

Psychometric Properties of the Fall Risk Perception Questionnaire-Short Version for Inpatients in Acute Care Hospitals

Choi, Jeeun¹ · Lee, Sujin¹ · Park, Eunjin¹ · Ku, Sangha¹ · Kim, Sunhwa¹ · Yu, Wonhye¹ · Jeong, Eunmi¹ · Park, Sukhee¹ · Park, Yusun² · Kim, Hye Young³ · Kim, Sung Reul⁴

¹Department of Nursing, Asan Medical Center, Seoul

²College of Nursing, Korea University, Seoul

³College of Nursing, Research Institute of Nursing Science, Jeonbuk National University, Jeonju

⁴College of Nursing, Korea University Nursing Research Institute, Korea University, Seoul, Korea

Purpose: Patients' perception of fall risk is a promising new indicator for fall prevention. Therefore, a fall risk perception questionnaire that can be used rapidly and repeatedly in acute care settings is required. This study aimed to develop a short version of the fall risk perception questionnaire (Short-FRPQ) for inpatients. **Methods:** For the psychometric measurements, 246 inpatients were recruited from an acute care hospital. The construct (using confirmatory factor analysis and discriminant validity of each item), convergent, and known-group validities were tested to determine the validity of the Short-FRPQ. McDonald's omega coefficient was used to examine the internal consistency of reliability. **Results:** In the confirmatory factor analysis, the fit indices of the Short-FRPQ, comprising 14 items and three factors, appeared to be satisfactory. The Short-FRPQ had a significantly positive correlation with the original scale, the Korean Falls Efficacy Scale-International, and the Morse Fall Scale. The risk of falls group, assessed using the Morse Fall Scale, had a higher score on the Short-FRPQ. McDonald's omega coefficient was .90. **Conclusion:** The Short-FRPQ presents good reliability and validity. As patient participation is essential in fall interventions, evaluating the fall risk perception of inpatients quickly and repeatedly using scales of acceptable validity and reliability is necessary.

Key words: Accidental Falls; Inpatients; Perception; Psychometrics; Risk Assessment

INTRODUCTION

Falls are a high-priority safety problem in hospitals because of the resulting poor health outcomes and costs [1]. Unlike community-dwelling subjects, inpatients in acute care hospitals are likely to be at a high risk of falls because their disease status changes continuously and rapidly, and various medications and treatment modalities can cause falls [2,3]. Therefore, falls in acute care hospitals are a major challenge for healthcare providers who prioritize patient safety and require considerable care and attention from healthcare pro-

viders [3,4].

To prevent falls in hospitals, clinicians and researchers are continuing their efforts to identify factors related to falls while managing the known risk factors. Based on systematic reviews and current observational studies, recent clinical practice guidelines have reported that fall history (within the last 6 months), old age (>70 years), gender (man), disease-related changes such as movement restriction and an increase in gait problems, dementia- and cancer-specific factors, medications such as anticonvulsants, antipsychotics, and sedatives, and external risk factors are significant risk

Address reprint requests to : Kim, Sung Reul

College of Nursing, Korea University Nursing Research Institute, Korea University, Anam-ro 145, Seongbuk-gu, Seoul 02841, Korea

Tel: +82-2-3290-4929 Fax: +82-2-928-9108 E-mail: srkim74@korea.ac.kr

Received: October 5, 2023 Revised: February 8, 2024 Accepted: March 25, 2024 Published online May 7, 2024

This is an Open Access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution NoDerivs License. (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nd/4.0>)

If the original work is properly cited and retained without any modification or reproduction, it can be used and re-distributed in any format and medium.

factors for falls [5]. In a previous study comparing 447 fallers and 3,667 non-fallers admitted to an acute care hospital in South Korea, gender (man), low body mass index, defecation problems, gait problems, vision and hearing disturbances, and medications were reported as influencing factors for falls [6]. A systematic review of the risk factors associated with falls in non-ambulatory adults reported that the use of wheelchairs, changes in wheelchair setup and selection, performance of transfers, and impaired seated balance are risk factors for falls [7]. As described above, falls occurring in hospitals are characterized by the contribution of an individual patient's underlying disease, factors related to changes in the current disease, and risk factors related to the hospital environment.

