

Risk Factors for Falls in Patients in the Surgery Ward

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Abstract : Falls by patients in hospitals are a major issue in terms of medical safety. To clarify the causes of these falls, we examined the association between such falling incidents and the fall risk levels, the time of occurrence, the patient BMI, and the specific medication of the inpatients in the surgery ward of Fukuoka University Hospital. This study included 38 fall cases and the following results were obtained : The patient's BMI was not related to the risk of falling. Risk 2 and Risk 3 in the patient assessments (Risk 1: 0–5 points, likely to fall, Risk 2: 6–15 points, liable to fall, Risk 3: 16–39 points, very likely to fall) totaled 82%, falls between 0 am to 0 pm. totaled 66%, and the most important factor related to such falls was the type of bed (No. 1), walking (No. 2) and washrooms (No. 3). Many cancer patients who used sleeping pills were especially prone to falling between midnight and 6:00 a.m. Special precautions should therefore be taken to decrease the risk of falls in these patients.

Key words : Medical adverse event, Inpatient, Fall, Risk factor, Surgery ward