

# Preventing Falls Targeted Solutions Tool<sup>®</sup>



## *Proven...*

patient falls rates reduced by 35%

## *Effective...*

patient falls with injury rates reduced by 62%

## *Targeted...*

to your organization's unique needs

## *Confidential...*

separate from accreditation—surveyors  
do not have access to TST data

## *Complimentary...*

to Joint Commission accredited organizations

The Joint Commission Center for Transforming Healthcare has worked with leading hospitals and health systems, and developed solutions to address the wide variety of contributing factors to falls. Now, the Preventing Falls Targeted Solutions Tool® (TST®) is available to help Joint Commission-accredited organizations solve the persistent problems of falls.

A unique online tool, the TST® guides organizations in accurately measuring their actual performance, identifying their barriers to excellent performance, and then directing them to proven solutions that are customized to address each organization's particular barriers.

## Reasons to Invest Time and Resources to Use the Preventing Falls TST®

- Falls have been identified by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) as events that are preventable and should never occur. CMS also has identified “falls and trauma” on its list of Hospital Acquired Conditions for which reimbursement will be limited, specifically for falls that result in fractures, dislocations and intracranial injuries.
- Tens of thousands of patients fall in health care facilities every year, and many of these falls result in moderate to severe injuries.
- Approximately 11,000 fatal falls occur in the hospital annually.
- Between 30 to 35 percent of patients who fall sustain an injury.
- On average, injuries sustained from falls add 6.3 days to the hospital stay and cost about \$14,056.
- Organizations that have used this systematic approach have reduced the rate of patient falls by 35 percent and the rate of patients injured in a fall by 62 percent.
- For a typical 200-bed hospital, the number of patients injured in a fall could be reduced from 117 to 45 and avoid approximately \$1 million in costs annually. Similarly, a 400-bed hospital could reduce falls with injury by 133 and expect to avoid approximately \$1.9 million in costs annually.

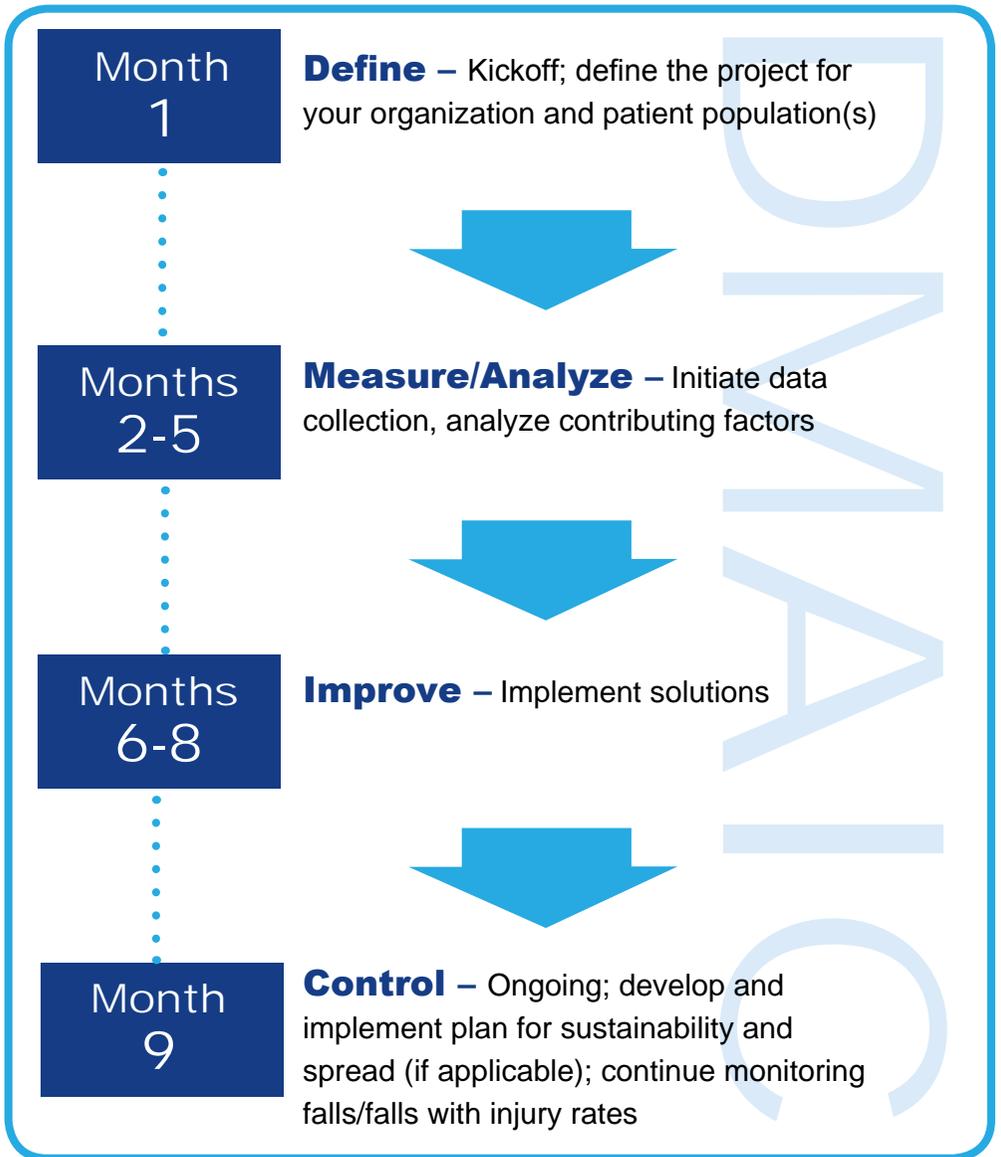
**“I think it’s key to get everybody that touches the patient involved in reducing falls. It’s not just a nursing function, it’s everybody in the hospital.”**

**– Maryellen McGlothlin, RN, Senior Administrative Director, Acute Services, Memorial Hermann Memorial City Medical Center**

The Preventing Falls Targeted Solutions Tool (TST) is a unique online application that guides an organization through a robust falls project by:

- Measuring the current state
- Analyzing and discovering causes
- Implementing targeted solutions
- Sustaining and spreading improvements

The NEW Preventing Falls TST is complimentary to Joint Commission accredited organizations and is separate from accreditation—surveyors do not have access to TST data.



The Preventing Falls TST® is available at [http://www.centerfortransforminghealthcare.org/tst\\_pfi.aspx](http://www.centerfortransforminghealthcare.org/tst_pfi.aspx).

An instructive video about the TST® is available at <http://www.centerfortransforminghealthcare.org/tst.aspx>.

# The Joint Commission Center for Transforming Healthcare

Created in 2008, the Joint Commission Center for Transforming Healthcare aims to solve health care's most critical safety and quality problems. In keeping with its objective to transform health care into a high reliability industry, The Joint Commission shares these proven effective solutions with the more than 20,500 health care organizations it accredits and certifies.

The Joint Commission Center for Transforming Healthcare is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit affiliate of The Joint Commission.

## For more information

Call Joint Commission Customer Service at (630) 792-5800 or send an email to [tst\\_support@centerfortransforminghealthcare.org](mailto:tst_support@centerfortransforminghealthcare.org).