

Safe Use of Fall Monitors

This leaflet includes information on the safe use of falls equipment for patients and relatives.

What are falls monitors?

Falls monitors are a device to monitor patients at risk of falls due to reduced mobility and /or cognitive impairment.

When used correctly they reduce the number of falls as they alert staff when a patient at risk of falls leaves a bed or chair

Falls monitors act as an early warning system designed to assist nursing staff and are an effective method to help prevent falls.

Who is it suitable for?

Some people with dementia are able to have a falls monitor after assessing any potential risks:

- Patients who have cognitive impairment
- Patients with restricted mobility who are at risk of mobilising unsupervised
- Patients suffering from some neurological conditions including stroke
- Patients with a history of falls
- Patients who have been identified at being at risk of falling.

On admission to the hospital or ward area you will have a falls risk assessment completed to identify if you are at risk of falling.

Only if you are identified at being at risk and with your consent will a falls monitor be considered.

When would the falls monitors not be used?

Falls monitors would not be used if you decline to use the equipment, or if it was decided after assessment there would be an increased risk of falls with the equipment in place.

Sometimes, after completion of a risk assessment it may be necessary to refer you to other specialities including:

- Occupational Therapist
- Physiotherapist
- Podiatrist
- The Falls Nurse Practitioner.

Wherever possible patient's relatives are encouraged to be involved in discussions about care and regarding the use of falls monitors

What happens on discharge if I have needed falls equipment during my hospital stay?

If you or your relative have any concerns regarding your home environment and any falls prevention equipment you may need, it may be necessary to refer you to an Occupational Therapist.

An assessment may then be carried out in your home to ensure safety on discharge.

Patients may be referred to the falls clinic for further assessment and treatment or to a Community Falls Service for ongoing support in preventing falls.

Further information:

If you require any further information the Falls Prevention Nurse can be contacted on Ext 3406 or Bleep 5520
You can get further information locally from:

Customer Services

0151 529 3287

Liverpool Community Health NHS Trust (Fall Team)

0151 247 6118

Liverpool Community Falls Team MerseyCare NHS Foundation Trust

0151 296 7767/8

Knowsley Community Falls Team

0151 244 3362

Knowsley Falls and Wellbeing Service North West Boroughs Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust

0151 244 3362

Email: fallsandwellbeing@nwbh.nhs.uk

Sefton Community Falls Team

01704 387 216



If you require a special edition of this leaflet

This leaflet is available in large print, Braille, on audio tape or disk and in other languages on request. Please contact:

Tel No: 0151 529 2906

Email: interpretationandtranslation@aintree.nhs.uk