



Objectives

OT AND OT'S ROLE

FALL FACTS

FALLS IN THE COMMUNITY

FALLS IN THE HOME

LIGHTING

FALLS & PETS

FALLS & DRESSING

FOOTWEAR & EXERCISE







FALL FACTS

THE NUMBER

1 out 4 older adults fall each year, but less than half tell their doctor.

MORE THAN A FALL

Falls are the most common cause of traumatic brain injuries (TBI).

THE LIKELIHOOD

Falling once doubles your chances of falling again.

HIP REPLACEMENTS

Each year, nearly 319,000 older people are hospitalized for hip fractures.

HOSPITAL RATES

Each year, there are about 3 million emergency department visits due to older people falls.

DAILY ACTIVITY

One out of 10 falls results in an injury that causes the older adult to restrict their activities for a day or more or to seek attention from the healthcare system.

(CDC, 2024)

FALLS IN THE COMMUNITY

Most older community dwelling adults complete activities outside of their home each day. Identifying environmental risks can help prevent falls.







TRIPPING HAZARDS IN THE HOME









LIGHTING









Adequate lighting both indoors and outdoors.

(Pitt, n.d.).

Illuminated pathways and steps.

LIGHTING









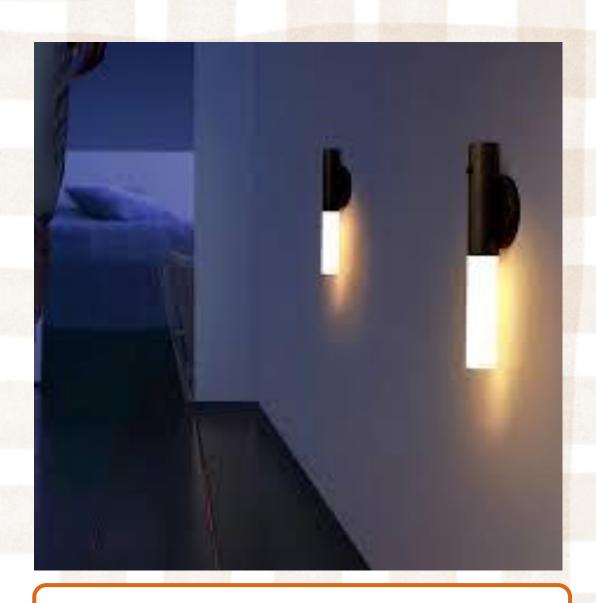
Reduce glare by using shades and frosted bulbs.

(Pitt, n.d.).

Night light in bedroom, bathroom and hallway.



LIGHTING



Battery operated night lights.



Motion sensor LED lights.





Under cabinet lighting.



FALLS AND PETS



MAKE SURE YOUR PET IS WEARING A BELL SO THAT YOU CAN HEAR WHERE THEY ARE.

KEEP WATER AND FOOD BOWLS OUT OF THE WAY.

WAIT FOR THE PETS TO MOVE INSTEAD OF STEPPING OVER THEM.

CLEAN UP SPILLS CAUSED BY YOUR PETS ASAP.

ALWAYS CHECK AROUND CORNERS FOR YOUR PETS.

TRAIN YOUR PETS TO NOT JUMP ON YOU.



(Pets and Falls, 2021; Steven et al., 2010)

ASK FOR HELP WHEN WALKING YOUR PETS OR USE A WALKING SERVICE.

GO FOR OBEDIENCE CLASSES FOR PETS.

FALLS AND DRESSING

Tip #1

Take your time!
Rushing can lead to
a higher risk of
falling.



Tip #2

Don't go barefoot!

Wear non-skid
socks or shoes with
good traction to
have good standing
support.



Tip #3

Consider clothes
that are loose
fitting and easy to
put on post-surgery
or injury.



Tip #4

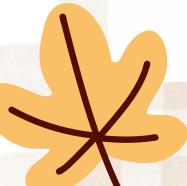
Utilize adaptive
equipment for
dressing if needed.
These tools can
make the task less
exhausting and
safer.



Tip #5

Invest in adaptive clothing that can make dressing more comfortable with easy access points for taking on and off.







