

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

Every **15 seconds**, an older adult is seen in an emergency department for a fall-related injury.

**Sept. 23** is Falls Prevention Awareness Day.  
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.



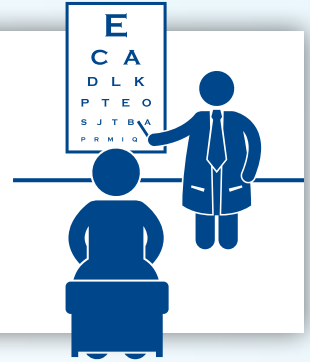
CONTINUES.

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

# 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

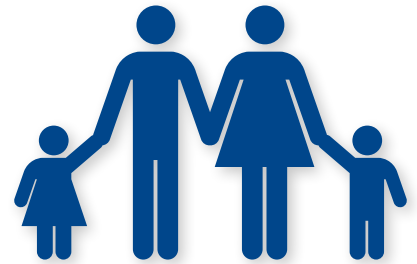
Remove tripping hazards, increase lighting, make stairs safe, and install grab bars in key areas.



# 6

## Talk to your family members

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



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

NATIONAL COUNCIL ON AGING

1901 L Street, NW, 4th Floor ■ Washington, DC 20036 ■ 202-479-1200  
[www.NCOA.org](http://www.NCOA.org) ■ [www.facebook.com/NCOAging](http://www.facebook.com/NCOAging) ■ [www.twitter.com/NCOAging](http://www.twitter.com/NCOAging)