









## Falls:

"An unexpected event in which the person comes to rest on the ground, floor, or lower level" (ProFaNE Grp 2015)

- 1. Falls: the size of the problem
- 2. Fall prevention
- 3. Uptake & adherence
- 4. Population health approach

Prof Chris Todd
School of Health Sciences
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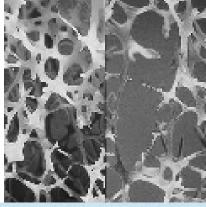


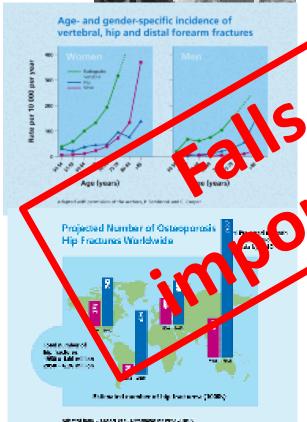
*No conflict of interest:* 

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## 30-40% community dwelling >65yrs fall in year

40-60% no injury

30-50% minor injury

5-6% major injur (excluding fracture: \$\ 5-2% TBI)

5% fractury

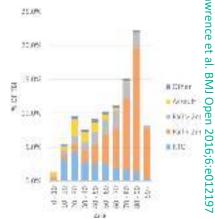
1% himfractures

Talls most sur ous frequent home accident

52% hospital admissions for injury

due to fall

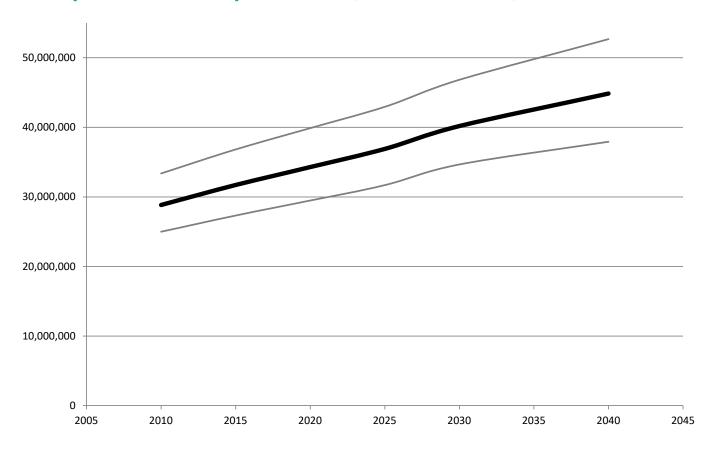
History of falls major predictor future fall



Masud, Morris Age & Ageing 2001; 30-S4 3-7 Rubenstein. Age & Ageing; 2006; 35-S2; ii37-41



## EU28 Falls amongst community dwelling older people (60 and above) 2015-2040 (estimate; 95% CIs) men & women



**Todd et al 2016 report to EC** 

## Risk factors for falls amongst community dwelling older people

#### Socio-demography

Age, sex, ethnicity, living conditions

#### Psychological

 Cognition, depression, concerns-about-falling, selfrated health

#### Medication use

 Number of medications, anti-epileptics, sedatives, anti-hypertensives

#### Mobility & sensory issues

 History of falls, walking aids, gait problems, physical disability, vision or hearing impairment, physical activity



## World Guidelines for Falls Prevention and Management for Older Adults 2022

Age and Ageing 2022; \$1: 1-36 https://doi.org/10.1093/ageing/afac205 © The Author(s) 2022 Published by Oxford University Press on behalf of the British Geriatrics. Society All rights received. For permissions please email journal spermissions@cup.com. This is an Open Access price distributed under the terms of the Cheative Commons Attribution. Non-Commonsal License (https://onextivecommons.org/licenses/by-no/1/), which permits non-commercial re-use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original warn, is properly atted for commonsal re-use, presse contact journals.permissionageoup.com.

