# A Changes in Environment

Japanese Red Cross Society Japanese Red Cross Ashikaga Hospital

The many differences between life at home and in the hospital can lead to falls and accidents!

• Hooking one's feet on the IV stand, or sudden rolling by the stand can cause a fall



• Slippers can lead to slips, stubbed feet and falls



Medication or sleeping aids can cause drowsiness or confusion that leads to a fall



• Patients may fall when attempting to move to a bedside toilet



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• Patients trying to leave their bed by themselves can trip and/or fall



• A bedside table used as a support when standing can suddenly move and cause a fall



• Patients can lose their balance and fall when trying to stand up from a wheelchair



•Forgetting to set wheelchair brakes can lead to a backwards fall when the chair moves



# B Changes in Environment

Japanese Red Cross Society Japanese Red Cross Ashikaga Hospital

Unfamiliar surroundings, age and other factors can lead to patients becoming restless and/or irritated in the hospital. The understanding and assistance of families is crucial!

• Suddenly sitting up in bed can cause dizziness and a fall



• Attempting to remove a bed rail can cause a fall



• Patients can fall when trying to remove restraints



• Removing the safety belt and standing in a wheelchair can cause a fall



• Continuing or strong restlessness or confusion can lead to falling from bed



• Trying to climb out of bed often causes falls



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#### When Young Children are Hospitalized

Japanese Red Cross Society Japanese Red Cross Ashikaga Hospital

Hospitalized children are often scared or worried being away from their families in the hospital. Accidents can happen when beds become playgrounds and when families are present, too.

 ${\ensuremath{\bullet}}$  Kids can fall if families lower the bed railing and aren't watching



• Kids can fall when the railing is down when familiy members are getting out of the bed



Improperly secured railings can cause a fall when active kids bump into them



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• A toy on the floor can lure a kid into a fall as they reach for it



• Kids may fall when using a toy as a stool



• Kids can forget about IV stands, and cause an accident if they move quickly or suddenly







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### **During Rehabilitation**

Japanese Red Cross Society Japanese Red Cross Ashikaga Hospital

As patients work to get ready for discharge and self care, falls and other accidents often happen around beds, bathrooms and wheelchairs

• A bedside table used as a support when standing can suddenly move and cause a fall



• Patients can lose their balance as they attempt to begin using a walker



• Standing up after using the toilet can lead to a fall



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• Forgetting to set wheelchair brakes can lead to a backwards fall when the chair moves



• Patients can lose their balance when standing up from a wheelchair



• Trying to stand on a wheelchair footrest can lead to a fall

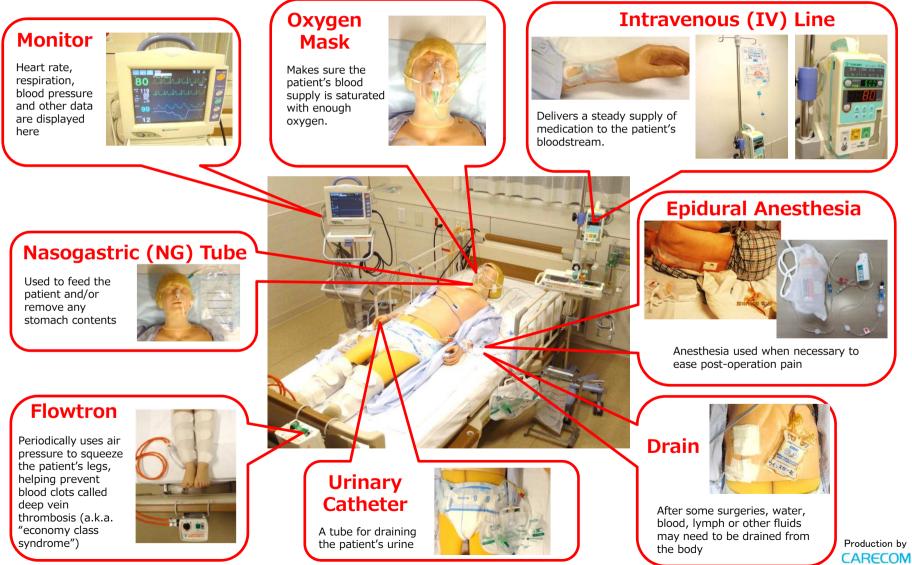


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#### **For Surgery Patients**

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Surgery and anesthesia can cause confusion and delirium in the patient, resulting in odd behavior. Tearing off the tubes and other items that may be attached after surgery can cause severe injury and delay recovery significantly.



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#### For Patients and Families After Surgery

Following surgery, patients will feel weak and be relatively uncoordinated. It's important to accept that some things patients are used to doing may be impossible for a time. Attempting to get out of bed and/or walk could cause tubes to be pulled out and cause serious injury. Always ask a nurse for assistance!

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