



# Fall Prevention: Perseverance Pays Off!

Jane Fusilero, MSN, MBA, RN, NEA-BC

Sheila Ferrall, MS, RN, AOCN



# Setting

- Moffitt Cancer Center, an NCI Comprehensive Cancer Center
- 206 bed facility with over 370,000 outpatient visits a year



# Objectives

- Describe the implementation of a series of initiatives aimed at reducing falls and the development of a fall prevention toolkit
- Discuss engaging patients and families and using an interdisciplinary approach as important strategies in reducing falls




# What We Are **NOT** Going to Talk About

- Hourly rounds or purposeful rounding
- Bedside change of shift report
- Safety equipment: helmets and hip protectors
- Bed alarms, chair alarms



# Background



Nearly 1 million people fall in hospitals each year; almost one-third of falls are preventable (AHRQ)

A fall may result in injuries and lead to increased utilization of healthcare resources

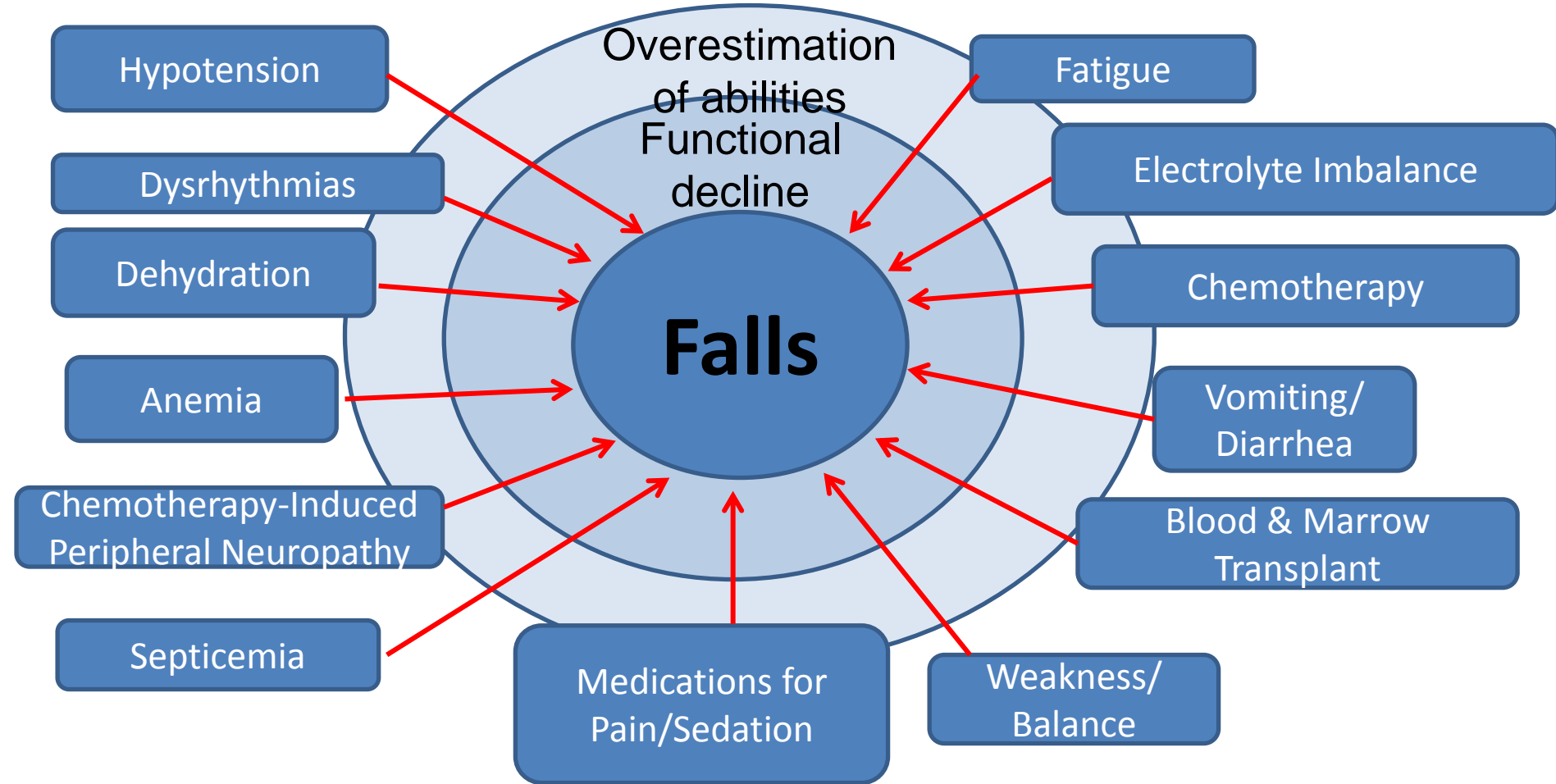
Across the nation, and in our healthcare organization, falls have a significant quality, safety, and financial impact



