

Slips, Trips, or Falls Checklist

The following three items may be used to code the specifics of the incident, once it has been identified from the injury narrative as a slip, trip, or fall. These items are adapted from the Bureau of Labor Statistics Occupational Injury and Illness Classification Manual [BLS 2007] and have been tailored for STF events common to healthcare environments. The frequency of the answers to each of these items may be calculated at the end of each year to determine which injury events and hazards are most commonly occurring.

1. What was the first initiating event?

- slip
- trip (includes caught on)
- loss of balance
- unknown

2. Which choice best describes the STF injury event?

A fall from an elevation, such as

- fall while standing on a chair
- fall from a ladder or stepstool
- fall down stairs or steps
- fall from a non-moving vehicle
- other fall from an elevation (describe) _____

A same-level fall, such as

- fall while walking or working
- fall from a chair while sitting
- fall while tripping up stairs
- other same-level fall (describe) _____

3. Were there any hazards present that may have contributed to the injury event?

- contaminant (examples: water, soap, body fluid, grease/oil, coffee, wax, gel, slick, slippery not otherwise classified, etc.)
 - cord or tubing (examples: hose, medical tubing, phone cord, nurse call cord, equipment cords)
 - object (examples: objects or items on floor, propped against wall, or in the pathway)
 - ice or snow
 - surface irregularity due to buckled, loose, or damaged mat, carpeting, or rug
 - surface irregularity, other (examples: some part of the walking surface is irregular, cracked tiles, loose gravel, leaves, door guard, drain dip, utility hole in floor, hole in lawn)
 - curb or wheel stop
 - bodily reaction (reaching, crouching, bending, carrying something, patient or object handling, or just stated as they "fell")
 - lack of space/restricted pathway
 - steps, stairs, or handrail
 - chair or stool
 - lighting
 - inappropriate or malfunctioning footwear
 - unknown / no specific hazard mentioned
 - other (please specify)
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