

TOOL BOX TALKS

Home Healthcare

Healthcare Slip, Trip, and Fall Prevention



A home healthcare employee was walking down the porch stairs of a client's home. She was in a hurry and did not notice that one of the steps was in disrepair. She tripped and fell fracturing her femur.

Tool Box Tips

1. Wear good-quality closed-toe footwear with slip-resistant soles.
2. Report to work with plenty of rest and free from the effects of drugs and alcohol.
3. Review and conduct hazard pre-assessments of client's homes before starting service. Assessments should focus on slip and trip hazards inside as well as outside the house.
4. Scan your walking path and look for potential hazards.
5. Use a proper ladder or step stool to access supplies on high shelving. Do not stand on any furniture.
6. Slow down and use caution when walking on ice, snow or slippery surfaces.
7. Consider using ice cleats on shoes or boots when ice and snow is present.
8. Do not carry items that block your path or vision when using stairs. Maintain contact with the handrail and keep stairs clean and clear of obstructions.
9. Do not use phones or other electronic devices while walking.
10. Turn on the outside lights before returning to your car in the dark.

**Client's homes
can be full
of safety hazards.**

**Assess the risks
on site
and take
precautions.**

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