SAFE: Staff against Fall Events  
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**Problem:** Unit based data identified a high incidence of falls, repeat falls, and falls with injuries.

**Evidence:** Project SAFE was developed as an evidenced based practice (EBP) project consisting of a bundle of seven EBP fall interventions selected through an extensive literature review projected to reduce the fall rate, reduce injuries from falls, and reduce recurrent falls.

**Strategy:** The main criteria for acceptance into the SAFE project was to be a patient on 4A, be 65y/o or older and have a Morse scale greater than 45.

**Practice Change:** SAFE was implemented, in addition to the current accepted fall interventions at BPVAMC. The inventions included in the safe bundle were: I) Bed Alarm and Pig Tail; II) Hourly Rounding including Toileting; III) Patient Yellow Socks and Armbands; IV) Bedside Safe Identification- Sign outside door and bedside; V) Yellow Stickers for nurse-nurse Handoff Communication sheet and Bay Pines Express card for transfers from ward to medical procedures and tests; VI) Fall Assessment every day /Mid Shift Huddle and, VII) Request Physical Therapy evaluation from provider.

**Evaluation:** The data collected on falls after implementation of the new bundle was compared with the data from the same time the previous two years.

**Results:** Falls decreased by 50% when compared with 2010 data and a 56% decrease from 2009. Overall, there was a 35% decrease in falls when SAFE data was compared with both 2009/2010 data.

**Recommendations:** The program was recommended by the falls committee and accepted to be included in the hospital wide falls protocol. We also plan to submit the results of the SAFE falls project for possible publication.

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**Lessons Learned:** The data showed that most falls occurred on the night shift and most falls had at least one intervention from the bundle not in place. The number one barrier of bundle misuse was the bed alarm due to lack of equipment.