

Abstract

Based on a risk assessment conducted in June 2015, the trend of inpatient falls in the Neuroscience Unit at Providence Sacred Heart Medical Center was discovered and considered as a patient health concern. Although Providence Sacred Heart Medical Center has a standard fall protocol, an expected reduction in falls has not occurred.

A Quality Improvement (QI) project was initiated focusing on the implementation of a Falls Root Cause Analysis Tool (Falls R-CAT) in the Neuroscience Unit. This Falls R-CAT was integrated within the hospital's electronic medical record and the nursing staff was trained to complete it after any inpatient fall occurs. The Falls R-CAT was open for use and data collection during the period of December 2016 through February 2017. Data analyzed suggested that modifiable activities and characteristics of the patients could be a major contributor to an inpatient fall and recommendations for fall reduction intervention were proposed.