

Preventing Patient Falls in the Emergency Department (ED)

Emergency Department

At the Royal Wolverhampton Trust our goal is to make your Hospital stay as safe as possible.

To reduce your chance of having a fall and getting injured while you are in the ED we will use an orange wristband.

What is the fall prevention *orange* band identifier?

The orange band shows that you have a higher risk for falling whilst in the department. This band helps us communicate with all Health Professionals that there is a risk of falls. It serves as a reminder to keep you safe.

What are the 'fall risk factors'?

Fall risk factors are things that make you more likely to fall while in the Hospital and ED:

Being in ED

The hospital is an unfamiliar environment with different furniture and equipment to move around. As you are sick and because of the different environment you are at higher risk of falling in the department.

History of falls

This means that you have fallen within the last 12 months. Having a fall may even be the reason for your ED visit today.

Balance / Gait

You may be unsteady on your feet or unable to hold yourself upright for very long due to an illness, weakness or medications. You might also need a walker or cane to move around.

Elimination

You may have to use the bathroom frequently or urgently due to an illness or medications you are taking.

Cognition

You may be confused or forgetful as a result of illness, a procedure, or medications you are taking.

Sensory

You may be hard of hearing or wear glasses. You might be light-headed or dizzy or you may have numbness or tingling in your hands or feet.

The prevention of infection is a major priority in all healthcare and everyone has a part to play.

- Please decontaminate your hands frequently for 20 seconds using soap and water or alcohol gel if available
- If you have symptoms of diarrhoea and/or vomiting, cough or other respiratory symptoms, a temperature or any loss of taste or smell please do not visit the hospital or any other care facility and seek advice from 111
- Keep the environment clean and tidy
- Let's work together to keep infections out of our hospitals and care homes.

What medications can increase my risk of falling?

Common medications include:

- Blood pressure medications
- Diuretics (such as Furosemide)
- Antihistamines (such as Piriton)
- Sleep aids
- Antidepressants
- Anti-seizure medications
- Steroids
- Pain medications
- Anti-nausea medications
- Chemotherapy
- Other central nervous system drugs (such as Gabapentin, Pregabalin).

Can my risk factors change?

Yes. While you are in ED or elsewhere in the hospital your risk factors may change.

The team will update your records and remove your orange band accordingly.

English

If you need information in another way like easy read or a different language please let us know.

If you need an interpreter or assistance please let us know.

Lithuanian

Jeigu norėtumėte, kad informacija jums būtų pateikta kitu būdu, pavyzdžiui, supaprastinta forma ar kita kalba, prašome mums apie tai pranešti.

Jeigu jums reikia vertėjo ar kitos pagalbos, prašome mums apie tai pranešti.

Polish

Jeżeli chcieliby Państwo otrzymać te informacje w innej postaci, na przykład w wersji łatwej do czytania lub w innym języku, prosimy powiedzieć nam o tym.

Prosimy poinformować nas również, jeżeli potrzebowaliby Państwo usługi tłumaczenia ustnego lub innej pomocy.

Punjabi

ਜੇ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਇਹ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਕਿਸੇ ਹੋਰ ਰੂਪ ਵਿਚ, ਜਿਵੇਂ ਪੜ੍ਹਨ ਵਿਚ ਆਸਾਨ ਰੂਪ ਜਾਂ ਕਿਸੇ ਦੂਜੀ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿਚ, ਚਾਹੀਦੀ ਹੈ ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਸਾਨੂੰ ਦੱਸੋ।

ਜੇ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਦੁਭਾਸ਼ੀਏ ਦੀ ਜਾਂ ਸਹਾਇਤਾ ਦੀ ਲੋੜ ਹੈ ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਸਾਨੂੰ ਦੱਸੋ।

Romanian

Dacă aveți nevoie de informații în alt format, ca de exemplu caractere ușor de citit sau altă limbă, vă rugăm să ne informați.

Dacă aveți nevoie de un interpret sau de asistență, vă rugăm să ne informați.

Traditional Chinese

如果您需要以其他方式了解信息，如易读或其他语种，请告诉我们。

如果您需要口译人员或帮助，请告诉我们。