Purpose of a Fall Risk Tool

• Maintaining patient safety is a priority while in the hospital environment
• The risk for falls is greater in the hospital environment due to physiological factors, medications, toileting needs, and use of equipment
• JC requires assessment and reassessment of a patient’s risk for falls, as well as specific interventions to address any risks that are identified
Procedure

• All patients are assessed by a Registered Nurse to determine fall risk. Assessments occur:
  – At the time of admission
  – Every shift thereafter
  – Change of caregiver
  – Change in patient condition
  – With any change in level of care
  – Following a fall
GRAF PIF Tool

• GRAF PIF: General Risk Assessment for Pediatric Inpatient Falls
• Developed by Elaine Graf
  – Children’s Memorial Hospital, Chicago
  – 2005

• Positive features include:
  – Fewer patients are categorized as HIGH risk
  – Reduction of alert fatigue
  – Opportunity for more targeted prevention interventions
  – More specific education for families
# GRAF PIF Score Worksheet

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Length of Hospital Stay</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-4 days</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-9 days</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 or greater</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>IV / Heparin Lock</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PT / OT</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(recent past, current or expected in near future)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Anti-seizure medication, given for any reason</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Acute or chronic orthopedic, musculoskeletal diagnoses</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>History of fall within past 1 month</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fell During this Hospitalization</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL SCORE**

- Score of 2 or greater indicates **HIGH risk**
Patient less than 12 months is considered developmental high risk for falls.
GRAF PIF Documentation

Required interventions will be listed in the hover mechanism based on patient’s total score.

Total score will auto-calculate and be listed here.
Procedure

• **Standard Interventions** should be implemented for pediatric patients with fall assessment *total score* of less than 2

• **HIGH Risk Interventions** should be implemented for pediatric patients with a fall assessment *total score* of 2 or greater

All infants below 12 months are considered a developmental **HIGH RISK**
Procedure

• If patient meets criteria for HIGH Risk fall precautions according to GRAF PIF tool (score ≥2), complete the following:
  ➢ All standard fall risk interventions
  ➢ Review inpatient safety education
  ➢ Place yellow “Falls Precaution” armband on patient
  ➢ Post yellow “Tippy Turtle” Fall Precaution sign on patient’s door
  ➢ Place nonskid footwear on patient
  ➢ Check “Safe Room Set Up” with each change of shift
  ➢ Hourly safety rounding
  ➢ Include falls status in daily rounding
  ➢ Consider additional staff support when assisting patient
Targeted Fall Prevention Interventions

| Targeted interventions are listed in the hover for patients at increased risk of falls specific to each category |
Targeted Fall Prevention Interventions

Targeted interventions are listed in the hover for patients at increased risk of falls specific to each category.

Remember to utilize the hover boxes, if score is high risk in any category, it is understood that targeted interventions within the hover are completed.
Infants at Developmental High Risk
Targeted Fall Prevention Interventions

Patients less than 12 months are considered developmental high risk for falls. Targeted interventions are listed in the hover for patients less than 12 months.
Infant Fall Risk Precautions

• Patients less than 12 months of age are considered a developmental fall risk; complete the following precautions:

  ➢ Review developmental falls safety education with family
    ✓ Do not leave baby unattended on high surfaces, such as bed, table or couch
    ✓ Do not place the baby in a bouncy seat on high surfaces
    ✓ Utilize straps in bouncy seats, swings, and car seats

  ➢ Hourly safety rounding
    ✓ Check patient’s position
    ✓ Check patient’s pain level
    ✓ Check patient’s potty status
    ✓ Check patient’s possessions in reach
    ✓ Check parent (or adult) present

  ➢ Check safe room set-up at shift change
    ✓ If ambulatory, clear walkway (no tubing/cords)
    ✓ Crib in lowest position
    ✓ Crib with all rails up
    ✓ Linens, toys off floor
If patient meets criteria for Standard fall precautions according to GRAF PIF tool (score of 1 or below), complete the following:

- Orient patient/family to room, call light
- Place patient in appropriate crib/bed for developmental age
- Set crib/bed in lowest position, unless contraindicated, with the brakes on
- Crib rails to highest level
- Bed rails up X2
- Non-skid footwear for ambulating patients
- Patients in alternative baby furniture are secured with original product securing device
- Call light within reach
- Educate the patient/family on falls safety
HIGH Fall Risk Precautions

• If patient meets criteria for HIGH Risk fall precautions according to GRAF PIF tool (score >2), complete the following:
  ➢ All standard fall risk interventions
  ➢ Review inpatient safety education
  ➢ Place yellow “Falls Precaution” armband on patient
  ➢ Post yellow “Tippy Turtle” Fall Precaution sign on patient’s door
  ➢ Place nonskid footwear on patient
  ➢ Check “Safe Room Set Up” with each change of shift
  ➢ Hourly safety rounding
  ➢ Include falls status in daily rounding
  ➢ Consider additional staff support when assisting patient
Safe Room Set-Up

- Bedside table within reach
- IV Pole on patient’s strong side
- Nurse call light button/remote control in reach
- All side rails up, bed at lowest level
- No cords/tubing draped across walkways
- Attentive parent at bedside or staff checking on patient and environment every hour
- Floor free of toys/extra equipment
“Unsafe” Room Examples

- Patient alone
- Bed in raised position, no side rails up
- Bedside table, remote, and nurse call button out of reach
- Toys or items from home on floor
- IV pole too far from patient or on their weaker side
- Unnecessary equipment in room
- Cords stretched across walkways or tangled
- Rugs or linens on the floor
Emergency Department

**ED OUTPATIENTS**

- All patients considered high risk, complete the following:
  - All standard fall risk interventions
  - Review inpatient safety education
  - Place nonskid footwear on patient
  - Check “Safe Room Set Up” with each change of shift
  - Hourly safety rounding
  - Include falls status in daily rounding
  - Consider additional staff support when assisting patient

**ED INPATIENTS**

- Interventions based on GRAF PIF scoring
PICU/PCICU

Critical care patients

• Complete GRAF PIF scoring
• Implement targeted interventions based on category scoring (refer to hover)
• Also complete the following:
  ➢ All standard fall risk interventions
  ➢ Review inpatient safety education
  ➢ Place nonskid footwear on patient
  ➢ Check “Safe Room Set Up” with each change of shift
  ➢ Hourly safety rounding
  ➢ Include falls status in daily rounding
  ➢ Consider additional staff support when assisting patient

Acute care (boarded) patients

• Interventions based on GRAF PIF scoring
Summary

- Fall risk assessments should be completed on all patients and appropriate interventions implemented.
- The patient with a fall risk score of $>2$ should always be placed on High Risk fall precautions.
- *Remember*: failure to provide a safe environment place the patient at higher risk for falls.
Thank you for your efforts to keep our patients safe from falls!