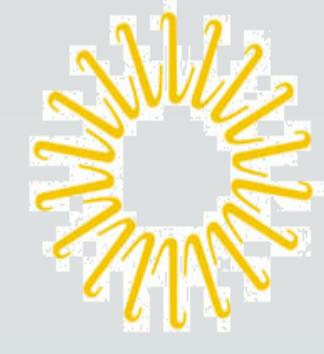


# How Do ED's Compare When Trying to Catch a Falling Star!



The Miriam Hospital  
A Lifespan Partner

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ANA National Center For  
Nursing Quality  
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## Purpose

The National Patient Safety  
Goal 09.02.01



Implement a  
fall  
reduction  
program  
  
Evaluate the  
program

This Emergency Department  
wanted to see how its number of  
falls compared to other  
emergency departments and  
implement a fall reduction  
program.



Setting-Teaching, urban ED with  
55,000 annual visits

## Significance

A quality indicator for falls  
needed to be established in the  
ED

Inpatient  
Falls  
based on falls  
per 1000  
patient days



Emergency  
Department  
Falls  
based on ?



Our initial fall data 10/1/07-9/30/08  
--26 falls.



How to set goal?

How to set the  
threshold?

How to compare  
with other ED's?

Literature search  
Emergency Nurses Association  
(ENA) Benchmark Guide-no  
comparison data

## Strategy and Implementation

Local emergency departments and  
the ENA Educators list serve were  
polled for information



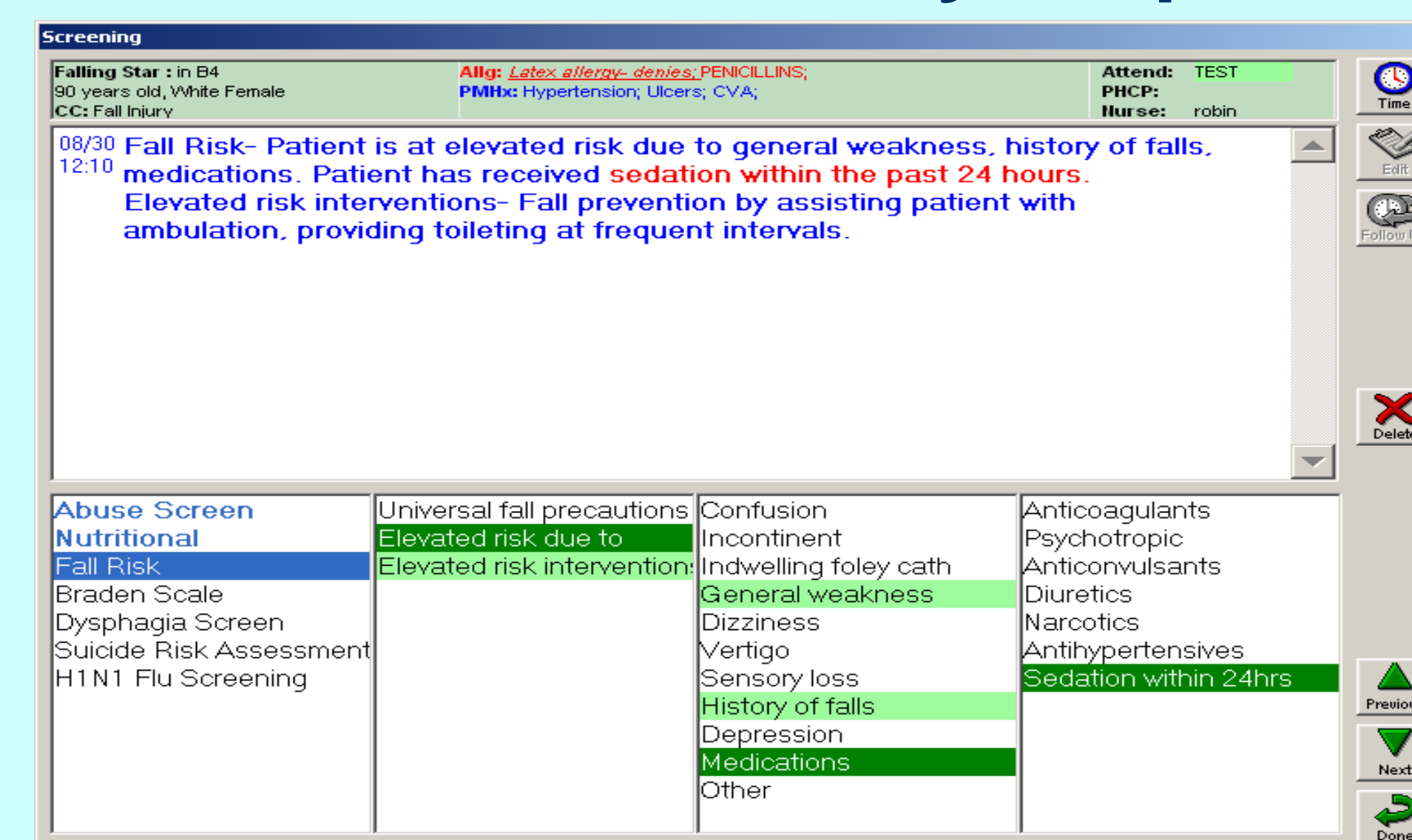
How do ED's  
establish a method  
for comparison  
when no previous  
benchmark is found  
in the literature?