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# Falls and the Cancer Patient



# Consultation With Experts

- Florida Hospital Engagement Network
  - FHA and AHA partnered to provide support and education through the Hospital Engagement Network
  - Seventy-seven Florida hospitals have worked to improve care through this collaborative
- Pat Quigley, PhD, MPH, ARNP, CRRN, FAAN, FAANP
  - Fall Prevention Committee
  - Nursing Leadership
- Literature review



# Fall Prevention Toolkit Development

- Web-based Resources
- Fall Prevention Committee Activities
- Safety Champion Program
- Friday Fall Review Newsletter
- Partnership for Safety Agreement
- Patient Education Tools
- Fall Precautions





# Fall Prevention Committee Restructure

## Before

- Nursing
- Safe Patient Handling



## After

- Nursing
- Nursing Quality
- Environmental Services
- Pharmacy
- Physical Therapy
- Risk Management
- Valet Services
- Safe Patient Handling
- Patient Advisor



*Expanded Committee Structure*



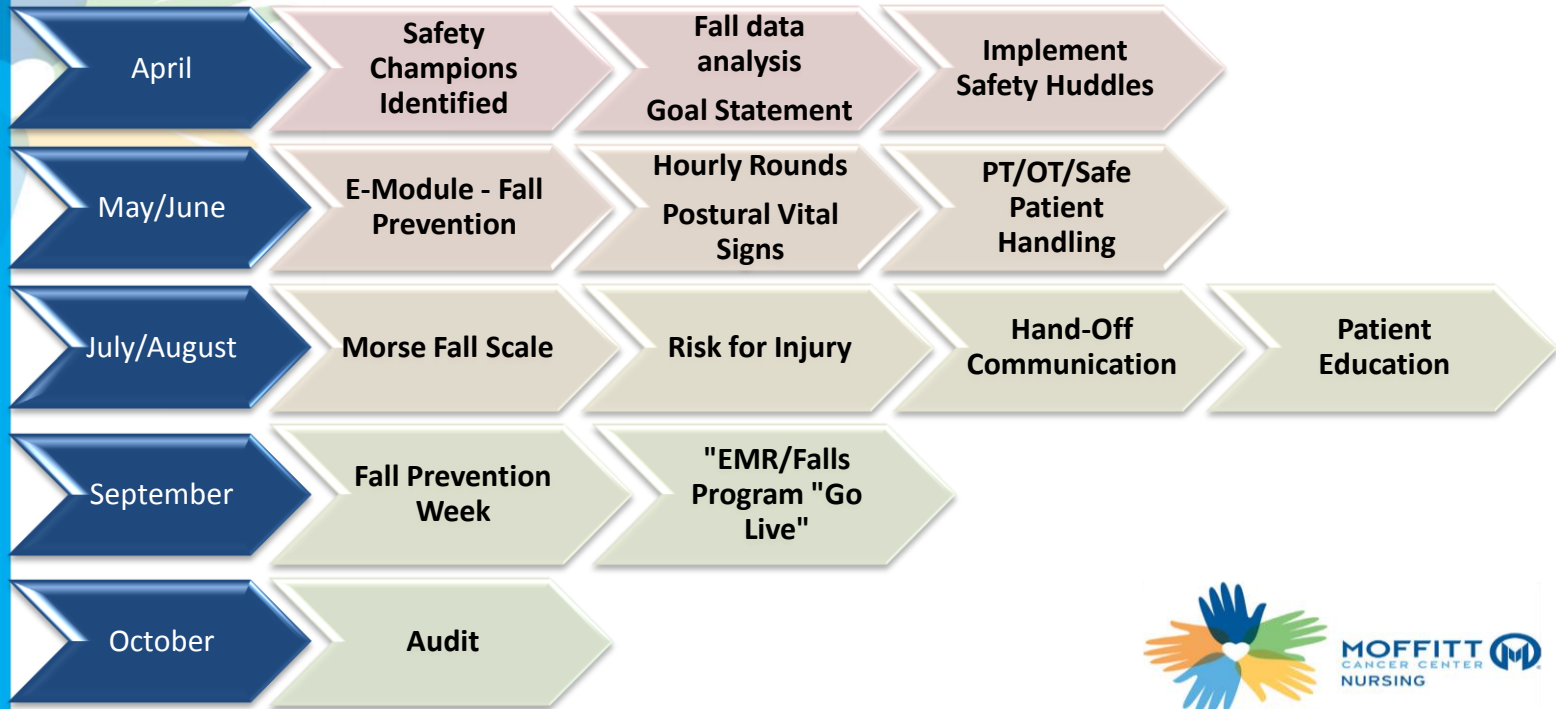
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# Environmental Assessment & Changes

