Spatial Mapping of Falls



Fall "hot spots" appear brighter in colour.

Injury Prevention

Wearable Hip Protectors

- Hip protectors reduce risk for hip fracture by up to 80% if worn at the time of a fall
- Hip protectors absorb the force of a fall and divert this force from the bone
- "Stick-on" hip protector may provide more continuous and effective protection



Technology for Injury Prevention in Seniors (TIPS)

A research collaboration between New Vista and Simon Fraser University

Advancing Knowledge through Community Partnerships

Wearable Sensors

Wearable sensors can detect the occurence of falls, and provide information on the cause of falls to guide prevention

- 96% sensitivity and 96% specificity in detecting falls in lab experiments
- 94% sensitivity in detecting nature of imbalance leading to falls

Ongoing studies with residents performing daily activities while wearing sensors

Compliant Flooring

- Passive form of injury prevention
- Reduces impact force to hip by 35%, force to head by 68%
- Minimal effects on balance or mobility
- Ongoing clinical trial in long-term care

Contact us!

For more information, please contact: Stephen Robinovitch, Ph.D. 778.782.6679 or stever@sfu.ca or visit www.sfu.ca/tips









SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

INJURY PREVENTION AND MOBILITY LABORATORY

Video Capture of Falls



Video footage is acquired from a network of cameras installed in common areas. In the event of a fall, an incident report is completed by care providers. We then review these reports to identify the location of falls, and retrieve the corresponding video footage.

Circumstances of Falls in Common Areas

Activity at the Time of Falling



Falls were just as likely during standing and transferring as during forward walking

Head Impact from Falls

43% of falls resulted in head impact

Risk Factors for Head Impact

| Female | 2x increase |
|------------------------|-------------|
| Visual impairment | 2x increase |
| Forward fall | 2x increase |
| Falling during walking | 2x increase |
| Hand impact | no effect |

Impact Locations

Number and Location of Falls

- 7107 falls between 2008 and 2016
- 2563 falls in public areas
- 455 falls captured on video experienced by 187 residents



Nature of Imbalance



- 49% of falls were due to incorrect weight shifting
- 12% of falls were due to loss of support with a moving object (walker, wheelchair, chair
- 3% were caused by trips on equipment