#### GUIDELINE

## World guidelines for falls prevention and management for older adults: a global initiative

MANUEL MONTERO-ODASSO (2.3)\*, NATHALIE VAN DER VEIDE (4.5)\*, FINRARR C. MARTIN\*, MIRKO PETRONIC\*, MAW PIN TAN<sup>8,9</sup>, Jesper Ryg<sup>10,11</sup>, Sana Aguilar-Navarro (2.7)\*, Neil B. Alexander (3.7)\*, Clemens Becker (4.7)\*, Hubert Blain (5.7)\*, Robbie Bourke (6.7)\*, Ian D. Cameron (7.7)\*, Richard Camidoul (8.7)\*, Indix Clemens Becker (4.7)\*, Jacqueline Close (6.7)\*, Kim Delbaere (7.7)\*, Leiler Duan<sup>7,3</sup>, Gustawo Duque (7.7)\*, Suzanne M. Dyer (8.7)\*, Filen Freiberger (8.7)\*, David B. Hogan (7.7)\*, Cameron Gómez (8.7)\*, Jeser M. Hausdorff (7.7)\*, Nelue Kamkari (7.7)\*, Rose-Anne Kenny (8.7)\*, Sarah F. Lamb (8.7)\*, Nancy K. Latham (8.7)\*, Jose R. Javregoi (8.7)\*, Nelue Kamkari (8.7)\*, Rose-Anne Kenny (8.7)\*, Sarah F. Lamb (8.7)\*, Nancy K. Latham (8.7)\*, Jewin Lipsitz (8.7)\*, Teresa Liu-Ambrose (8.7)\*, Pip Locan (8.7)\*, Stephen R. Lord (8.7)\*, Louise Mallet (4.7)\*, David Marsh (8.7)\*, Koen Milisen (8.7)\*, Pip Locan (8.7)\*, Rose Mories (8.7)\*, Aure Nieuwboek (8.7)\*, Monica R. Perracini (8.7)\*, Frederico Peruccini Faria (8.7)\*, Auson Pighills (8.7)\*, Catherine Said (8.7)\*, Mark Speechley (8.7)\*, Susan Stakk (8.7)\*, Davin A. Skelton (7.7)\*, Sarestina Disouza (8.7)\*, Mark Speechley (8.7)\*, Joe Verghese (8.8)\*, Fillen Vlasyen (8.7)\*, Jennifer A. Watt (8.7)\*, Tahir Masud (7.7)\*, the Task Force on Global Guidelines for Falls in Older Adults (8.7)\*.



British Garmer'ry Speciery

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HEALTHY
AGEING
RESEARCH
GROUP

https://worldfallsguidelines.com





#### trad information of Management

#### **54 Recommendations**



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#### **KEY MESSAGES**

- Falls prevention at point of care: multidisciplinary perspective
- Engaging older adults integral to preventing falls: understanding beliefs, attitudes, & priorities is key
- Low risk does not mean no risk
- Multifactorial interventions effective in intermediate- high-risk community older adults
- Managing many fall risk factors have wider benefits for physical and mental health
- Concerns about falling important but neglected
- Assess fall history & risk before prescribing potential fall risk increasing drugs
- Hospital & care home settings: all older adults high risk & benefit from prevention
- Vitamin D for those at risk of vitamin D deficiency
- Application of some recommendations may need modification in LMICs





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Sherrington et al, Exercise for preventing falls in older people living in the community. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews 2019



#### Comparison 1. Exercise versus control (rate of falls)

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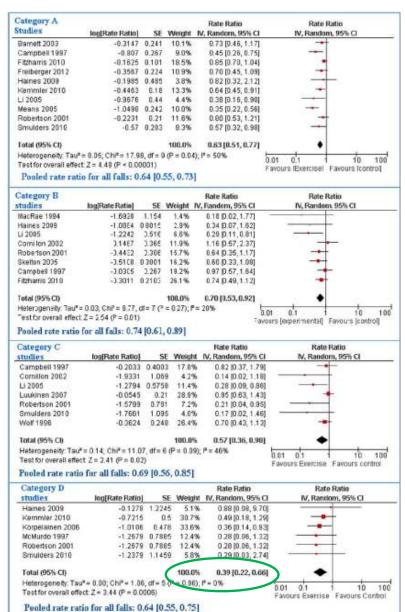
Exercise for community dwelling Sherrington et al 2019 108 trials : 23,407 participants

Exercise for preventing lasts in older people thing in the community (flavier).
Capyright © 2019 The Cochrane Callaboration. Published by John Wiley & Sons, Ltd.



