Committee: New York City Chapter of Health-system Pharmacists
Topic: Patient Safety Identification: Falls Risk
Sponsored by: Marie G. DiMicco, Michele B. Kaufman

Whereas, A patient fall risk is a serious patient safety concern in all patient care settings, including the hospital, the nursing home or extended care facility, and the ambulatory setting, and,

Whereas, Falls among older adults are the leading cause of injury-related deaths in older adults, the main reason for emergency department visits, and the most common reason for hospital trauma admissions, and,

Whereas, The patient fall risk is assessed upon a patient intake to a hospital, extended care facility stay, or discharge to an ambulatory care setting, and,

Whereas, The patient is identified as a Fall Risk by direct identification using a wrist band or chart sticker, or other physical means of identification, and,

Whereas, The fall risk information is included within the pharmacy patient profile for all patients, and,

Whereas, Certain prescribed drugs can increase the risk of falls through polypharmacy, sedative use, via pharmacologic effect, side effect(s), interaction with other prescribed drugs with or without cognitive impairment, and,

Whereas, The pharmacist has the training and knowledge to identify such drugs, and,

Whereas, The pharmacist shall counsel or provide medication therapy management, to the patient or patient care giver relative to said drugs dispensed, and,

Whereas, The pharmacist will include the fall risk information upon dispensing such medications, therefore, be it

Resolved That:

The New York State Council of Health-system Pharmacists supports that patient safety information listed within patient history information shall include the patient's fall risk status on all pharmacy patient profiles in both the inpatient and outpatient settings, for patients in New York State.

Date: January 30, 2015

By: *Marie G. DiMicco, PharmD*
         Signature of NYSCHP Active Member 1

         Michele B. Kaufman, Pharm.D, CGP
         Signature of NYSCHP Active Member 2