

**Name of Instrument: St. Thomas's Risk Assessment Tool in falling elderly inpatients (STRATIFY)**

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**Privacy Use Cost:** \$

**Public Use Cost:** \$

**Year Developed:** 1997

**Where to obtain Instrument:**

- Contact author

**Description of the Instrument**

- St. Thomas's risk of assessment tool is used to identify clinical fall risk factors in the elderly and to predict chance.
- A risk assessment score (range 0 – 5) is derived by rating 1 for presence or 0 for absence of 5 fall risk factors (fall as a presenting complaint, a transfer and mobility score of 3 or 4+, agitation, frequent toileting, and visual impairment).
- The transfer and mobility score is (range 0-6) is obtained by combining the transfer and mobility sections of the Barthel index (each with ranges 0-3).
- A risk score of 2 or more (cut-off or high risk score) was calculated for 66 (93%) of the 71 fallers and for only 40 (12%) of the 324 non-fallers. A score of three or more identified 49 (69%) of the fallers and 12 (4%) of the non-fallers (i.e. sensitivity of 69% and specificity 96%)

**Form of instrument:**

- Hazard/Risk Assessment Tools

**Method of delivery:**

- Proxy Report (primary nurse's judgment)
- In-person interview/assessment

**Relevance to injury/ Percentage of the instrument specific to injury**

- To predict chance/probability of falling in the elderly.

## **Time to administer or complete the instrument**

### **Methods of data analyses:**

- Quantitative

### **Setting/sample instrument used in:**

- Elderly inpatients of St. Thomas's Hospital for phase 1 & 2 (aged >or = to 65 years): 116 cases (116 falls were recorded) and 116 controls in phase 1.
- 217 patients in phase 2 (risk assessment tool was completed 395 times on 217 patients among whom 71 falls occurred in the week after an assessment.
- A total of 446 risk assessment were completed on 331 elderly patients of Kent and Canterbury Hospital in phase 3, who sustained 79 falls.

**Was it pilot tested?** No

### **Pilot test sample:**

### **Reliability Measures**

### **Validity Measures**

### **Reference**

Oliver, D., Britton, M., Seed, P., Martin, F.C., & Hopper, A.H. (1997). Development and evaluation of evidence based risk assessment tool (STRATIFY) to predict which elderly inpatients will: case-control and cohort studies [papers]. British Medical Journal, 315(7115), 1049-1053.

### **Other References**

**Keywords:** falls, elderly, risk assessment, seniors.