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## Fall injuries & exercise



A= all injuries
B= medical care injuries
C= serious injuries
D= fractures

El-Khoury F. et al. The effect of fall prevention exercise programmes on fall induced injuries in community dwelling older adults: systematic review and meta-analysis of randomised controlled trials BMJ 2013; 347:f6234



#### The Falls Management Exercise (FaME) Programme

**Developed in the late 1990s published 2005 by Dawn Skelton**RCT reduction in falls in FaME intervention group

**ProAct65+ UK based RCT (2014/15)** 

FaME  $\uparrow$  physical activity  $\downarrow$  falls  $\uparrow$  confidence  $\downarrow$  fear of falling

PhiSICAL implementation study in East Midlands, UK (2016)
Production of the FaME Implementation Toolkit

The Falls Exercise Implementation (FLEXI) study

3 regions of UK: Greater Manchester, Devon and East Midlands

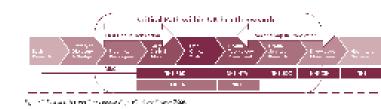




http://profound.eu.com/resources/



### **Implementation**



- Prevention programmes are effective
- Implementation gap
  - Falls prevention not a priority
  - Services not available
  - Evidence not used or modified
    - Training needs to be to dose, challenging, progressive & regular
    - Programmes often too short term – commissioning
  - Not me it's other older people!
  - Presentation as "be more active" NOT "falls"

- 1. Map out local need & available resources
- 2. Identify key commissioning figures to support fall prevention agenda
- 3. Intervention with evidence
- Create & utilise networks & partnerships across the pathway
- 5. Train the trainer to increase replication of intervention
- 6. Plan required resources for delivery

IMPLEMENTATION TOOLKIT

(Ventre et al Age & Ageing 2025)



#### **Population based interventions:**

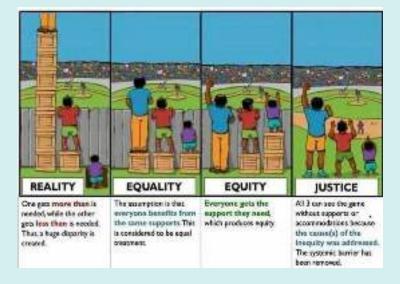
- •attempt to change underlying social, cultural, or environmental conditions of risk for the whole population
- •utilise 'upstream' approach to reduce risk factors for falls across the whole population
- •involve wide range of individuals at societal level
- ecological interventions



Cochrane Batabase of Systematic Reviews

Population-based interventions for preventing falls and fall-related injuries in older people (Review)

Lewis SR, McGarrigle L, Pritchard MW, Bosco A, Yang Y, Gluchowski A, Sremanakova J, Boulton ER, Gittins M, Spinks A, Rapp K, MacIntyre DE, McClure RJ, Todd C

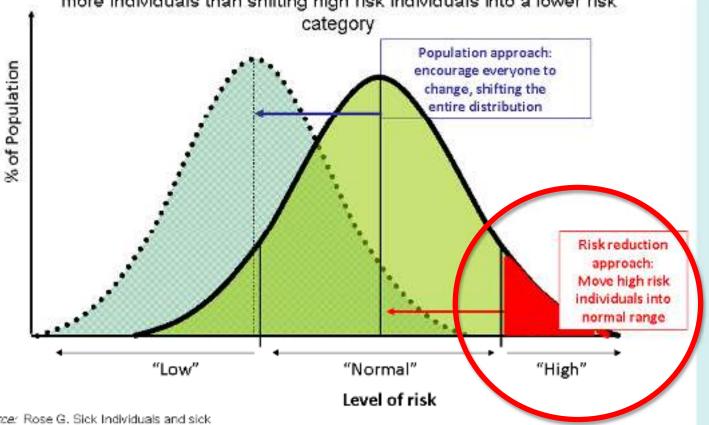






#### The Bell-Curve Shift in Populations

Shifting the whole population into a lower risk category benefits more individuals than shifting high risk individuals into a lower risk





Source: Rose G. Sick Individuals and sick populations. Int J Epidemiol. 1985; 12:32-38.





