Slips, Trips, and Falls Hazard Questionnaire

Take precautions for preventing and responding to slips, trips, and falls throughout your healthcare facility. Use this questionnaire to uncover your need for products and services designed to help you minimize accidents and injuries and maximize productivity.









Safety

Protecting What Matters Most

Slips, Trips, and Falls Questionnaire

Read each statement and place a check mark in the Yes or No column. If you place a check mark in a red-shaded box, a hazardous condition may exist at your facility. You should take action to remove the hazard.

Contamination and Irregularities (Indoor Walking and Working Surfaces)

Contamination and Irregularities (Indoor Walking and Working Surfaces)	Yes	No	Location / Comments	Who Is Responsible?
Do tiles, linoleum, or other flooring have holes, cracks, or bumps?				
Is carpeting buckled, loose, or frayed?				
Are carpet edges curled up?				
Does floor feel greasy or slippery?				
Are liquid contaminants present (water, grease, oil, cleaning solutions, coffee, body fluids)?				
Are dry contaminants present (powder, sawdust, dirt, flour, food, wax chips)?				
Are there sudden changes in indoor floor elevation > 1/4 in.?				
Are there meta grates or mesh floors in walkways?				
Are water-absorbent walk-off mats used in entrances?				
Are slip-resistant mats used in wet areas?				



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Contamination and Irregularities (Outdoor Walking and Working Surfaces)

Contamination and Irregularities (Outdoor Walking and Working Surfaces)	Yes	No	Location / Comments	Who Is Responsible?
Are there gaps, cracks, or holes in outdoor walkways > 1/2 in.?				
Are there metal grates or mesh floors in walkways?				
Are walkways uneven with abrupt changes in level >1/2 in.?				
Is there debris (pebbles, rocks, leaves, grass clippings) on walkways?				
Are there slippery conditions (water, grease, ice, snow)?				
Are concrete wheel stops in the parking areas highlighted with paint?				

Drainage: Pipes and Drains

Drainage: Pipes and Drains	Yes	No	Location / Comments	Who Is Responsible?
Are drains clogged or filled with debris?				
Are pipes splashing water onto walking surfaces?				
Are outside drain pipes or down spouts spilling water onto walkways?				
Are pipes properly aligned with drains inside and outside of the facility?				

Weather Conditions (Ice and Snow)

Weather Conditions (Ice and Snow)	Yes	No	Location / Comments	Who Is Responsible?
Are bins containing ice-melting chemicals and scoops provided at areas of heavy pedestrian traffic?				
Are ice-melting chemicals swept up once walkways are dry?				
Is a winter weather communications system in place?				
Is snow removal appropriately scheduled?				

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Stairs and Handrails

Stairs and Handrails	Yes	No	Location / Comments	Who Is Responsible?
Are all handrails 34 to 38 in. from the floor?				
Are handrails provided on slopes, ramps, and stairs?				
Do handrails extend at least as far as the last step?				
Are handrails provided at steps (employee shuttle bus stops, entrances, conference and training rooms)?				
Are the edges/noses of each step painted or marked?				
Are stainway risers and steps all uniform in size?				

Tripping Hazards (Clutter, Loose Cords, Hoses, Wires, and Medical Tubing)

Tripping Hazards (Clutter, Loose Cords, Hoses, Wires, and Medical Tubing)	Yes	No	Location / Comments	Who Is Responsible?
Are cords bundled using a cord organizer?				
Are cords on the floor covered with a beveled protective cover or tape?				
Are cords mounted under desks or on equipment?				
Are hallways, stairs, and walkways clear of clutter (boxes, cords, equipment)?				
Is there appropriate storage (closets, shelves, hooks, lockers)?				
Are stepstools available for use in areas with overhead storage?				
Do rolling office chairs have a sturdy base (no less than five legs)?				

Lighting (Inside and Outside of the Healthcare Facility)

Lighting (Inside and Outside of the Healthcare Facility)	Yes	No	Location / Comments	Who Is Responsible?
Are lightbulbs burned out?				
Are any areas dim, poorly lit, or shadowy?				
Are lighting levels compliant with local codes, ANSI, and/or Illuminating Engineering Society (IESNA) recommendations?				

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Mats

Mats	Yes	No	Location / Comments	Who Is Responsible?
Do mats have abrupt squared-off edges, lacking a bevel?				
Are mat edges curled up or flipped over?				
Do mats slide around on the floor?				

Slip-Resistant Shoes

Slip-Resistant Shoes	Yes	No	Location / Comments	Who Is Responsible?
Are employees wearing slip-resistant shoes (safety shoes marketed as slip resistant)?				
Do shoe soles have worn-down tread?				
Is the shoe sole tread clogged with dirt, food, debris, or snow?				
Are employees that must work outside wearing slip-resistant footwear?				

Visual Cues

Visual Cues	Yes	No	Location / Comments	Who Is Responsible?
Are changes in walkway elevation highlighted?				
Are curbs highlighted?				
Are highly visible wet floor signs available and used correctly?				
Are barriers available and used to prevent access to wet or dangerous areas?				
Are wet floor signs removed promptly once floor is dry/clean?				

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Safety Products

Safety Products	Yes	No	Location / Comments	Who Is Responsible?
Are the following products available and conveniently located throughout the hospital?				
- Wall-mounted spill-absorbent pads or paper towels				
- Cups near water fountains				
- Trash cans				
- Pop-up tent floor signs				
- Umbrella bags				
- Barrier and access restriction devices				

Employee Communication (Training and Employee Involvement)

Employee Communication (Training and Employee Involvement)	Yes	No	Location / Comments	Who Is Responsible?
Do all employees know the contact number for the housekeeping department?				
Are winter weather warnings distributed to staff through email?				
Are all employees aware of the housekeeping procedures?				
Do employees know where safety products are stored?				
Are cleaning methods for all floors and paths recorded and displayed?				
Are employees that use ladders trained in safe ladder use and maintenance?				

This questionnaire was developed by the Department of Health and Human Services Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health and appears in its **Slip, Trip, and Fall Prevention for Healthcare Workers guide**.

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