Recently, patients' fall risk perception has become a promising new indicator for preventing falls [8]. Fall prevention and clinical management guidelines recommend incorporating patient perspectives as stakeholders in fall prevention and management [9]. Assessing patients' perceptions of their fall risk can help healthcare professionals provide fall interventions and understand their fall-related behaviors [10]. Thus, fall prevention and management interventions need to be consistently performed, focusing on helping patients actively participate in fall interventions as they adjust to their condition [8]. Falls are accidents that can mostly be prevented, and managing falls with only the effort and attention of healthcare professionals has its limitations [9]. Therefore, patient participation is emphasized because patients are the subjects of fall prevention interventions aimed at decreasing falls in medical institutions [11–13].

From this perspective, scales for assessing patients' fall risk perception, such as the falls risk perception questionnaire [14] and the fall risk self-assessment [15], are being developed and implemented. However, the falls risk perception questionnaire was developed for older community-dwelling adults with type 2 diabetes [14], and the fall risk self-assessment was developed for community-dwelling seniors [15]. Therefore, they do not reflect the characteristics of inpatients in acute care hospitals or their environmental characteristics.

Accordingly, we developed a fall risk perception question-

naire (FRPQ) comprising 27 questions regarding patients' fall risk perceptions in acute care hospitals [16]. However, this questionnaire has limitations in terms of quickly identifying patient perceptions of fall risk in clinical practice. The questionnaire took approximately 7–10 minutes to complete, and only exploratory factor analysis was performed when developing the scale. In an acute care hospital, various treatments are rapidly provided, and the patient's condition is unpredictable; therefore, the patient's fall risk can easily change. Therefore, evaluating fall risk repeatedly and rapidly, as assessed by healthcare professionals and perceived by patients, is necessary in acute care hospitals. This study aimed to develop a short version of the fall risk perception questionnaire (Short-FRPQ) to quickly evaluate fall risk perception in patients hospitalized for acute treatments that are easy to repeat.

METHODS

1. Study design

This was a methodological study to develop the Short-FRPQ using a cross-sectional design.

2. Study subject

The participants were inpatients in a tertiary acute care setting in Seoul, South Korea. This hospital is large, with approximately 2,700 beds where many patients with acute diseases are hospitalized and treated. The inclusion criteria were as follows: (1) age > 18 years, (2) no diagnosis of cognitive impairment, and (3) no history of falls during hospital stay. Falls were related to the hospitalization period; therefore, patients whose hospitalization period was less than two days were excluded.

To identify construct validity using confirmatory factor analysis (CFA), the number of study samples had to exceed 200 [17]. Considering the dropout rate, the required sample size was estimated to be 250. A total of 250 structured questionnaires were distributed, and four were excluded because of a large amount of missing data (response rate: 98.4%). A total of 246 questionnaires were analyzed.

3. Measurements

The scales used in this study were used after approval from the scale developers.

1) Fall risk perception questionnaire

The FRPQ was developed by Choi et al. [16] to measure fall risk perception among inpatients in an acute hospital. This scale comprises 27 items across three subdomains. Subdomain I included eight items and risk attributes related to individual mobility, such as general weakness and leg strength. Subdomain II included six items and risk attributes related to individual chronic conditions, such as vision and hearing difficulties. Finally, Subdomain III included 13 items and risk attributes related to the environment, such as disorganized surroundings and poor lighting in the room. Each item was rated on a 4-point Likert scale (0 = absolutely not true, 1 = not true, 2 = true, and 3 = absolutely true), with a total score ranging from 0 to 81. Higher scores indicated a higher fall risk perception. Cronbach's α was .95 in the original study [16] and .94 in this study.

