10 Questions to Ask When a Resident Falls

1. **Ask resident:** Are you ok?
2. **Ask resident:** What were you trying to do just before you fell?
3. **Ask resident or determine:** What was different this time?
4. **Position of resident?**
   - **a.** Did they fall near a bed, toilet or chair? How far away?
   - **b.** On their back or front? L side or R side?
   - **c.** Position of arms and legs?
5. **What was the surrounding area like?** Noisy? Busy? Poor lighting?
   - **a.** If in or near bathroom: Contents of toilet?
   - **b.** Position of furniture and equipment? Cluttered area?
6. **What was the floor covering like?** Carpet? Mats? Tile? Laminate?
   - **a.** Wet floor? Urine on floor? Shiny floor? Uneven floor?
7. **What was the resident wearing on their feet?**
8. **Was the resident using an assistive device?** If yes, what kind?
9. **Does the resident wear glasses or hearing aids?** Were they on?
10. **Who was in the area when the resident fell?**

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Four Ps of Hourly Rounding

POSITION:

- Does the resident look comfortable?
- Ask the resident, "Would you like to move or be repositioned?"
- Ask the resident, "Are you where you want to be?" Report to the nurse.

PERSONAL NEEDS:

- Ask the resident, "Do you need to use the bathroom?"
- Ask if they'd like help to the toilet or commode. Report to the nurse.

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PAIN:

- Does the resident appear to be uncomfortable or in pain?
- Ask the resident, "Are you uncomfortable, aching or in pain?"
- Ask them what you can do to make them comfortable.
  - Report to the nurse.

PLACEMENT:

- Is the bed at the correct height?
- Are the phone, call light, remote, walker, trash can, water, urinal and tissues all near the resident?
  - Place them all within easy reach.

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