (Morse Fall Scale), individualized fall prevention interventions, and patient/family engagement in ensuring consistent implementation of the individualized plan.

### What change will you see in patient rooms?

The Fall TIPS communication tool will be used by clinical staff to engage the patient, family, and care team in the fall prevention plan.

On this tool, you will see updated information about the patient's risk factors for falls.

The risk factors (on the left) and interventions (on the right) are color coded; if a risk factor is identified on the left, there will be corresponding intervention(s) circled on the right. You can find additional information on the back of this page regarding the graphics. Each unit has Fall TIPS champions and you are encouraged to reach out to leaders and champions on the units if you have questions about this evidence-based practice change.

Ascension Patient Name: _____		Date: _____	
Increased Risk of Harm If You Fall <input type="checkbox"/>		<b>Fall Interventions</b> (Circle selection based on color)	
<b>Fall Risks</b> (Check all that apply)		<div> <div>  Communicate Recent Fall and/or Risk of Harm           </div> <div>  Walking Aids   Crutches    Cane    Walker           </div> </div>	
History of Falls <input type="checkbox"/>		<div> <div>  IV Assistance When Walking           </div> <div>  Toileting Schedule: Every _____ hours   Bed Pan    Assist to Commode    Assist to Bathroom           </div> </div>	
Medication Side Effects <input type="checkbox"/>		<div> <div>  Bed Alarm On           </div> <div>  Assistance Out of Bed   Bed Rest   1 person   2 people           </div> </div>	
Walking Aid <input type="checkbox"/>			
IV Pole or Equipment <input type="checkbox"/>			
Unsteady Walk <input type="checkbox"/>			
May Forget or Choose Not to Call <input type="checkbox"/>			

Click [here](#) to learn more about Fall TIPS.



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The Fall TIPS laminated poster is a tool to communicate a patient's fall risk factors and care team interventions to prevent a fall. Below are the 6 risk factors for falls that are part of Morse Fall Scale and ways you can participate in helping prevent a fall.

**1. History of falling**



- a. Ask patient about previous falls
- b. Collaborate with nurse on using plan to prevent similar falls

**2. Secondary diagnosis**



- a. Ask nurse if the patient requires frequent rounding/toileting due to symptoms of medical problems or medication side effects

**3. Ambulatory aid**



- a. Make sure patients have their ambulatory aid when walking
- b. Remind patient about dangers of using furniture as an aid

**4. IV/Saline lock**



- a. Remind the patient that the IV may cause them to need to urinate more frequently and to call for help with toileting
- b. Conduct frequent rounding
- c. Call for assistance for patients with an IV pole when getting out of bed

**5. Gait**



- a. Make sure patients have their ambulatory aid when walking
- b. Call for assistance for patients if they'd like to get out of bed

**6. Mental status**



- a. The bed/chair alarm are turned on, call for assistance if patient is getting out or coming back to bed
- b. Do not leave patients out of bed/toileting unattended