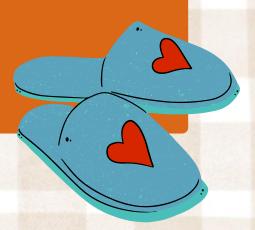
FOOTWEAR

DO'S

- Low heels
- Firm and supportive shoes
- Slip resistant socks and shoes
- Adjustable closure
- Wear shoes inside home and outside

DON'TS

- Barefoot
- Slippery socks
- Loose fit shoes
- Tight fit
- Shoes with heels
- Open back shoes



(National Council for Aging, 2022).





1.True or False: Falling once doubles your chances of falling again.

a. True

b.

False







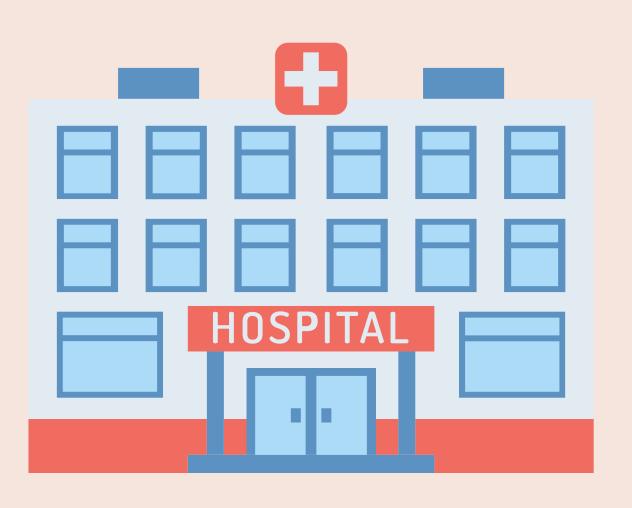
2. How many people a year fall that leads to hospitalization for hip fractures?

a. 400,000

b. 60,000

c. 319,000

d.250,000



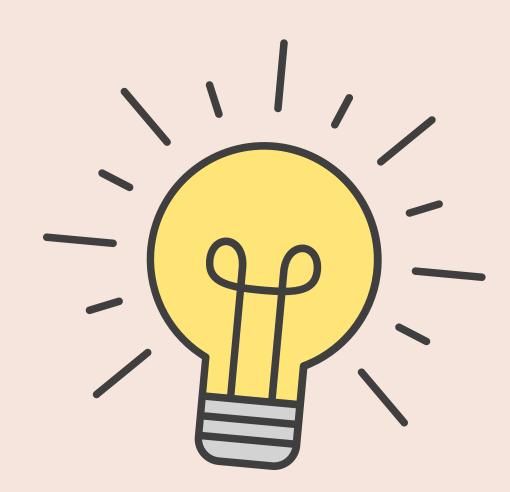




3. True or False: Good lighting in and outside of the home decreases the chances of falling.

a. True

b. False

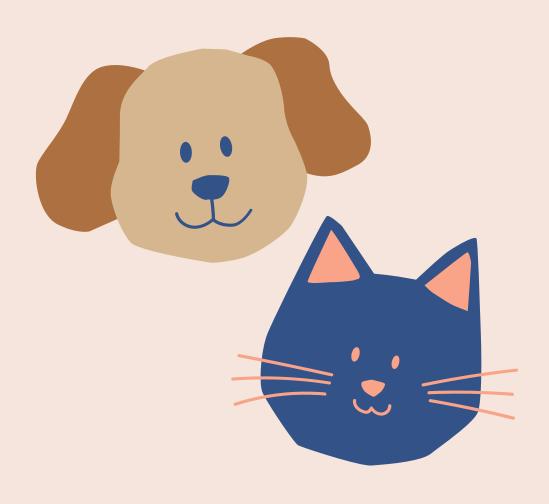






4.What are the best ways to prevent falls when owning a pet?

- a. Keep water and food out of the way
- b. Allow your pets to jump on you
- c. Stepping over your pet
- d. Do not look where you are walking







5. What is the best way to prevent falls while dressing?

- a. Take your time when getting dressed
- b. Go barefoot
- c. Sit down while dressing
- d. A and C