2) Short version of the fall risk perception questionnaire

For the Short-FRPQ development, item generation was first performed through two content validity rounds based on the original scale (FRPQ). Through content validity rounding, attempts were made to group similar items or delete redundant items. Eight experts (two professors, two head nurses, two nurses with more than five years of clinical experience, one clinical nurse specialist, and one nursing team leader) participated in the content validity rounds. The experts had experience using or participating in the development of the original scale. In the first round, the item-level content validity index (I-CVI) coefficients were .50~1.00. Ten items of the FRPQ with I-CVI coefficients of less than .78 were deleted. The second round consisted of 17 items. After the 2nd CVI, the preliminary questions were presented with fourteen items, excluding three items with less than .78, I-CVI = .63~1.00, and scale-level content validity index (S-CVI) = .94. A pilot test was conducted with 20 inpatients for the preliminary questions of the Short-FRPQ to deter-

mine whether items that were not understood or words with difficult vocabulary had been included. None of the items, including sentences or phrases, were difficult to understand. Therefore, we confirmed the preliminary questions consisting of 14 items as the final questionnaire (Appendix 1, 2).

3) Korean Falls Efficacy Scale-International

The Korean version of the falls Efficacy Scale-International (KFES-I) was used to assess fall efficacy [18,19]. The KFES-I includes 16 items, each rated on a 4-point Likert scale. A higher KFES-I score indicates greater concern about falls. Cronbach's alpha for this scale was .96 in the original study [18] and .95 in the current study.

4) Morse Fall Scale

The Morse Fall Scale (MFS) was used to determine the risk of falling [20]. The MFS is commonly used to measure fall risk among inpatients in acute care hospitals [21,22]. This scale comprises six items: history of falling, secondary diagnosis, ambulatory aid, IV/heparin lock, gait/transfer, and mental status. The total scores ranged from 0 to 125, and the optimal cut-off value of the MFS for predicting falls was 45 in acute care [23]. In a systematic review and meta-analysis, the pooled sensitivity and specificity of MFS were .73 (95% confidence interval [CI], .68~.78) and .75 (95% CI, .74~.76) [24].

4. Data collection

Data were collected from February 14 to August 4, 2022. Data were collected from six registered nurses in six wards. To ensure consistent data collection, the researcher held training sessions for the nurses. Participants completed the FRPQ, Short-FRPQ, and KFES-I using a questionnaire. The nurses then completed and scored the MFS. Each participant took approximately 15~30 minutes to complete the questionnaires. The patients' demographic, clinical, and fall-related characteristics were also examined. Gender, and education level, and clinical were investigated. Fall-related characteristics, including fall occurrence, history of falls, sleep disturbance, urinary disturbance, and mobility problems, were examined. Comorbidities were assessed by allowing multiple

responses.

5. Data analysis

The data were analyzed using SPSS 27.0 (IBM Co.) and AMOS 23.0 (IBM Co.). Demographic, clinical, and fall-related characteristics were analyzed using descriptive statistics. Construct, convergent, and known-group validities were evaluated to determine the validity of the Short-FRPQ. Construct validity was determined using CFA and the discriminant validity of each item. The normed χ^2 ($\chi^2/\text{degrees of freedom}$, p), comparative fit index (CFI), Tucker–Lewis index (TLI), root mean square error of approximation (RMSEA), and standardized root mean square residual (SRMR) were used in the CFA to test the model. To test the goodness of fit, normed χ^2 values ≤ 3.0 indicated acceptable fit, and CFI and TLI values $\geq .90$ indicated good fit [25]. SRMR and RMSEA values between .05 and .08 indicated an acceptable fit [26]. A CFA model was then used to confirm the convergent and discriminant validity of the items. Standardized regression weights, average variance extracted (AVE), and composite reliability (CR) were used to establish the convergent validity of each item. The reference values were AVE of $\geq .50$, CR of $\geq .70$, and standardized regression weights of $\geq .50$. To test the discriminant validity of each item, the AVE values were compared with the square values of the correlation coefficients for each subdomain of the Short-FRPQ [26]. The convergent validity of the Short-FRPQ was tested using Pearson's correlation coefficients for associations among the FRPQ (I, II, III, and total), KFES-I, MFS, and Short-FRPQ subscales. Known-group validity was examined to test the differences in the Short-FRPQ scores between groups at risk and those not at risk of falling using the MFS. McDonald's omega coefficient was used to examine internal consistency. Statistical significance was set at $p = .050$.

