  
American Society of Consultant Pharmacists - ASCP

The ASCP-NCOA Falls Risk Reduction Toolkit: A Companion to CDC’s STEADI Tool Kit is designed to focus on falls risk factors in older adults identified to be at increased risk using screening tools, such as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC) Stopping Elderly Accidents, Deaths & Injuries (STEADI) Toolkit. The toolkit guides the clinician through a more comprehensive assessment of falls risk inducing medications and medical conditions. Similar to STEADI, this toolkit conveys the importance of falls risk detection and management via an interprofessional approach. Given that medications and chronic conditions are often implicated as a risk factor for falling, the role of the pharmacist in falls risk reduction is emphasized.

The Collaborative Approach to Falls Prevention Workshop

Partnering with the Ohio Pharmacists Association (OPA), we are proud to bring this dynamic program to their Annual Meeting held on April 2, 2020 in Columbus, OH. [Click here](http://learning.ascp.com/diweb/catalog/item/id/4921725) for course information and registration.



Checklist

This resource is the primary assessment tool in the Toolkit and serves as the basis for the recommendations by pharmacists and other clinicians using this Toolkit. [Download »](https://www.ascp.com/resource/resmgr/docs/toolkits/falls/checklist.pdf)



Bibliography

This resource provides references to research and best practices related to getting to know your patient, medical conditions, medication assessment, falls risk inducing drugs (FRIDs) and alternatives to FRIDs. This bibliography, which will be updated annually, provides the evidence-base for the Checklist. [Download »](https://www.ascp.com/resource/resmgr/docs/toolkits/falls/bibliography.pdf)



Interprofessional and Older Adult/Caregiver Communication Templates

These templates are intended to convey pharmacist findings and recommendations to other clinicians and to serve as a follow-up communication with the older adult and/or caregiver. These templates can be customized for the clinician’s practice. [Download »](https://www.ascp.com/resource/resmgr/docs/toolkits/falls/templates.pdf)



Case Studies

Three case studies apply the use of the Checklist in reducing falls risk associated with medical conditions and medications. [Download »](https://www.ascp.com/resource/resmgr/docs/toolkits/falls/case-studies.pdf)



Authorization for Release of Medical Information

This form can be used by pharmacists and other clinicians to obtain additional medical information about their patients. It can also be used to obtain patient authorization to share personal health information. [Download »](https://www.ascp.com/resource/resmgr/docs/toolkits/falls/authorization-for-release.pdf)



Community Resources and Referral

This section provides information about key clinical collaborators and community-based programs that pharmacists and other clinicians need to know about to develop a collaborative falls prevention service including cross-referrals. [Download » Coming soon.](https://www.ascp.com/page/fallstoolkit)



Consumer Resources

This section provides links to booklets, brochures and other handouts related to falls prevention and medications that can be given to older adults/caregivers for educational purposes. [Download »](https://www.ascp.com/resource/resmgr/docs/toolkits/falls/consumer-resources.pdf)



[Discussion Forum](https://www.ascp.com/forums_engagement/Default.aspx?group=208451)

This discussion forum is a place for participants of the ASCP-NCOA Falls Risk Reduction Workshop to discuss the use of the ASCP-NCOA Falls Prevention Toolkit and topics of interest around the subject of falls prevention in older adults.

[Background](https://www.ascp.com/page/fallstoolkit#background)

Each year, millions older adults experience falls and fall-related injuries. Falls occur in all healthcare settings, in the home, and throughout the community. Falls often result in injuries that require emergent care, hospitalization, and short- and long-term skilled rehabilitation, costing Medicare over $30 billion annually. In 2012, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) developed and began promoting the Stopping Elderly Accidents, Deaths & Injuries (STEADI) Toolkit to healthcare providers, community-based organizations and consumers in an effort to address the growing public health problem of falls among older adults.

STEADI includes consumer educational materials and an algorithm for fall risk screening, assessment and intervention based on the American and British Geriatrics Societies Clinical Practice Guidelines for the Prevention of Falls in Older Persons. Many older adults identified to be at increased risk of falls through STEADI could benefit from more comprehensive assessment of their medications and medical conditions. In response to this need, the American Society of Consultant Pharmacists (ASCP) and the National Council on Aging (NCOA) began work in 2015 on an expanded assessment companion tool for pharmacists, physicians and other clinicians.

The ASCP-NCOA Falls Risk Reduction Toolkit is designed to focus on falls risk factors in older adults identified to be at increased risk using screening tools, such as STEADI. The ASCP-NCOA Toolkit guides the clinician through a more comprehensive assessment of falls risk inducing medications and medical conditions. Similar to STEADI, the ASCP-NCOA Falls Risk Reduction companion Toolkit conveys the importance of falls risk detection and management via an interprofessional approach. Given that medications and chronic conditions are often implicated as a risk factor for falling, the role of the pharmacist in falls risk reduction is emphasized.

Why is an expanded falls risk assessment tool focused on medical conditions and medications needed?

* The population at most risk of falling is rapidly growing.
* Many different risk factors contribute to falls.
* Medications are common contributors to falls.
* Medical conditions are common contributors to falls.
* Healthcare providers play an important role in reducing risk factors.
* A six-step, comprehensive falls assessment for those at highest risk could identify and potentially mitigate risks before a fall occurs.

[How to Use the Toolkit](https://www.ascp.com/page/fallstoolkit#howto)

Source: <https://www.ascp.com/page/fallstoolkit>