- Collaborative effort between Nursing & Facilities
- Examples of changes implemented include:
  - Wall mounted safety arm rails for toilets and showers
  - Thresholds to bathroom removed
  - Gait belt hooks installed in every room
  - Cobblestone pavers in parking area replaced with even surface
- Other recommendations:
  - Matte floor finish to reduce glare
  - Slip resistant strips on bathroom floor
  - Nightlights in bathroom
  - Raise toilet seats



# Fall Prevention Strategies: Education Roll Out



# Friday Fall Review



September 2014

**National Fall Prevention Week September 22– 26**

  *Fall*

**Hourly Rounding**  
Is a systematic approach to rounding that can improve patients' experience of care and build their trust, ensure that care is safe and reliable. Purposeful Hourly Nurse Rounds Help to Reduce Falls, Pressure Ulcers, and Call Light Use, and Contribute to Rise in Patient Satisfaction <http://www.ahrq.gov/>

Ask the patient direct questions regarding pain and personal needs hourly during the day and every 2 hours at night while sharing the plan to return within the next hour.

**Pain**  
**P**ersonal needs  
( bathroom, personal items within reach)  
**P**ositioning



Purposeful Rounding is a team effort. Communicating with care team and identifying high risk patients can reduce patient falls



**Friday Fall Review**  
Friday Fall Review (FFR) occurs bi-weekly and provides a collegial venue for evaluating patient falls with a focus on identifying causes, contributing factors, and measures that could have been taken to prevent them. This newsletter features the highlights from these meetings. Direct care nurses interested in attending are welcome! Please check with your manager for meeting dates and location.

*Jane Fazio*  
Chief Nursing Officer

**The post fall huddle is an opportunity for the care team to reflect on assessment, intervention and individual patient outcomes related to the fall.**



**MORSE FALL RISK SCORING**

**DID YOU KNOW** a patient with a saline lock is scored the same as a patient with an IV fluid infusion according to the Morse Fall scoring

 = 

Bi-weekly meeting, Friday mornings at 0730

Led by CNO; includes managers, directors, direct care staff, inter-professional team members

Focused on identifying causes, contributing factors, and measures that could have been taken to prevent falls

Highlights captured in a newsletter



# Result of Friday Fall Review

- Reeducation of HoverMatt
- Reeducation of bariatric bed functions
- Reflective Report Worksheet
- Reeducation on Morse Fall Risk Assessment Tool scoring
- Change in documentation of safety modalities used in patient care





# Mobility Cards

## MOBILITY RECOMMENDATIONS

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Use the following equipment when transferring or ambulating with this patient:

☐ Gait belt                      ☐ Walker

☐ Lift Equipment              ☐ Cane

Assistance level required:

\_\_\_\_\_

☐ Bed Alarm              ☐ Chair Alarm

Special instructions:

\_\_\_\_\_

PF: ☐ Yes              ☐ No

## ASSISTANCE LEVEL CODES

I = Independent. May complete all tasks without anyone present or use of assistive device.

SBA = Stand by assistance: **Gait Belt Required:** Staff member or family member should be near by when patient walking to assist if needed with gait belt utilized. Hands on contact not required.

