

Preventing falls at home

A fall is when you end up on the ground or at a lower level without meaning to.

	Green zone	Yellow zone	Red zone
	You are in control.	Take action today. Call:	Take action now! Call:
Did I lose my balance today?	I have no loss of balance.	I lost my balance and:Stumbled or staggeredNeeded to hold on to somethingFell into my chair	I fell today.
Do I feel dizzy or light- headed?	I do not feel dizzy or light- headed, even after taking my medicine.	I feel dizzy or light-headed when I move or after taking my medicine.	I feel so dizzy or light- headed that I could faint.
Do I feel weak?	I do not feel weak.	I need more help than normal to: • Get out of bed • Stand up	I am too weak to do anything for myself.
Can I see clearly?	I see clearly.	 I do not see as well: I bump into things I stopped reading or watching TV I need lights on to see 	I see double. I am starting to trip over: Rugs Changes in flooring Things in my path
Am I worried about falling: • At home? • Away from home?	I am not worried about falling.	 I am worried so I: Walk less Drink less to avoid using the bathroom Stay at home 	I am so worried that I will not get up on my own.

This product may be reproduced with permission and the citation: "Developed by the Sutter Center for Integrated Care, 2013." To request permission please email centerforic@sutterhealth.org.

My plan for preventing falls at home

Things I can do to prevent falling:

- Take my time and be aware:
 - □ Stand up slowly
 - □ Make sure I use my cane or walker correctly
 - □ Wear good-fitting shoes

Make my home safe:

- □ Remove things on the floor that may cause me to trip
- ☐ Light up my path at night
- □ Add grab bars and railings

• Stay healthy:

- □ Ask my doctor for an exercise program
- ☐ Have my eyes and ears checked each year
- □ Eat healthy and drink water

• Talk to my care team or doctor:

- ☐ Tell them if I fall or worry about falling
- Speak up if my medicine makes me feel dizzy or light-headed

Other ideas:

□ Consider a medical alert system

How I will do these things:

Your care team will work with you to set goals so you can stick to your plan.