

TOOL BOX TALKS

Building Slips and Trips

Healthcare Slip, Trip, and Fall Prevention



An employee was carrying a box of files down one flight of stairs. Carrying the box prevented him from using the handrail and obstructed his view of the stairs. He lost his balance and fell down five steps suffering a shoulder strain and broken wrist.

Tool Box Tips

1. Use handrails for support when you are going up or down stairs to help maintain your balance.
2. Avoid carrying bulky, large or heavy objects up or down stairs with both hands.
3. Report any bulbs that are out near stairs or in stairwells.
4. Clean up a hazard if you see one. In writing, report any hazards that can't be fixed immediately.
5. Keep slip-resistant surfaces in good condition. Report any excess wear, damaged or worn out sections.
6. Make sure employee and visitor entrances, kitchen areas and restroom floor mats are dry during precipitation.
7. Keep an eye out for oily spills, water leaks, curled rugs and changes in floor surfaces while inside.
8. Keep supplies, boxes, trash and work products out of pathways and walkways.
9. Make wide turns when rounding a corner and never run.
10. Wear the right footwear for the job and be sure to switch your footwear when hazards change.
11. Be aware of patient belongings, tubing, hoses, cords and monitor cables near patient's beds.

Preventing slips, trips and falls starts with safe surfaces and aware employees.

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