

Dear SMARTRISK Learning Series Participant,

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to **"Improving the Safety of Seniors by Investigating Causes of Falling"** part of the Winter 2008 Curriculum for injury prevention practitioners in Ontario and beyond.

What's in this package:

This package contains all the information and resources you will need to participate in this session of the SMARTRISK Learning Series.

1. Instructions for Dialing into the Teleconference on Thursday, January 24, 2008.

Everything you need to know to get connected and to participate in the Question and Answer discussion at the end of the session.

2. Session Outline

Session overview and learning objectives.

3. Resource Materials

Articles to support the materials that will be presented during the teleconference, and to kick-start your own further exploration of the topic area following the session.

4. Post-Teleconference Information

Including the SMARTRISK Learning Series Discussion Forum, replay option and feedback form.

Thank you for participating in this session.

We look forward to learning together!

The Ontario Injury Prevention Resource Centre is operated by SMARTRISK, with support from the Ontario Public Health Association and the Government of Ontario.

SMARTRISK Learning Series

1. Instructions for dialing into the teleconference

Date: Thursday, January 24, 2008
Starting Time: 10:00 am - 11:00 am (EST)
Duration: 60 minutes (45 minutes lecture style, 15 minutes question and answer)

Instructions for connecting to the teleconference:

- At approximately 9:45 am (EST) on the day of the teleconference, assemble participants. If participating as a group use a speakerphone (otherwise a regular handset phone will be fine) to dial the following toll free number:

1 866-225-0198 or 416-641-6137

*** Please use the "416" number if you are in Toronto**

- The operator will ask you for the name of the teleconference you would like to join, which is: **The SMARTRISK Learning Series**
- The operator will then ask you to provide your name, the name of the organization you are calling from and the number of participants in your group.
- The operator will ask you to stand-by. When the call is starting, the speaker will be introduced and the call will proceed.
- For the lecture portion of the call, the call will be in non-interactive mode for participants. This means that if you sneeze, cough or talk at your end, no one else will be able to hear it.
- During the question and answer portion of the call, the operator will come on and provide further instructions for you to ask a question.
- At the end of the call, you terminate the session simply by hanging up.
- If you are unable to dial in to the above number, please contact Bell at 1-866-877-8170 or 416-695-3373.
- To reach the Ontario Injury Prevention Resource Centre, please call 416-977-7350.

SMARTRISK Learning Series

2. Session Outline

Session Title: **Improving the Safety of Seniors by Investigating the Causes of Falling (State of the Art Series)**

Faculty: Dr. Aleksandra Zecevic
Assistant Professor, Faculty of Health Sciences
University of Western Ontario

Date: January 24, 2008
Time: 10:00 am to 11:00 am EST

Overview of the Session:

In this session, Dr. Zecevic will present an application of an innovative methodological approach named Seniors Falls Investigation Methodology (SFIM). This adapted version of a method used to investigate transportation incidents, such as airplane crashes, has been successfully implemented to study falls in community, hospitals and a long term care home. Dr. Zecevic will describe how an incident investigation allows us to learn from failure to advance safety by identifying safety deficiencies. Results of two studies show that falls in seniors occur when changes of an ageing body, the environment in which seniors find themselves and the individual's behaviour combine in a unique sequence of unfavorable events. Several human factors theoretical frameworks, including the data collection tool SHELL, the Accident Causation Model (also known as Swiss Cheese Model) and the Generic Error Modeling System (GEMS) will be described. Participants will be challenged to accept humans as fallible, and focus on error traps imbedded deeper in the system. Several case studies of authentic fall investigations will be used as examples. Participants will be introduced to a web based Falls Database and invited to consider application of SFIM in their organizations.

Learning Objectives:

By the end of this session, participants will:

1. Learn about Seniors Falls Investigation Methodology (SFIM) and its application
2. Understand the difference between person vs. systems approach to accident investigation
3. Have a better understanding of causes of falls
4. Be able to recognize the need for more comprehensive, organizational changes in falls prevention programs

3. Resource materials

The following resource materials have been selected to support the content of the teleconference and can be used as a guide for further research into this topic.

- Zecevic A., Salmoni A.W., Lewko, J. & Vandervoort A. A. (2007). Seniors Falls Investigation Methodology (SFIM) - A systems approach to the study of falls in seniors. *Canadian Journal on Aging, 26, 277-286.*
- Reason, J. (2005). Safety in the operating theatre - Part 2: Human error and organisational failure. *Quality & Safety in Health Care, 14, 56-61.*
- Reason, J. (2004). Beyond the organizational accident: the need for "error wisdom" on the frontline. *Quality & Safety in Health Care, 13(Suppl. II), ii28-ii33.*
- Dekker, S. W. A. (2002). Reconstructing human contributions to accidents: the new view on error and performance. *Journal of Safety Research, 33, 371-385.*
- Vincent, C., Taylor-Adams, S., Stanhope, N. (1998). Framework for analysing risk and safety in clinical medicine. *British Medical Journal, 316, 1154-1157.*

SMARTRISK Learning Series

4. Post-Teleconference Information

Learning Series on the Ontario Injury Prevention Resource Centre Forum

The Resource Centre has created a [Discussion Board Forum](#) for injury prevention practitioners. Within the Forum, the SMARTRISK Learning Series has its own section, a space dedicated to further discussion of Learning Series topics, including investigating seniors' falls. Learning Series participants are invited to visit the Forum to post questions and access additional resources. This is a great place to share information, have your questions answered by the Guest Faculty and to network with practitioners from across the province.

More information will be sent to participants after the teleconference but please visit the Forum and check out the different topic areas. Go to <http://www.oninjuryresources.ca/forum/>

Replay:

If you would like to listen to the presentation again or if you are unable to participate at the specified time, a recording of the teleconference will be available on the Ontario Injury Prevention Resource Centre website - <http://www.oninjuryresources.ca/>. The recording will be available approximately one week following the live teleconference. For more information on this service, please contact Nadja Gale at learning@oninjuryresources.ca.

Please share this information with your colleagues and community partners.

Feedback:

Participants are invited to provide feedback on their experience participating in the Learning Series and using its various features. It will only take five minutes to complete the survey.

Thank you to all participants who have already completed the survey. Please feel free to complete the survey again after participating in a new session.

The online feedback form is currently available in the [Discussion Board Forum](#) - then click on the SMARTRISK Learning Series.

Thank you and enjoy!