## 3<sup>rd</sup> World Falls Congress 2026



24 - 26 June 2026 University of Manchester

bgs.org.uk/WFC26

## Join us in Manchester!









### Case-Finding for Falls Prevention SWAN Primary Care Network, Wigan

**Dr Nikesh Vallabh**Clinical Director SWAN PCN
Proactive Care Clinical Lead GM

Part of Greater Manchester Integrated Care Partnership



#### Falls Prevention – changing the approach

- Falls Prevention key element of Liver Well in later life
- We need to do things differently
- Opportunity to do things better Proactively
- Local approach for local people
- Integrated teams based in community
- Right systems/infrastructure to deliver the new approach

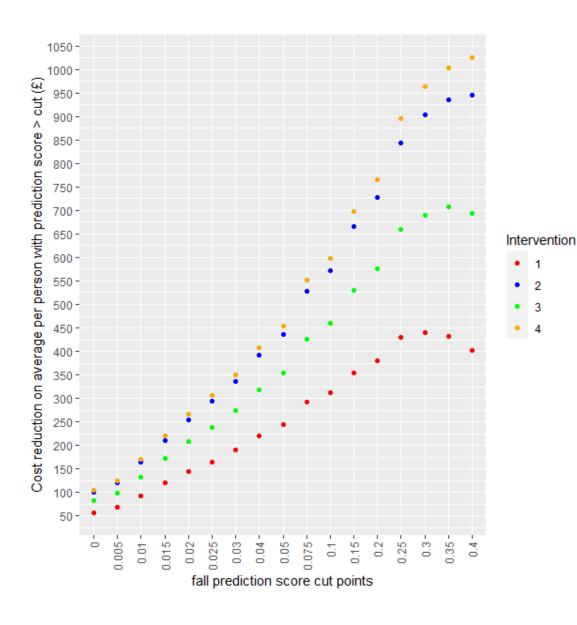
- We are working with the Ageing in Place Pathfinder programme in the SWAN area to engage directly with the voice and lived experience of local older people to design and test innovation.
- Establish an outcomes evaluation framework that will monitor and collect sufficient evidence from this approach, such as the following (See Evaluation Protocol):
  - -Patient's understanding of the intervention
  - -Falls risk
  - -Awareness raising
  - -Satisfaction with the process undertaken
  - -Satisfaction with what was offered to them because of their inclusion; focusing on improvements to the service/ intervention
  - -Barriers and enablers to this type of intervention
- This approach will be tested and validated in Wigan, with a plan to roll this out across other areas of Greater Manchester.
- Devise a dissemination plan of how we plan to spread the learning across a GM, National and International footprint.



- Abdominal pain
- Activity limitation
- Alcohol
- Anaemia & haematinic deficiency
- Anxiety
- Asthma
- Atrial fibrillation
- Back pain
- Bone disease
- Cancer
- Chronic kidney disease
- Cognitive impairment
- COPD
- Dementia
- Depression
- · Diabetes mellitus
- Dizziness
- Dressing & grooming problems
- Dyspnoea
- Environment problems
- Faecal incontinence
- Falls
- Fatigue
- Foot problems
- Fracture
- Fragility fracture
- Gardening problems

- General mental health
- Headache
- Hearing impairment
- Heart failure
- Housebound
- Hypertension
- Hypotension/syncope
- Inflammatory arthritis
- · Inflammatory bowel disease
- · Ischaemic heart disease
- Liver problems
- Meal preparation problems
- Memory concerns
- Mobility problems
- Mono/hemiparesis
- Motor neuron disease
- Musculoskeletal problems
- Obesity
- Osteoarthritis
- Osteoporosis
- Palliative care
- Parkinsonism & tremor
- Peptic ulcer disease
- Peripheral neuropathy
- Peripheral vascular disease
- Polypharmacy
- Problems managing finances
- Problems with cleaning and domestic tasks

- Requirement for care
- Respiratory disease
- Seizures
- Self-harm
- Severe mental illness
- Shopping problems
- Skin ulcer
- Sleep problems
- Smoker (current)
- Smoker (ex)
- Social vulnerability
- Stress
- Stroke
- Telephone problems
- Thyroid problems
- Toileting problems
- TIA
- Travelling problems
- Unable to manage medications
- Urinary incontinence
- Urinary system disease
- Visual impairment
- Washing & bathing problems
- Weakness
- Weight loss