CGA = Contact guard assistance: **Gait Belt Required** to transfer and/or walk with patient in case of loss of balance.

Min A = Minimal assistance: **Gait Belt Required:** Patient requires minimal assistance to stand and/or walk (staff needs to provide < 25% of work for patient to stand)

Mod A = Moderate assistance: **Gait Belt Required:** Patient requires moderate assistance to stand (staff needs to provide 25-50% of work for patient to stand)

Max A = Maximum assistance: **Gait Belt Required:** Patient requires maximum assistance to stand (staff needs to provide > 50% of work for patient to stand). 2 people should always be utilized for safety.

Assist x 2 : **Gait Belt Required:** = Patient has history of falling, knees buckling without warning, etc. making patient unsafe for only 1 person to be present when assisting patient with any standing.

**Do not use IV pole when walker is checked!**

Walker required for stability when patient is walking.

PF = **Prior Fall** (during hospitalization or within past 3 months)

# Fall Risk & Prevention Agreement

## Partnership for Patient Safety



**Do NOT ask for help or chair.** This is your responsibility and would rather use your call bell.



**Use your call bell.** Ways keep it in your room.



**Do NOT wear shoes like tennis shoes.**

**What WE may do to keep you safe:**

- Remind you to use your call bell when you need to get out of bed for assistance.
- Make sure you are oriented to your surroundings.
- Make sure there is enough light in your room.
- Put your bed rails up.
- Put your bed in a low, locked position.
- Place a floor mat at your bedside while you are in bed.
- Give you a yellow arm band to wear when you are in bed.
- Give you yellow non-skid socks to wear when you are in bed.
- Place a yellow sign on your door.

This agreement is a partnership between you and the care team. We will discuss any changes to this agreement and will participate in the decision.

Patient/Family Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Nurse Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Produced by the Patient Education Department  
H. LEE MOFFITT CANCER CENTER  
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### Fall Risk & Prevention Agreement Partnership for Patient Safety



Falls can occur in any age group, at any time and most any place. While in the hospital, EVERYONE is at an increased risk for a fall. This happens because you are in a new, unfamiliar environment and medications, side effects of treatment or your illness itself may make you unsteady on your feet. We are here to help and want to prevent you from having a fall during your hospitalization.

Our health care team has placed you at a \_\_\_\_\_ Moderate \_\_\_\_\_ High risk for having a fall. This is based on one or more of the following risk factors that we have observed. These risk factors increase your chances of falling:

- Your age
- Medications you are taking
- A history of falls
- Difficulty getting to and from the bathroom
- Decreased ability to move
- Decreased mental awareness
- Hospital equipment

**What YOU can do to help us keep you safe:**



**Make sure to use your call bell to ask for assistance EVERY TIME you need to get up.** Call before your need becomes urgent. Make sure to tell your care team when you are feeling weak, lightheaded, faint or dizzy.



**Since most falls occur going to and from the bathroom, ask for help from a care team member EVERY TIME you need to use the bathroom.** In order to keep you safe, a care team member will need to stay with you the entire time.



**Speak with your nurse about your bathroom habits so that we can anticipate your needs.** A member of your care team will round every hour to ask about your comfort, discuss safety measures, and address any personal needs you might have.



**Store personal items you need in easy reach.** When your care team member comes to your room for hourly rounds, they will help make sure your essential items (call light, phone, remote, snacks, water, book) are positioned close to you.



**Wear your glasses and hearing aids.** Ask for help from a care team member when you cannot see clearly in the room.

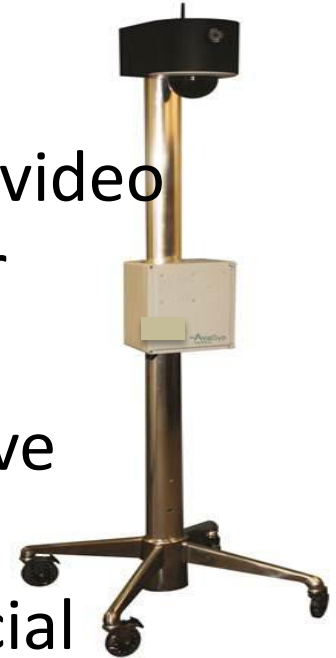
- Vetted through patient advisors
- Signed by patients and/or families
- Placed on the whiteboard in each patient room as a safety reminder



