



At or better than target.  
Continue to monitor.



Within 5% of target. Monitor  
and take action as appropriate.



Below target by more than 5%.  
Take action and monitor progress.



No target identified  
or available.

## WHAT IS BEING MEASURED?

This measure tracks the total number of inpatient falls that are categorized as Level 3 which means the fall has caused permanent harm or damage to the patient. An example of a Level 3 fall is one in which the patient falls and sustains a fractured hip requiring surgical repair.

## WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Falls and injury from falls are critical issues in healthcare safety. Almost half of all elderly residents in facilities providing long-term care (nursing homes) fall every year. One in three of those who fall develop serious injuries. Those who fall are at a higher risk for future falls. 90% of all hip fractures in seniors are the result of a fall. Families are often unable to provide care, and 40% of all nursing home admissions occur as a result of falls by older people. Injuries from falls that occur while in hospital can require surgical intervention or medical treatment which may lead to an increased length of stay. Falls and injury from falls have a significant impact on the individual, their families, and the healthcare system overall. The prevention of falls becomes even more important as the population of seniors in Canada increases.

## WHAT IS THE TARGET?

Bluewater Health aims to have fewer than 6 Level 3 falls during the 2017/18 fiscal year.

## HOW ARE WE DOING?

Annual totals:

- 2011 – 12 falls
- 2012 – 8 falls
- 2013 – 12 falls
- 2014 – 3 falls
- 2015 – 5 falls
- 2016 – 6 falls
- 2017 – 7 falls

There was 1 fall that occurred in the months of October through December 2017.

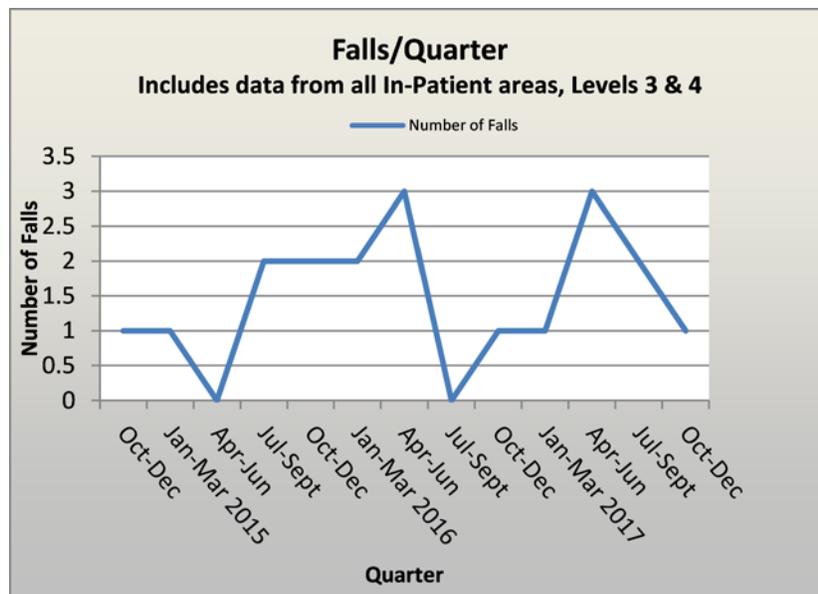
## WHAT ACTIONS ARE WE TAKING?

Bluewater Health has a falls prevention strategy in place that identifies patients at risk for falls and includes specific strategies to reduce the risk of falls.

Each fall occurrence is reviewed to identify contributing factors and improvements strategies.

## WHERE CAN I LEARN MORE ABOUT THIS MEASURE?

- [Contact us](#)



Preferred trend/  
direction



**FREQUENCY REPORTED:** Quarterly

**NEXT UPDATE:** April 2018



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