Name of Instrument: **Fall Risk Assessment Scales**
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Privacy Use Cost: $
Public Use Cost: $

Year Developed: 1999

Where to obtain Instrument:
- Contact author

Description of the Instrument
- The fall risk assessment scales were developed to improve the usefulness of the hospital's admission fall risk-assessment tool.
- The scales were also used to determine the ability of the fall risk assessments to actually predict: 1) nurses' implementation of the hospital's falls prevention protocol, and 2) the incidence and severity of inpatient falls.
- A three-part fall risk assessment instrument developed by the investigators was used to record the fall risk assessments. **I.** Recorded RN data collector's observations relating to 12 specific patient indices of potential fall risk. **II.** RN data collectors were asked to independently estimate the risk that each patient would fall by responding to a single-item magnitude estimation scale ranging from 1 (low risk) to 10 (high risk). **III.** Recorded data relating to whether the hospital fall prevention protocol had been implemented by tagging the patient's medical record, kardex and/or arm band.

Form of instrument:
- Hazard/Risk Assessment Tools

Method of delivery:
- Self-report
- In-person interview/assessment
- Audit of records

Relevance to injury/ Percentage of the instrument specific to injury
- To assess risk of falls.
- To evaluate fall prevention protocol

Time to administer or complete the instrument

- The fall risk assessments took approximately 30 to 45 minutes to complete.

Methods of data analyses:

- Qualitative
- Quantitative

Setting/sample instrument used in:

- 177 randomly selected patients hospitalized at a 238-bed urban acute care hospital. Patients include adult English-speaking men and women of various races.

Was it pilot tested? No

Pilot test sample:

Reliability Measures

- Cronbach's alpha reliability coefficients were calculated to determine the internal consistency of each of the two multiple-item fall risk-assessment scales and were FRCS alpha = .85 and FRIS alpha = .87.
- Pearson product-moment correlation coefficients were calculated for all three fall risk-assessment scales to determine equivalence through interrater reliability. For those patients (N=42) who received simultaneous fall risk assessments from 2 RN data collectors, interrater reliability coefficient were FRCS $r = .79$; FRIS $r = .82$; and EFRS $r = .86$ ($p < .05$).

Validity Measures

Reference

Forrester, D.A., McCabe-Bender, J., & Tiedeken, K. (1999). Fall risk assessment of hospitalized adults and follow-up study. Journal for Nurses in Staff Development, 15(6), 251-259.

Other References

Keywords: falls, fall prevention, risk, elderly, seniors.