The Timed Up and Go (TUG) Test

Purpose: To assess mobility

Equipment: A stopwatch

Directions: Patients wear their regular footwear and can use a walking aid if needed. Begin by having the patient sit back in a standard arm chair and identify a line 3 meters or 10 feet away on the floor.

Instructions to the patient:
When I say “Go,” I want you to:
1. Stand up from the chair
2. Walk to the line on the floor at your normal pace
3. Turn
4. Walk back to the chair at your normal pace
5. Sit down again

On the word “Go” begin timing.
Stop timing after patient has sat back down and record.

Time: _________ seconds

An older adult who takes ≥12 seconds to complete the TUG is at high risk for falling.

Observe the patient’s postural stability, gait, stride length, and sway.

Circle all that apply: Slow tentative pace □ Loss of balance □ Short strides □ Little or no arm swing □ Steadying self on walls □ Shuffling □ En bloc turning □ Not using assistive device properly

Notes:

For relevant articles, go to: www.cdc.gov/injury/STEADI

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
National Center for Injury Prevention and Control

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