### FALLS PER 10,000 VISITS WAS SELECTED.

Limited sample fall rate-  
2.82 falls per 10,000 visits

This hospital's ED fall rate-  
5.1 per 10,000 visits in 2008

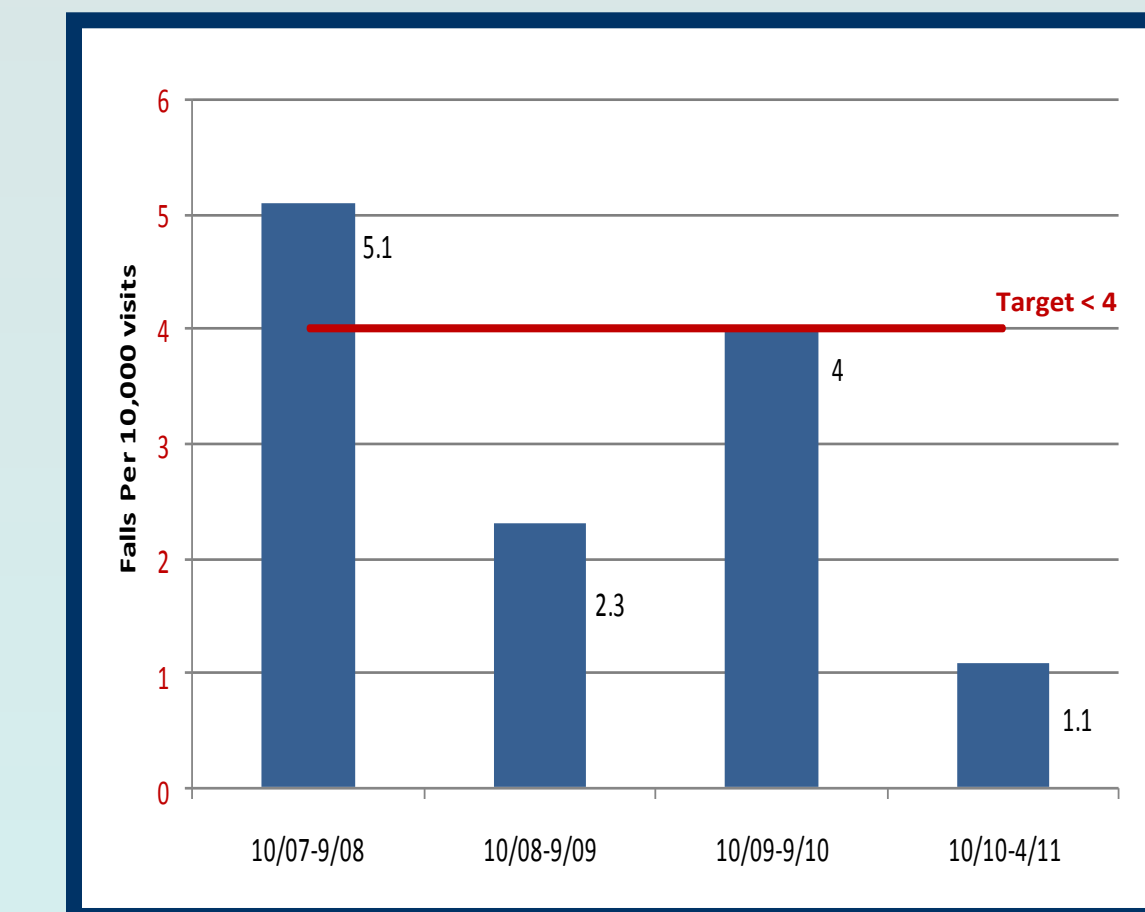
After data collection in 2008, fall  
risk assessments and interventions  
were initiated on every ED patient.



## Evaluation

Fall data monitored monthly

A target of <4 was set



Fall Data  
10/01/07 to  
04/30/11

## Implications for Practice



With annual census changing, it  
is important to have a valid  
means of evaluation.

It is also important to  
benchmark with other ED's.

ED's need to be more  
transparent so best practices  
can be shared