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# Remote Visual Monitoring

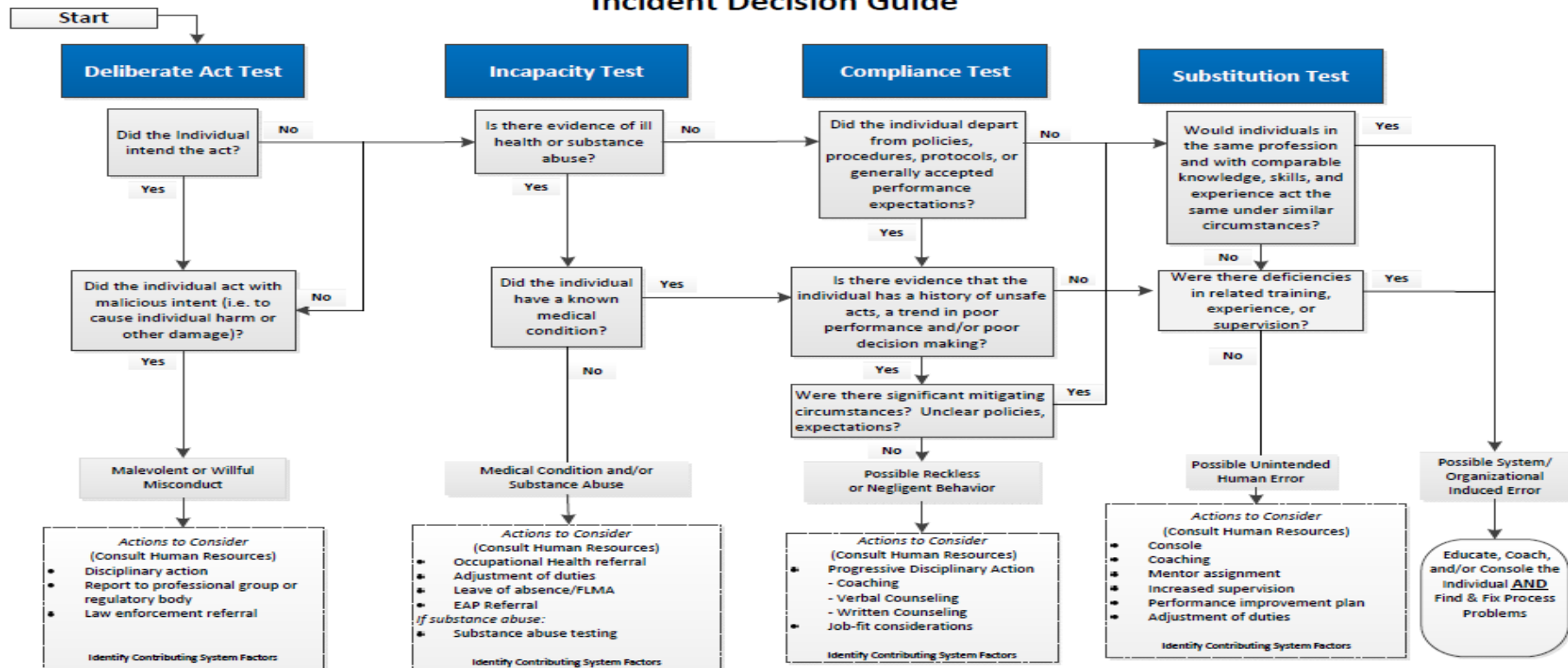
- Promotes safety and fall prevention
- DOES NOT record audio or video
- DOES NOT require provider order
- Monitors are portable; move from room to room
- Monitor Techs receive special training on safety monitoring and re-direction





# Accountability: Incident Decision

## Incident Decision Guide



### Individual Culpability

### Organization Culpability

Adapted from James Reason's *Decision Tree for Determining the Culpability of Unsafe Acts* and the *Incident Decision Tree of the National Patient Safety Agency*. United Kingdom National Health Service; *Performance Management Guide*. Healthcare Performance Improvement, LLC; Hobbs, A. 2008. *Human Performance Culpability Evaluations*. University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN.

# Patient Contributions

- Participate in monthly Fall Prevention Committee meetings
- Review and make recommendations regarding patient education tools and processes
- Provide input into policy development and revisions



# Inter-Professional Practice

Discuss with your primary care physician  
and see if these specialized therapy  
services are right for you.