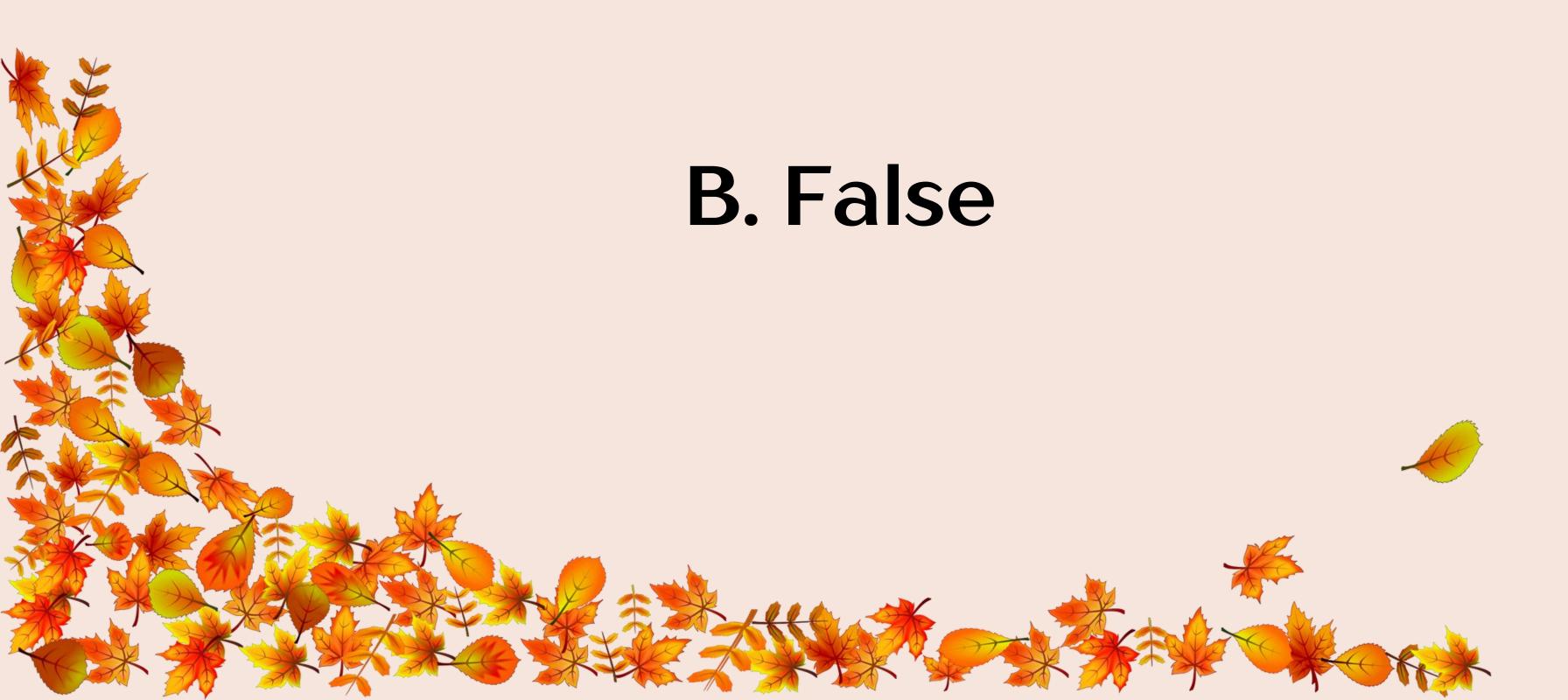
6. True or False: Tight fitting shoes help prevent falls.

a. True

b. False







7. What are the best types of shoes to help prevent falls?

- a. High heels
- b. Open back shoes
- c. Loose fitting shoes
- d. Firm and supportive shoes



Answer



8. True or False: Exercise helps to prevent falls.

a. True

b. False

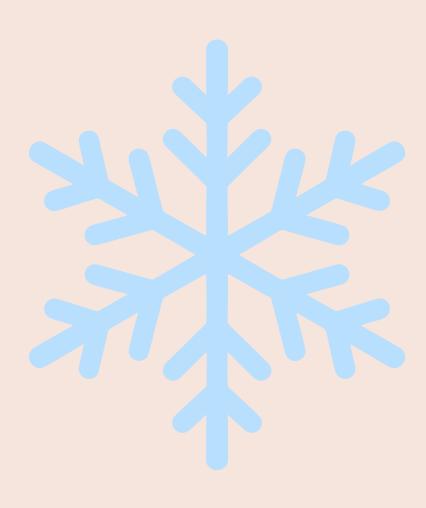






9. What are environmental risks that increase the chances of falling?

- a. Uneven sidewalks
- b. Wet stairs
- c. Icy walkways
- d. All of the above







10. True or False: Fall Free Friday presentations taught you different ways to prevent falls.

a. True

b. False



Answer



References

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