



Falls Investigation

Resident Name: _____ Name of Person Filling Out Form: _____

Date: _____ Time: _____ Shift: _____ Location: _____

RESULT OF FALL

Vital Signs: BP _____ P _____ R _____ T _____ Start alert charting Done

Was an injury sustained as a result of the fall? Yes No

If "Yes", explain: _____

Has abuse been ruled out? (flag to DNS) Yes No

Did the fall result in hospitalization or death? (flag to Administrator) Yes No

INVESTIGATE

1. Gather First Impressions

- List each staff members in the health center at the time of the incident, their location, and whether or not they have any knowledge of the incident. Knowledge would include witnessing the fall, being the first responder, being the last person to see the resident before the fall, the CNA who is working with the resident that day, etc.)

Name: _____ Location: _____ Knowledge: Yes No

Name: _____ Location: _____ Knowledge: Yes No

Name: _____ Location: _____ Knowledge: Yes No

Name: _____ Location: _____ Knowledge: Yes No

Name: _____ Location: _____ Knowledge: Yes No

Name: _____ Location: _____ Knowledge: Yes No

Name: _____ Location: _____ Knowledge: Yes No

Name: _____ Location: _____ Knowledge: Yes No

Name: _____ Location: _____ Knowledge: Yes No

Name: _____ Location: _____ Knowledge: Yes No

- Ask people with either direct or indirect knowledge of the incident to describe their understanding of what happened and why, starting with the resident.
Use open-ended questions, such as "Tell me a little more about..."
Avoid accusatory language and try to get at the root cause.

Person #1: Resident What happened?: _____

Why do you think this happened?: _____

Person #2: _____ What happened?: _____

Why do you think this happened?: _____

Person #3: _____ What happened?: _____

Why do you think this happened?: _____

Person #4: _____ What happened?: _____

Why do you think this happened?: _____

2. Review Factors Related to Assessment and Care Planning

Had the resident been assessed as a fall risk (see care plan)?

Yes

No

If yes, were all care planned interventions being followed?

Yes

No

If no, explain: _____

Does the resident require assistance with toileting?

Yes

No

If yes, when was the last time the resident was toileted? _____

Are equipment needs documented on the care plan?

Yes

No

If yes, did equipment pose a safety risk in this instance?

Yes

No

Were all aspects of the care plan being followed?

Yes

No

If no, explain: _____

Comments on Assessment & Care Planning: _____

3. Review Factors Related to Environment and Equipment

Make a diagram of scene at time of discovery. Show positions of furniture, doors/doorways, equipment, bathroom fixtures, etc. Draw a stick figure to indicate where the resident was found. Label as face-up or face-down.

Could the following potentially have been a factor in this fall? If yes, please explain:

- | | | | | |
|---|------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Lighting | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No | | |
| Flooring (wet, shiny, contrast, uneven) | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No | | |
| Equipment placement | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No | | |
| Furniture placement | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No | | |
| Room to move freely in the space/turn radius | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No | | |
| Others present (residents, staff, visitors, etc.) | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No | | |
| Bed (height/position, brakes on/off, mattress-type) | | | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Side rails (up/down, full/half/other, transfer cane, padding) | | | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Fall Mat (thickness, placement on dominant side) | | | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Call light (on dominant side, within reach, appropriate for resident) | | | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Restraints & Supportive Devices (proper application) | | | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |

Time applied: _____ Time last checked: _____

Explain Any "Yes's": _____

- Is an alarm part of the resident care plan? Yes No
If yes, was the alarm being used in accordance with the care plan? Yes No
(turned on & working, properly placed)
If no, explain: _____

- Is an assistive device or transfer equipment part of the resident care plan? Yes No

If yes, type of device or equipment: _____
(walker, cane, Sara lift, maxi-slide, maxi-lift, etc.)

- | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Device present? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No | |
| Device within reach of the resident? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input type="checkbox"/> N/A |
| Device in good repair? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No | |
| Brakes are | <input type="checkbox"/> On | <input type="checkbox"/> Off | <input type="checkbox"/> N/A |
| Footrests are | <input type="checkbox"/> Up | <input type="checkbox"/> Down | <input type="checkbox"/> N/A |

Wheelchair cushion present?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Nonskid material on wheelchair cushion?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Resident positioned properly?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Device is adjusted/fitted properly? (consider seat height/depth, foot placement)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	

Explain any "No's": _____

4. Review Factors Related to the Resident

Could the following potentially have been a factor in this fall? If yes, please explain:

Cognition	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Prosthesis/splint	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Eyesight/visual field	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Dominant side	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Footwear/clothing	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Consider placement of equipment, furniture, doors & doorways, bathroom fixtures		
Mobility	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No			
Hearing	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No			

Explain Any "Yes's": _____

Does the resident have any of the following medical conditions? Could it have been a factor?

	Have Condition?		If yes, could it have been a factor in the fall?	
Dementia	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Pain	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Neuromuscular	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Orthopedic	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Cardiovascular	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Recent condition change	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Dialysis	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Neurological	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No

Explain Any "Yes's in the "factor" column: _____

5. Review Factors Related to Medications

New medications?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	If "Yes", time last dose given: _____
Medication changed in dose, time, etc.?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	If "Yes", time last dose given: _____
Med error in the last 24 hours?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	

Did the resident exhibit or complain of (possible drug side effects):

- | | | | | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Weakness | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No | Dehydration | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Acute delirium | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No | Impaired vision | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Dizziness | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No | Agitation | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Clammy skin | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No | Impulsiveness | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Gait disturbance | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No | | | |

CONCLUSION: THE 5 WHYS

Use the “5 Whys” to determine the root cause of this fall. Make sure to keep asking “why” until you get to the true root cause. The more you drill down, the more likely it will be that we will be able to prevent similar falls from happening in the future.

What do you believe to be the root cause of this fall? _____

NOTIFICATIONS

- Physician, using SBAR HCPOA

RESIDENT CARE MANAGER

1. Review First Responder Investigation

2. Review MAR and indicate whether or not the following was potentially a factor in the fall:

- | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Drug to drug interaction | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No | Drug to supplement interaction | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Drug to food interaction | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No | Drug to herb interaction | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |

Explain Any “Yes’s”: _____

Is the resident taking any of the following classes of medications? If yes, determine whether or not the issues associated with that class of medication was potentially a factor in the fall.

Diuretics **Taking?** **If yes, could it have been a factor in the fall?**
 Yes No Yes No
 (Edema in lower extremity, lung status, change in urgency & void, change in fluid intake (72 hrs))

Antibiotics Yes No
 If yes, diagnosis: _____ Yes No

Narcotics/Analgesics Yes No Yes No
 Pain level at last dose _____

Hypo-/hyperglycemics Yes No Yes No
 Last dose insulin/oral agent _____ CBG results _____
 Last p.o. intake (time & quantity) _____

	Taking?		If yes, could it have been a factor in the fall?	
Laxatives	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Antipsychotics	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Anti-anxiety	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Anti-depressant	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Hypnotic	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Anti-hypertensives	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No

Explain Any "Yes's on the "factor" lines: _____

CONCLUSION & ACTION PLAN

1. The 5 Whys

Use the "5 Whys" to determine the root cause of this fall. Make sure to keep asking "why" until you get to the true root cause. The more you drill down, the more likely it will be that we will be able to prevent similar falls from happening in the future. (If the same as the first responder conclusions, write "see first responder.")

What do you believe to be the root cause of this fall? _____

2. Develop an Action Plan

Review the care plan, including resident goals/preferences. Consider previous incidents and interventions for effectiveness. Consider how to keep the fall from happening again. Involve resident and responsible party in care plan changes.

Intervention put in place to prevent fall from happening again: _____

Care plan revised **Done** **N/A**

If N/A, document why the current care plan will not be changed: _____

3. Action Plan Implemented

Nursing staff notified **Done** **N/A**
HCPOA notified **Done** **N/A**
Resident notified **Done** **N/A**

DNS REVIEW

If abuse not ruled out, contact Adult Protective Services.

Done

N/A

Additional questions, comments or changes to above.

ADMINISTRATOR REVIEW

If hospitalization or death, report to Oregon Patient Safety Commission.

Done

N/A

Additional questions, comments or changes to above.
