

Preventing future falls in older people presenting to the Emergency Department following a fall

Older people presenting to an Emergency Department (ED) following a fall have high injury and hospitalisation rates. They are also at high risk of further falls and other adverse outcomes. However, there is currently limited available evidence to inform best practice.

Approximately 700 people will be invited to participate. People aged 60 years and over, who present to an ED after a fall and are then discharged directly from the ED are invited to take part. Those who are eligible and wish to participate will have a falls risk assessment in their own home and will be required to complete a falls diary for 12 months. There is a 50/50 chance (random allocation) that participants will receive an individualised falls prevention program.

The duration of a falls risk assessment is one hour and there is no cost involved. Participation in the research program will not affect routine management from the Emergency Department. Becoming a participant may lessen the risk of having another fall and help others as well.

For further inquiries, please contact the ED Falls Project Officer, Dr. Irene Blackberry.

Dr. Irene Blackberry
Public Health Division
National Ageing Research Institute
(NARI)
Poplar Road Parkville VIC 3052
PO Box 31 Parkville VIC 3052
Ph: +61-3-8387 2614
Fax: +61-3-8387 2153
Email: i.blackberry@nari.unimelb.edu.au