6. Ethical considerations

This study was approved by the Asan Medical Center's Institutional Review Board (IRB No. 2022-0069). Written informed consent was obtained from all participants after explaining the aims and processes of the study. The participants were informed that they could stop participating at any

time.

RESULTS

1. Participants' demographic, clinical, and fall-related characteristics

Demographic, clinical, and fall-related characteristics of the participants are presented in Table 1. The mean age was 59.3 ± 13.9 , and 158 participants (64.2%) were men. The median hospitalized period was 6.0 days (interquartile range, 4.0–8.0), and hypertension (40.2%) was the most common comorbidity. Two falls occurred among the participants during the study period. When classified based on the MFS, 37.0% were classified into the fall-risk group (Table 1).

2. Validity of the Short-FRPQ

1) Construct validity

The data were fitted to a CFA measurement model. Unsatisfactory model fit indices ($\chi^2/\text{df} = 3.29$, CFI = .89, TLI = .87, RMSEA = .09, and SRMR = .07) were observed in the initial 3-factor model. After allowing for error covariance between items 12 and 13, which had the highest modification indices (MI) score of 25.17, the fit indices presented generally acceptable model fit indices ($\chi^2/\text{df} = 2.94$, CFI = .91, TLI = .90, RMSEA = .08, and SRMR = .07) (Table 2). The Short-FRPQ subscales had moderately strong intercorrelations, ranging from .51 to .70. The 14 items in the three subdomains had standardized regression weights that varied from .62 to .78. The AVE varied from .67 to .74. The CRs of the subdomains varied from .86 to .95. Consequently, the convergent validity of each item was verified. The discriminant validity of each item confirmed that the AVE values were higher than the squares of the correlation coefficients for each subdomain.

2) Convergent validity

The Short-FRPQ was significantly and positively correlated with the FRPQ, KFES-I, and MFS (Table 3). The total Short-FRPQ score was correlated with the total, I, II, and III scores of the FRPQ ($r = .87, p < .001$; $r = .74, p < .001$; $r = .71, p < .001$; and $r = .79, p < .001$, respectively), the

Table 1. Participants' Demographic, Clinical, and Fall-Related Characteristics (*N* = 246)

Variables	Categories	n (%) or Median (IQR) or Mean $\pm$ SD
Demographic characteristics		
Gender	Man	158 (64.2)
	Woman	88 (35.8)
Age (yr)		59.3 $\pm$ 13.9
	≤ 50	53 (21.5)
	51~60	50 (20.3)
	61~70	93 (37.9)
	≥ 71	50 (20.3)
Education level (<i>n</i> = 244)	$\leq$ Middle school	45 (18.4)
	High school	89 (36.5)
	$\geq$ College	110 (45.1)
Clinical characteristics		
Hospitalization period (d)		6.0 (4.0~8.0)
Department	Urology	92 (37.5)
	Orthopedics	80 (32.5)
	Surgery (gastrointestinal)	52 (21.1)
	Surgery (liver, biliary, pancreas, etc.)	18 (7.3)
	Others	4 (1.6)
Surgery during hospitalization	Yes	180 (73.2)
	No	66 (26.8)
Cancer	Yes	94 (38.2)
	No	152 (61.8)
Comorbidity [†]	Hypertension	99 (40.2)
	Diabetes mellitus	53 (21.5)
	Cardiovascular disease	26 (10.6)
	Pulmonary disease	21 (8.5)
	Chronic kidney disease	11 (4.5)
	Neurologic disease	8 (3.3)
	Eye problem	8 (3.3)
Number of medication		3.0 (1.0~6.0)
Fall-related characteristics		
Fall history before admission	Yes	7 (2.8)
	No	239 (97.2)
Sleep disturbance	Yes	11 (4.5)
	No	235 (95.5)
Urinary disturbance	Yes	36 (14.6)
	No	210 (85.4)
Mobility problems	Yes	91 (37.0)
	No	155 (63.0)

