

Keeping Strength and Mobility Top of Mind – A Fall Can Be Really Bad News

f you're 65 or older, it's very important for you to remain upright. Being a resident at one of our communities means you have access to a tremendous amount of wellness classes, exercise groups, and many ways to keep your strength top of mind.

Falls are a common danger facing people as they age, and a new study shows the importance of avoiding that first one.

The findings, published this week in Annals of Emergency Medicine, showed that more than half the seniors who went to the emergency room (ER) because of a fall either had additional falls, had to be hospitalized, or died within six months.

"Our study shows an even higher rate of adverse events than previous studies have," said lead study author Jiraporn Sri-on, MD, of Navamindradhiraj University in Bangkok, Thailand.

Role of medication

And if an older person happened to be taking psychiatric medication or a sedative, he or she was even more likely to quickly suffer fall-related adverse effects.

"This is concerning because these types of drugs are commonly prescribed for elderly patients in community and residential care settings," Sri-on said.

The study looked at patients 65 or older who were treated in the ER for injuries as the result of a fall. It found that a small minority -- 7.7% -- developed adverse events within a week. For most, it took a little longer for other problems to develop. More than 20% reported additional issues within 30 days while 50% suffered an additional setback within six months.

The statistics

Within that period, 22.6% had at least one additional fall, 42.6% had to revisit the ER, 31.1% required a hospital stay, and 2.6% died.

Sometimes, a fall by an elderly person is caused by an underlying medical condition. The fall is simply a symptom of a larger problem.

But the researchers say medication no doubt plays a significant role in raising the risk. They say besides taking psychiatric drugs or sedatives, patients taking five or more medications were more likely to suffer a fall.

The study concludes that ER personnel have a huge opportunity to reduce the adverse event rate among older patients who have fallen. A simple step, the researchers say, would be to follow existing fall guidelines and educate older patients on safety steps to reduce future falls.



All American Assisted Living-Raynham is committed to creating a residence that fosters communication with the goal of continually improving the services we offer. Your opinions are vitally important to our efforts of constantly increasing the quality of care and services we provide to all our residents. Please keep an eye out for our Annual Resident Satisfaction Survey, please fill it out and let us know how we're doing.

RESIDENT OF THE MONTH

October's resident of the month is Lucille C, you may know her as Clara! Clara can be found around the community trying every activity our program has to offer or spending time with her wonderful family in our common areas. Just one of the many things that makes us feel so grateful for Clara is how selfless she is when helping others. Clara is always sure that her friends are attending activities and happy. Her caring and charismatic attitude is contagious and shines through each one of her family members who comes here and real-



Lucille Casey

ly embraces the All American culture and treats each resident like their own family. Clara, thank you for all of your kindness and being apart of our big happy family, we love you!

EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH



Roger Feliciano

The October employee of the month is Roger Feliciano. Roger is a dining staff veteran, in fact, he has been a team member here sense the first day we've been open. This hard earned experience truly shines through in Roger's extraordinary dining room service. Residents, staff and even family members rant over the dining room experience that they get from Roger. When Roger isn't serving tables, cleaning dishes, or helping prep food, he is out and about in the community discussing current events and sports games with residents.

Roger, your outstanding customer service, sense of humor, and ability to always be unforgivingly yourself is just a small part of what makes you such a crucial part of our All American team. Today, and everyday, we hope you feel immensely appreciated. Thank you, from the bottom of our hearts!

SAVE THE DATE (Events in Coming month)

Join us for our annual Halloween "Trick or Treat" event on October 29th 2PM. Please RSVP so to we have enough treats for everyone. It's going to be "Spooktacular"

Resident Birthdays:

10/8	Ruth S
10/9	William D
10/10N	largaret G
10/15	Lillian S
10/17	Evelyn F
10/30	Thomas M

Employee Birthdays :

10/18	Yolanda Ortiz
10/22	Destiny Tavares
10/23	Rosa Ventura
10/28	Julia Donovan
10/29	Jamari Cintron
10/29	Jessina Evora
10/29	Lisa DeSouza

Staff Directory of DEPARTMENT HEADS

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1:30 Jewerly Making 2:45 National Peanut's Day Discussion 3:30 Happy Hour! 6:30 Movie- Monster-In-Law 3 9:30 Mass
6.30 Movie- "Resident's Choice" 6. 9.30 Mass 13 9.
11 9:30 Mass 12 9:30 J
10:00 Seated Strength Class
10:00 Walking Club 10:30 Grided Art Class with Paul Cosserveded 111:00 Lunch Trip: LongHorn Steakhouse
2-30 Mass 10:00 Creative Arts: Color Your Own Bookmark 10:30 Guided Art Class with Paul Casegrande 10:45 Columbus Day Trivia 1:30 Tea Party: Tastine different tynes of Tea
9.30 Mass 10:00 Creative Arts: Color Your Own B 10:45 Columbus Day Trivia 11:30 Columbus Drink Cocktail 2:30 Game Dav: Board Games & More

Why We Get Our Flu Shots in the Fall

With the 2017 flu season just around the corner, you've probably already started getting inundated with reminders to get your flu shot. But why do we get the flu vaccine in the fall? And why do we have a flu season in the fall and winter, anyways?

The answer to the first question lies within the latter. Flu vaccines are recommended ahead of whenever flu virus activity and infections are on the rise, which is typically when the weather gets cold. For example, in the U.S., flu season dates can last from October through May, usually peaking between December and February, according to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). Furthermore, the strains of flu virus that are most prevalent change from year to year, which is why new flu vaccines must be formulated almost annually.

The reason that vaccination campaigns begin as early as late August is because it actually takes a while for the flu shot to kick in. "It takes about two weeks after vaccination for antibodies to develop in the body," according to Vaccines.gov. "In the meantime, you are still at risk for getting the flu. That's why it's better to get vaccinated early in the fall, so you are protected before flu begins spreading in your community."

Even if you don't get a flu vaccine before October, as is considered ideal, public health officials recommend that everyone aged 6 months and older-including pregnant women in any trimester, and those with compromised immune systems such as small children and the elderly, get their seasonal flu shots in order to protect both themselves and those around them.

While Americans are pretty bad at getting their flu shots, public health experts tout their efficacy. Flu vaccine effectiveness can vary widely from year to year since scientists essentially have to try and predict which strains will be most prevalent, but is generally found to reduce flu illness risk by 40% to 60%. The most common side effects are soreness around the injection site, headache, fever, nausea, and muscle aches, and are generally mild.





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