

Welcome to the first Prevention and Management of Falls Community of Practice update. We've been up and running for a few months so we thought it was time for some news! Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the site to date. Those of you still to take the plunge, please consider contributing- the website will only be as useful as we make it. This is our opportunity to establish a dynamic and diverse falls prevention community in Scotland.



Pictured from left to right: Eileen Moir, Dr Dawn Skelton, Ann Murray, Professor Sallie Lamb, Dr Sarah Mitchell at the launch event on 26th & 27th March 2008

Invite a new member

Membership is steadily growing (at last count 154 members), but there's always room for new members. Why not invite a new member? If you have a colleague with an interest in falls prevention or bone health you can use the 'Invite new member' function on the homepage of the Falls Community shared space (bottom right). All you need is your colleague's e-mail address, then follow the instructions...

Join the Falls Community Support Team

We're currently looking for volunteers to join the Falls Community Support Team. A great opportunity to add to your CPD portfolio. We hope to establish a group of members who would be happy to commit to regular contribution, for example, responding to and generating discussion. This is to ensure the site keeps ticking over during quiet spells. The plan is to devise a system which spreads the support needed as widely as possible. So if you can commit to contributing once a week, fortnight or month please volunteer- your support would be appreciated. Just contact Ann or Leslie.



Start a sub-group

Within our shared space we have the opportunity to create sub-groups. A group could comprise members of the Falls Community with a specific interest, for example falls prevention in hospitals, exercise, care homes etc. A mini shared space would be created within the Falls Community shared space where discussions, resources and events related to your chosen specialty could be shared with other members of the sub group. To create one, please contact Ann or Leslie.

Useful Links

We're currently putting together a 'useful links' page that will take you directly to other useful websites. If you have any suggestions for the list please contact Ann or Leslie.

Feedback

As you may know, the website is in its infancy and we're aware that at this stage there may be a few technical hitches. We're constantly trying to improve things and would welcome your feedback on what's working well and what's not. Use the 'contact us' function to provide feedback or contact Ann or Leslie directly.

If you're new to using the shared space a guide can be found by using the help button on the top right hand corner.

Have you mastered the tag cloud?

If you come across a useful resource when you're browsing the internet you can 'tag' it with your own key words. The key words will appear in the tag cloud on the home page and other members can then easily access the same resource. A guide to tagging including how to download the tagging tool can be found under the 'RESOURCES' section of the shared space. This feature will save you time by helping to find and store useful resources.

Where are you and what do you do?

Please take a moment to complete your 'My Profile' details on the shared space (found on the menu on the left) so we all know where you work and what you do.

Latest resources that have been added to the site:

- The new Clinical Assessment Tool (CAT) produced by the Prevention of Falls Network Europe (PROFANE).
- FRAX - the World Health Organisation Fracture Risk Assessment Tool.
- The latest randomised falls prevention trial conducted in nursing homes.
- The latest information from the National Institute of Clinical Excellence (NICE) about the treatment for primary and secondary prevention of osteoporosis.

Look in the 'RESOURCES' section of the shared space to find these resources and many more.



Join now and contribute to improving practice and preventing falls and fractures in Scotland

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