- Intervention 1 = exercise
- Intervention 2 = combined exercise, vision assessment and treatment
- Intervention 3 = combined exercise, vision assessment and treatment, and environmental assessment and modification
- Intervention 4 = combined clinic-level quality improvement strategies, multifactorial assessment and treatment (e.g comprehensive geriatric assessment), calcium and vitamin D supplementation



#### Care at the Right Time in the Right Place



SEARCHES RUN TO IDENTIFY
PATIENTS AT MODERATE RISK OF
FALLS



PRACTICES PROVIDE LIGHT
TOUCH CLINICAL
VALIDATION/PRIORITISATION



**GPAS ARRANGE APPOINTMENTS** 



HEALTH SCREEN WITH GPA
FALLS REVIEW WITH CARE
COORDINATOR (GPPAQ AND
SHORT FES-I)



#### Benefits of Delivering Falls Prevention at a Neighbourhood Level

- Improved Accessibility and Reach
- Enhanced Community Engagement and Support
- Better Integration of services
- Cost effectiveness
- Stronger social determinants of health
- Positive long-term outcomes
- Support for Aging in place
- Engagement and uptake



#### What Could the Future Look Like for Falls Prevention?

- Complete the project within the SWAN neighbourhood
- Scalability and Sustainability
- Falls Prevention as part of a proactive approach to Ageing Well
- Commitment to invest and develop proactive care in Primary and Community Settings

## The Greater Manchester Falls Collaborative

Advancing Age-Friendly Futures through research:
Wednesday 26th March

#### **Beth Mitchell**

Ageing Well Programme Manager
The Greater Manchester Ageing Hub, Public Service Reform
Greater Manchester Combined Authority





**GREATERSPORT** 









## The background of Falls Prevention in Greater Manchester

- Undertook a system-wide consultation with key leads from across community,
   clinical and care within each of the 10 boroughs of Greater Manchester.
- With the information gathered, we launched the <u>'Greater Manchester Falls</u>
   <u>Prevention: Delivering Integration and Reconditioning'</u> Report (January 2022)
- Commitment to develop a **'Greater Manchester Falls Collaborative'** to deliver on the 6 key recommendations detailed in the report.
- Commitment to co-design a delivery/action with the whole-system following a consultation workshop in January 2023.
- The transition to a <u>'Greater Manchester Integrated Care System'</u> bringing together the NHS and Social Care.
- Reconvened the system in February 2024 to **review the action plan** and agree how best to take the action plan forward.

Greater
Manchester
Falls Prevention:
Delivering
Integration and
Reconditioning











## What is the purpose of the collaborative?

- Oversee and deliver the strategic and operational system level priorities.
- **Provide recommendations for falls prevention**, integration and reconditioning across community, clinical and care settings.
- To send a clear message that **falls prevention is a continued priority**, in enabling improved health outcomes for all, working towards co-created integrated pathways.
- To raise the profile of what works in terms of life course approaches, prevention and evidence-based interventions.



#### What impact have we had so far?

Equity, access and equality

- Developed a system-wide action plan for implementation across community, clinical and care.
- Embedded 'Falls Prevention & Frailty' in the Greater Manchester Integrated Care Partnership Strategy & 'Joint Forward Plan', working to 'embed evidence into policy'.

Embedding evidence and evaluation what works

- A 'Case-Finding for Falls Prevention' pilot, looking at the use of the eFalls tool\*in primary care.
- The **FLEXI** Programme
- The 'Keep On Keep Up' (KOKU)
- Literacy awareness project for strength in later-life.

Data improvement, insight and interrogation • Pulling together a 'Greater Manchester Falls Prevention Outline Business Case' to look at the 'primary prevention of falls' across the system, to reduce the demand on the health and care system and improve the quality of life across Greater Manchester.

<sup>\*</sup>Development and external validation of the eFalls tool: a multivariable prediction model for the risk of ED attendance or hospitalisation with a fall or fracture in older adults

Workforce development, recruitment and training

- Working with the **Greater Manchester Organisation Development and Good Employment team** within the Integrated Care Partnership.
- Supporting cross-locality training and development to upskill across the broader system through projects such as FLEXI and the community of practice.

