

**2025 Davee Foundation Lecture**

**and Resident Research Day**

**Abstract**

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**Title: Help I've Fallen, and I Can't Get Up**

**Background:**Falls are the 2nd leading cause of unintentional injury deaths worldwide (behind cars). (1) American and British Geriatric societies recommend screening for fall risk annually. (2) USPSTF gives a Grade B recommendation for exercise to prevent falls in those at risk. While falls are clearly a great medical concern w low-cost interventions worthy of attention, providers have limited time and many problems to address. This project aims to determine the effect of an intervention (brief presentation) on fall screening rates.

 **Methods:**This project measures the rate of completion of the “Falls Prevention” Epic caregap at Erie Humboldt Park. The percentage of closed Falls Prevention caregaps was measured for a 3-month period for patients with a visit from June 1 to September 17, 2024 (n=471).

A 30-minute didactics presentation was provided to Humboldt Park residents on 10/3/2024 on the personal and systems impact of falls on patients >65 years of age and how to close the Epic caregap. Three months after the presentation the percentage of closed caregap was remeasured from September 20 to December 13, 2024. Both sets of data were compared.

**Results and Conclusions:**108/471 (22.9%) care gaps were closed pre-presentation, 91/444 (20.4%) were closed post-presentation (p = 0.372).

This project suggests a brief presentation does not affect fall screening rates. Limitations of the study include sample size of providers (a single clinic) and a short period (3 months pre/post intervention) for data collection. Possibly, multiple interventions and/or more intensive techniques such as 1-on-1 feedback/teaching may improve screening rates.