

FALLS ARE SERIOUS AND COSTLY



More than one out of four older people (age 65+) falls each year, but less than half tell their doctor.

Falling once doubles your chances of falling again.

One out of five falls causes a serious injury such as broken bones or a head injury.

Each year, 2.8 million older people are treated in emergency departments for fall injuries.

Over 800,000 patients a year are hospitalized because of a fall injury, most often because of a head injury or hip fracture.

Each year at least 300,000 older people are hospitalized for hip fractures.

More than 95% of hip fractures are caused by falling, usually by falling sideways.

Falls are the most common cause of traumatic brain injuries (TBI).

Adjusted for inflation, the direct medical costs for fall injuries are \$31 billion annually.

Hospital costs account for two-thirds of the total.

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

