8 STEPS IN RESPONDING TO A FALL

**FIRST 24 HOURS**
1. Evaluate and Monitor Resident
2. Investigate Circumstances
3. Record Circumstances, Resident Outcome and Staff Response
4. Fax Alert to Primary Care Provider

**1 - 7 DAYS**
5. Immediate Intervention
6. Falls Assessment
7. Care Plan Development

**1 - 6 MONTHS**
8. Monitor Implementation and Resident Response
8 STEPS IN RESPONDING TO A FALL

1 Evaluate and Monitor Resident
   Increase monitor for 72 hours after fall

2 Investigate Circumstances
   Non-blaming to frontline staff to collect data

3 Record Circumstances, Resident and Staff Response
   TRIPS Tracking Record of Improving Patient Safety

4 Fax Alert to Primary Care Provider
   Let physician know of probable risk factors and action being taken

5 Implement Immediate Intervention
   30 - 40% of fallers will fall again unless action is taken

6 Complete Falls Assessment
   Medication, hypotension, vision, mobility, behavior

7 Develop Plan of Care
   Completed 1-7 days after fall; Fall Intervention Plan

8 Monitor Staff Compliance and Resident Response
   Intervention only effective through staff compliance

Adapted from: Fall Management Program: A Quality Improvement Initiative for Nursing Facilities. October 2005