Community of learning, sharing and problem solving

- Launched a 12-month 'Community of Learning, Sharing and Problem Solving' (CoLSP) programme, with between 30-50 people attending per month to discuss a range of key themes and 'deep dives' into locality pathways.
- Delivered 12 sessions over the course of the year, with a total of around 330x across the fall's prevention community including workforce and people with lived-experience attending across all sessions.

Digital technologies that enhance and enable • Supported the development and implementation of the 'Keep On Keep Up' application across the system, showcasing the impact through the collaborative and raising awareness of this across community, clinical and care.

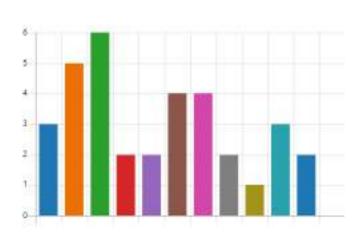
**#GMFallsPrevention** 

#### The Greater Manchester Falls Collaborative: Impact Survey

- We wanted to evaluate the CoLSP impact by developing a survey of 13 questions was distributed to the collaborative members.
- We received 34 responses (16% response rate) from local government (6), regional government (1), NHS (10), social care (3), housing (1), voluntary/community sectors (3), research (2), leisure (4), and charities (4).
- All 10 Greater Manchester Combined Authority localities were represented.

Which locality are you based in?





#### What did we find out?

#### **Key headlines:-**

- The collaborative membership has influenced decision-making and driven policy, evidence-based practice, and commissioning.
- Respondents also shared barriers to implementing falls prevention initiatives and suggested future priorities, which include sustaining collaboration, enhancing equitable approaches, and addressing systemic challenges.

#### Creating Co-ordination Enabling Invaluable Raising Awareness Practice & Collaboration Information Building other Lear Influencing **Shared Sharing** Networking Informative Evidence-based Opportunities

#### Conclusion & next steps:-

• Future work will incorporate the survey's priority areas to **strengthen integration and promote innovative**, **community-informed solutions for falls prevention**.

### Thank you for listening!

Happy to connect via email © bethany.mitchell@greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk

















## ONE STOCKPORT

THE ROLE OF ADULT SOCIAL CARE IN FALLS PREVENTION IN GM



## WHY ARE FALLS SUCH AN ISSUE FOR THE WORLD OF ADULT SOCIAL CARE?

- Create loss of independence / cause increased mobility issues requiring more support and care and costing the system more.
- Once someone has fallen, they have an increased risk or further falls – need high levels of support. Loss of confidence, social isolation.
- Significant impacts on people health and mortality





**WHAT SUPPORT DOES ADULT** SOCIAL CARE **NEED TO BE ABLE** TO DELIVER AND **SUPPORT THIS AGENDA?** 









### STRONG FOCUS ON PREVENTION

Prevention is a key strategy in adult social care to reduce the occurrence of falls before they happen. By focusing on preventive measures, we can improve overall health outcomes and reduce the pressure on healthcare services.







### **FUNDING**

Investing in technology is crucial for modernising adult social care and enhancing the quality of care provided. Specifically, funding should be directed towards tech-enabled care solutions that can improve accessibility, efficiency, and patient outcomes.

Examples include personal alarms and fall detectors that allow people to call for help in an emergency. These devices can be worn or installed in the home and are connected to a monitoring centre that provides 24/7 support





### **EARLIER FALLS PREVENTION**

## All-Ages Strength and Balance Campaign

Implement a public health campaign and program that promotes strength and balance exercises for all ages. The goal is to keep people steady and prevent falls rather than waiting until they have already fallen.







### **STAFF TRAINING**

Training staff to recognise early signs of mobility decline is crucial for preventing falls and ensuring the safety and wellbeing of individuals. This proactive approach involves educating staff on how to identify mobility issues early and understand the associated risks.





## STRONG SYSTEM COLLABORATION AND INTEGRATED PATHWAYS

#### Housing, NHS, ASC, PH, Community Services

Developing integrated care systems where local authorities, NHS organisations, and community services work together to create seamless care pathways for patients, ensuring they receive comprehensive support





# IMPROVED OFFER AMONGST PARTNERS FOR FALL RESPONSE AND REDUCTION IN CARE SETTINGS

Effective collaboration among various partners such as PCN, ASC, NWAS, and the NHS is essential for enhancing fall response and reducing fall-related incidents in care settings. This integrated approach ensures comprehensive care and timely interventions.



