

# Falls: Introduction for Data Analysis

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Measurement is a necessary function of quality improvement. Data analysis and feedback of results are major aspects for monitoring improvement in performance indicators. The Falling Leaf package includes a simple data collection tool, which incorporates the *Morse Fall Scale*, to abstract data from medical records. The information will help identify residents who meet the requirements for inclusion in the fall prevention program. The tool was developed to assist providers in collecting and analyzing data consistent with performance improvement efforts. Facilities are encouraged to compare data month to month. It would be helpful to present the data and other information to the QI committee.

## Steps for Data Analysis

1. Analyze all falls, and document a summary on your summary log.
2. Examine the “Show Me” report and the quality indicator report to see rates for all residents who were in the facility more than three months. The “Show Me” will be helpful in identification of trends.
3. Use the *Falls Data Input Form* for all falls to obtain your nursing home rate, which includes admissions and residents who stay for less than three months. The tool will allow the facility to track overall fall rates, not just the percentage of residents who fall.
4. Examine quarterly reports and evaluate improvement processes.

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Document available at [www.primaris.org](http://www.primaris.org)

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