Patient Education Flyer

For the well-being of your loved one. Sometimes when a person is ill, certain medical conditions can change their normal thinking process. Patients who have had infections, head injuries, recent surgeries, or who receive certain medications, may develop periods of agitation, confusion or disorientation. If any of these events increases the risk for falling, special care will be taken.

What happens if your loved one is at risk for an injury from a fall?
- Staff will check your loved one frequently.
- Your loved one may be moved closer to the nursing station.
- Your loved one will be assessed for fall risk, and special care will be given based on the level of risk.

What does the stoplight mean?
The stoplight posted by the bedside shows the risk for falling. If the stoplight is “yellow” or “red” and the patient is trying to get out of bed, please call for assistance immediately.

What can family do to help?
- Visit as frequently as possible during visiting hours. Speak with your nurse regarding after-hours visiting.
- Talk with your loved one like you would if they were at home.
- If you desire to help your loved one out of bed or to the bathroom, be sure they are wearing the provided non-slip booties.
- Don’t hesitate to call for help if needed.
- If you adjust the bed, move furniture, or use the call light during your visit, please:
  - Before leaving, be sure to:
    - Put the side rails up on the bed;
    - Put the bed back in the low position;
    - Put the call bell and bedside table within easy reach of your family member.
- If you need assistance or are unsure about how to do any of the above, please ask for help.

Family involvement is important.
Talk with your nurse about your concerns and suggestions. Note: If you are unable to stay with your loved one and would be more comfortable having someone stay, ask your nurse for information about outside services.

Red = high risk
Yellow = low risk
Green = basic prevention

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