

Morse Fall Scale Huddle Card – Inpatient



Overview: The Morse Fall Scale is an evidence-based risk stratification tool for fall prevention practices. The elements outlined below should be assessed routinely according to the table at the bottom of this page.

Fall Risk Screening Frequency: All adult inpatient areas will screen for fall risk:

- Upon admission
- Once per shift
- PRN with change in patient status or level of care

Morse Fall Scale

Element	Responses (Score)	Gait/Transferring
History of Falling <i>(Immediate or Past 3 Months)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No (0) • Yes (25) 	<p>Weak</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stooped stance • Able to lift the head while walking • Short, shuffled steps <p>Impaired</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Difficulty rising from seated position • Takes several attempts to stand • Watches the ground while walking • Support person / item is needed to steady oneself
Secondary Diagnosis <i>(> 2 Medical Diagnoses in Chart)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No (0) • Yes (15) 	
Ambulatory Aid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None / bedrest / nurse assist (0) • Crutches / cane / walker (15) • Furniture (30) 	
IV/Heparin Lock	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No (0) • Yes (20) 	
Gait/Transferring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Normal / bedrest / immobile (0) • Weak (10) • Impaired (20) 	
Mental Status	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oriented to own ability (0) • Forgets limitations (15) 	

Fall Risk Levels		
Low Risk	Medium Risk	High Risk
Score: 0-24	Score: 25-44	Score: 45+

SECONDARY DIAGNOSIS

Secondary diagnoses can be viewed via the provider-completed History & Physical documentation and Problem List (available for viewing in the Progress Notes section).

NOTE: Inpatients may develop additional medical diagnoses throughout their course of stay. The nurse should remain up-to-date regarding the patient condition and consider all documented and developed diagnoses and comorbidities for consideration of this component.