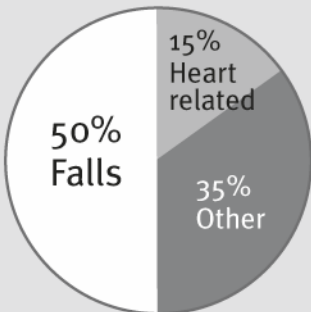




# Clinical Connections

## Personal Response and Support Services

- Tens of thousands of calls per day from subscribers needing some type of assistance



- Average response time is under 30 seconds
- Lifeline's remote call answering feature eliminates the need to rush for the telephone handset and risk a fall

## Lifeline stops the spiral of decline after a fall

The immediate assistance that Lifeline provides can increase the likelihood of a return to independent living.

- Every hour one older adult dies and 200 are treated in the emergency department for fall-related injuries.<sup>1</sup>
- Getting help quickly after an immobilizing fall improves the chances of survival by 80% and increases the likelihood of a return to independent living.<sup>2</sup>

### Lifeline is indicated for these fall risk factors

- History of previous falls
- Arthritis, Diabetes, Parkinson's Disease
- Polypharmacy
- Osteoporosis
- Problems with gait and balance
- Visual deficits
- Incontinence

To refer to Lifeline call: 1-800-LIFELINE

Or visit our website at: [www.lifelinesystems.com](http://www.lifelinesystems.com)

1. As reported in, "Falls Among Older Adults-Risk Factors and Prevention Strategies" by Judy A. Stevens, Ph.D. published in, National Council on Aging, Falls Free: Promoting a National Falls Prevention Action Plan; Research Review Papers, 2005.

2. Gurley, RJ Lum, N Sande, M, Mitchel B Katz, H, Persons Found in Their Homes Helpless or Dead, *NEJM*, June 27, 1996; 334 (26), 1710-6.

## Facts on Falls

- One of every three adults over 65 falls each year.<sup>3</sup>
- Falling is a recurrent problem with 50% of those who fall, experiencing two or more falls/year.<sup>4</sup>
- Post-hospitalization is a high risk time. The risk of falling is four times greater in the first four weeks after discharge from the hospital compared to three months later.<sup>5</sup>

### Fatal and nonfatal fall injuries among people 65+



Nonfatal falls, National Electronic Injury Surveillance System – All Injury Program (NEISS-AIP)  
Fall Deaths, National Center for Health Statistics, Vital Records, 2002

## A Fall Management Program is Interdisciplinary

- Referral to Lifeline
- Complete Fall Risk Assessment
- Remove environmental hazards
- Referral to Physical and Occupational Therapy
- Podiatry consultation
- Medication Review
- Physical Fitness Program
- Ophthalmology consult

3. Tinetti, ME, Speechley M, Ginter SF. Risk factors for falls among elderly persons living in the community. *N Engl J Med*. 1988; 319:1701-1707

4. Ibid

5. Mahoney, JE, MD et al. Temporal association between hospitalization and rate of falls after discharge. *Arch Intern Med*. 2000; 160:2788-2795