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DECREASING FALLS IN ACUTE CARE MEDICAL PATIENTS

ABSTRACT (50-75 words)

Acute medical unit fall incidents continue to be a significant safety issue that has not realized the sustained improvements accomplished on other unit types. This article reports on a four-step evidence-based process of assessment, intervention, analysis, and evaluation to reduce falls and the Knowledge to Action Cycle. The project demonstrates that a reduction in falls is possible but that sustainability is affected by continuously changing complex factors in medical patients, unit environment, and organization resources.