

# Take Control of Your Health: 6 Steps to Prevent a Fall

Every **11 seconds**, an older adult is seen in an emergency department for a fall-related injury.

*Many falls are preventable.*

*Stay safe with these tips!*

1

## Find a good balance and exercise program

Look to build balance, strength, and flexibility. Contact your local Area Agency on Aging for referrals. Find a program you like and take a friend.



2

## Talk to your health care provider

Ask for an assessment of your risk of falling. Share your history of recent falls.



3

## Regularly review your medications with your doctor or pharmacist

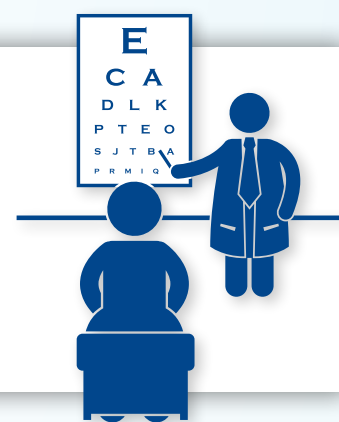
Make sure side effects aren't increasing your risk of falling. Take medications only as prescribed.



4

## Get your vision and hearing checked annually and update your eyeglasses

Your eyes and ears are key to keeping you on your feet.



5

## Keep your home safe

Remove tripping hazards, increase lighting, make stairs safe, and install grab bars in key areas.



6

## Talk to your family members

Enlist their support in taking simple steps to stay safe. Falls are not just a seniors' issue.



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National Council on Aging

To learn more, visit [ncoa.org/FallsPrevention](https://ncoa.org/FallsPrevention).

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