**For more information**, please call  
Moffitt Rehabilitation Services  
**813-745-8449**

Rehabilitative Services  
Moffitt Cancer Center  
12902 USF Magnolia Drive  
Tampa FL 33612

For Appointments Call  
**813-745-8449**

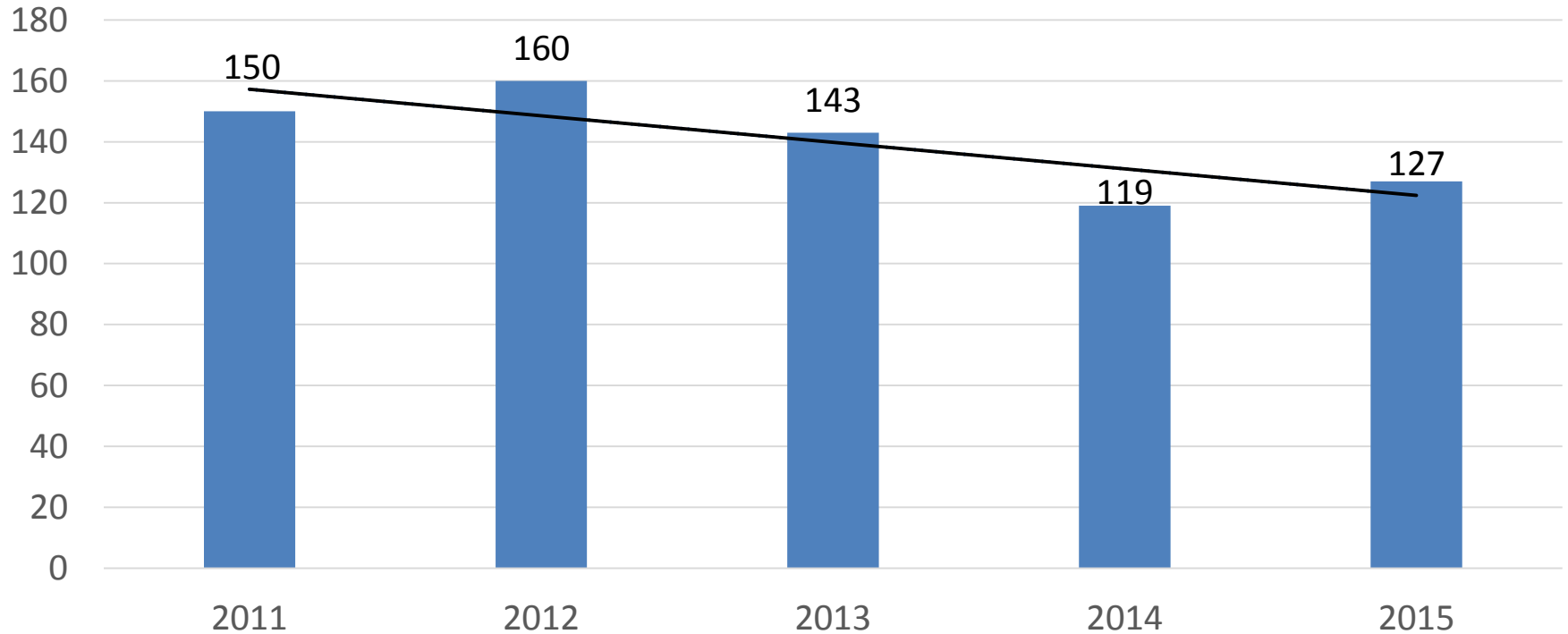


Physical and Occupational Therapy

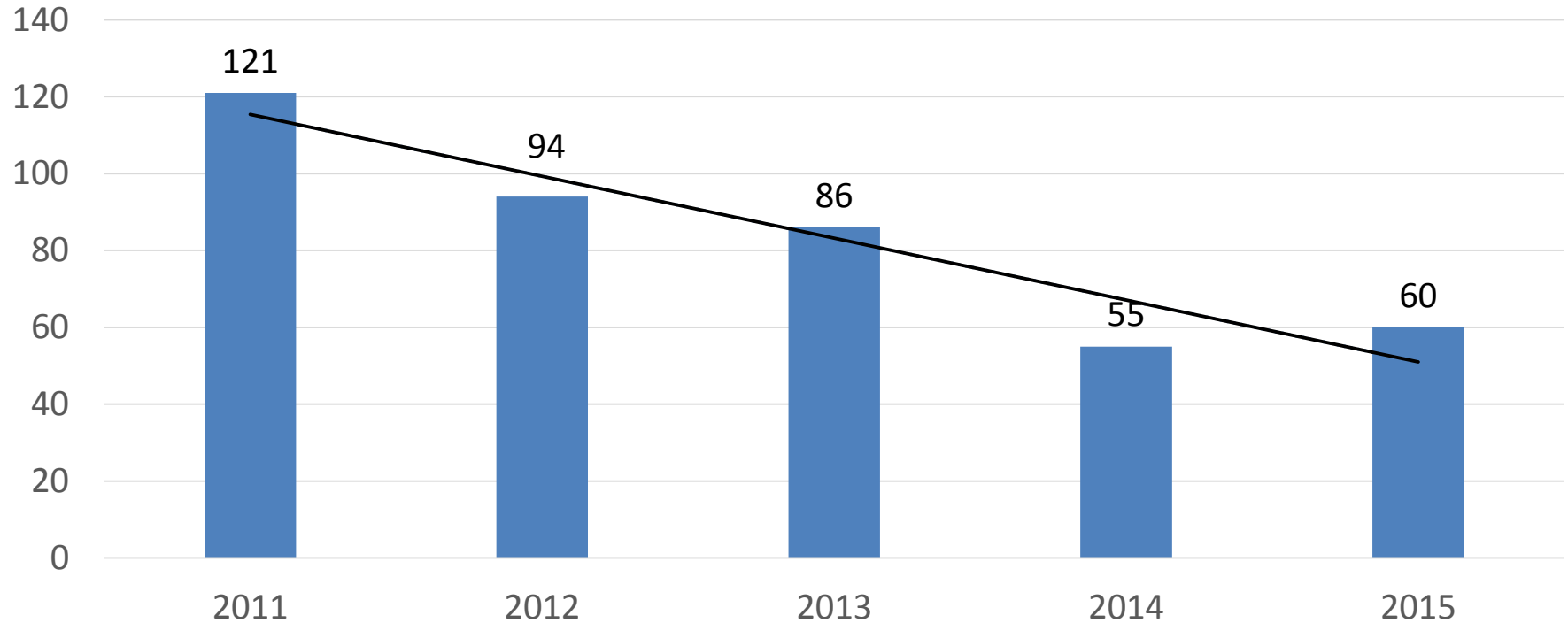


**B**alance and **M**obility  
**C**linic

# Outcomes: Inpatient Falls



# Outcomes: Outpatient Falls



# Examples of Individual Unit Improvements

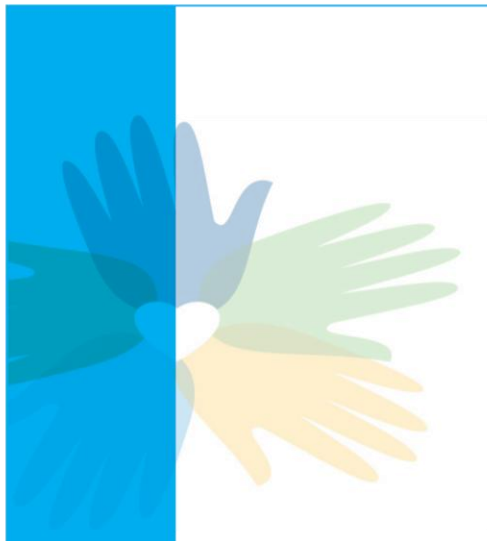
- 4 North: Malignant Hematology Unit
  - Change in practice when patients receive Lasix as a result of discussion at Friday Fall Review
  - Education of all patients about availability of safety equipment (helmets and hip protectors) including demonstration
- Outpatient Infusion Center
  - First outpatient area to implement screening for patients at risk
  - Patients identified at risk by wrist bands and on patient tracking board



# Summary

- No magic bullet
- Keep abreast of other organizations' progress and literature
- Tailor interventions to fit your setting
- Acknowledgement that this is important from highest leaders
- Don't let up





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