Purpose:
Up to 50% of nursing home residents experience one or more falls annually. 10%-25% of all falls result in serious injuries requiring medical attention. In addition, frequent falls represent both a “Never Event” financial liability and a citation risk under one or more regulatory F-Tags.

Establishing an effective Fall Management Program can greatly assist your facility in countering “Never Event” and F-Tag consequences. The purpose of the Secure® Fall Prevention Admission Kit is to prevent injurious falls between admission and finalization of a patient’s Minimum Data Set (MDS) assessment and implementation of a total fall prevention program specific to the patient.

High Fall Risk Time For Residents
A significant number of falls occur after admission, which includes both new admissions to the facility and floor-to-floor transfers. During the first few hours and days following admission, fall risk remains high as residents are exposed to new environments, routines, and staff. Many falls occur at night. Up to 60% of nighttime falls are related to toileting and visits to the bathroom. The risk of falling is greatest in residents with:

- Altered cognition (e.g., delirium, dementia, anxiety, etc.) and/or
- Mobility impairment (e.g., gait/balance disorders, inability to self-transfer safely).

Secure® Fall Prevention Admission Kits
Once residents are identified as being at risk of falling due to altered cognition and/or mobility impairment at the time of admission, it is critical to immediately communicate the risk to all floor staff. This critical initial communication immediately identifies which residents are at risk, reminds staff that certain residents are at high risk of falling and has marked potential to significantly reduce the risk of falling after admission. Fall risk residents can easily and cost-effectively be identified by using:

- **Secure® Yellow Non-Slip Socks**
  Yellow is the universal color for identifying fall risk residents. In addition, double-sided non-slip socks guard against slipping and falling during transfers, ambulation and bed and chair exits.

- **Secure® WaterFall Wristbands**
  Designed for residents to wear as a wristband to assist staff in identifying individuals assessed as a fall risk.

- **Secure® WaterFall Magnets**
  The magnets are placed in the resident's bedroom and/or on the doorframe to alert all staff members of a resident’s fall risk status.
To minimize the chances of falling, it is critical to monitor fall risk residents during the first few days after admission to detect care needs such as toileting, etc. It is also very important to assess the resident’s potential fall risk situations such as getting out of bed unassisted, ambulation, etc. Preventing resident falls utilizing appropriate direct supervision is critical. However, fall alarms can be utilized to assist floor staff in significantly reducing falls and fall related injuries.

- **Fall Alarms – Secure® Personal Fall Alarm In Yellow Fall Risk Holder**
  - Quickly and effectively alerts staff that the resident has changed position and is about to leave their bed, chair or wheelchair.
  - Serves as an alternative to nurse call bells when used with residents who are noncompliant or unable to use their call bell because of cognitive and/or physical impairments.
  - Serves as an assessment or planning tool by monitoring the frequency of attempts to leave the bed, chair or wheelchair, which can help identify emerging fall risk trends and establishing preventive interventions.

The safe mobility of residents at fall risk can easily be ensured by using:

- **Gait Belts – Secure® Yellow Gait Belt and Gait Belt Hand Loop**
  - Gait belts significantly reduce the likelihood of resident falls during staff transfers (from/to bed, chair, toilet or wheelchair) and ambulation in residents who are not able to support themselves.
  - Minimizes the risk of resident injury; gait belts help staff to guide and control falls during transfers/ambulation.
  - Using hand loops greatly diminishes the risk of staff injury (back and musculoskeletal damage) during heavy transfer lifts.

The above mentioned fall prevention products can be valuable tools in helping to reduce post-admission falls. All of these products are contained in the **Secure® Fall Prevention Admission Kit**. These kits should be readily available to caregiver staff on all shifts.

As a solution to preventing post-admission falls and alerting key stakeholders regarding resident specific fall risk, Personal Safety Corporation has packaged all of the above mentioned items in a convenient to use **Secure® Fall Prevention Admission Kit**. According to nurses, the kit has several benefits:

- Essential fall prevention products are contained in a ready-to-use yellow fall prevention kit bag. The kit bag can immediately be assigned once a resident is assessed as a fall risk at admission. Each kit bag has a clear plastic pocket to add a card with the resident’s name and room number. The kit bag is easy to store on any floor or in the admissions office.
- Using the kit for all residents with altered cognition and/or mobility impairment at the time of admission helps staff to guard against falls between the time of admission and the facility’s Minimum Data Set (MDS) assessment. One of the critical steps to reducing falls in facilities is to assess/identify risk factors contributing to falls after admission and take immediate preventive action prior to the MDS report.
- The **Secure® Fall Prevention Admission Kit** will assist in preventing falls during a potential two week gap between time of admission and completion of the resident’s MDS report, which is due within the 14 day regulatory guidelines. This is a potential two week “Never Event” liability that can be considerably reduced utilizing the **Secure® Fall Prevention Admission Kit**.
- The **Secure® Fall Prevention Admission Kit** can also be used to prevent falls during other high risk times, such as during nursing shift changes and a “change of condition” such as an acute illness or starting a new medication associated with fall risk. Finally, the kit can also be used to prevent a second fall until the cause of the initial fall is determined.