Table 1. Continued

Variables	Categories	n (%) or Median (IQR) or Mean $\pm$ SD
FRPQ	I	3.59 $\pm$ 4.65
	II	1.89 $\pm$ 2.74
	III	5.05 $\pm$ 5.83
	Total	10.50 $\pm$ 11.52
KFES-I score		24.80 $\pm$ 9.19
MFS score	Risk for falls (score $\geq$ 45)	91 (37.0)
	No risk for falls (score $<$ 45)	155 (63.0)

FRPQ = Fall risk perception questionnaire; KFES-I = Korean Falls Efficacy Scale-International; MFS = Morse Fall Scale; IQR = Interquartile range; SD = Standard deviation.

[†]Multiple response.

KFES-I ($r = .54$, $p < .001$), and the MFS ($r = .25$, $p < .001$), thereby establishing convergent validity. By subdomain of the Short-FRPQ, the Short-FRPQ I was correlated with the total, I, II, and III of the FRPQ, KFES-I, and MFS, and the Short-FRPQ II was correlated with the total, I, II, and III of the FRPQ, KFES-I, and MFS. Additionally, the Short-FRPQ III score correlated with the total, I, II, and III scores of the FRPQ and KFES-I.

3) Known-group validity

The total MFS scores were divided into two groups based on a previous study stating that the optimal cutoff value of the MFS for predicting falls was 45 in acute care hospitals [23]. The fall risk group had a significantly higher perceived fall risk according to the Short-FRPQ than the non-fall risk group ($t = 3.26$, $p = .001$). Therefore, the known-group validity of the Short-FRPQ was confirmed (Table 4).

3. Reliability and descriptive statistics of the Short-FRPQ

McDonald's omega coefficients for Short-FRPQ was .90 and ranged from .70 to .87 for the three subdomains (Table 5). The Short-FRPQ scores were 5.91 ± 5.97 ; 2.00 ± 2.74 for I of the Short-FRPQ, 1.03 ± 1.46 for II of the Short-FRPQ, and 2.30 ± 2.85 for III of the Short-FRPQ.

Table 2. Model Fit Test Results for the Short-FRPQ

Models	$\chi^2(p)$	χ^2/df	CFI	TLI	RMSEA	SRMR
Model A (original 3-factor model)	243.33 (< .001)	3.29	.89	.87	.09	.07
Model B (original 3-factor model with error covariance)	214.91 (< .001)	2.94	.91	.90	.08	.07

Short-FRPQ = Short version of the fall risk perception questionnaire; CFI = Comparative fit index; TLI = Tucker-Lewis index; RMSEA = Root mean square error of approximation; SRMR = Standardized root mean square residual.

Table 3. Correlation of Short-FRPQ with the FRPQ, KFES-I, and MFS ($N = 246$)

Variables	Short-FRPQ			
	I	II	III	Total
	$r(p)$			
FRPQ				
I	.83 (< .001)	.59 (< .001)	.46 (< .001)	.74 (< .001)
II	.65 (< .001)	.76 (< .001)	.48 (< .001)	.71 (< .001)
III	.56 (< .001)	.56 (< .001)	.83 (< .001)	.79 (< .001)
Total	.77 (< .001)	.70 (< .001)	.72 (< .001)	.87 (< .001)
KFES-I	.59 (< .001)	.39 (< .001)	.36 (< .001)	.54 (< .001)
MFS	.35 (< .001)	.26 (< .001)	.06 (.362)	.25 (< .001)

Short-FRPQ = Short version of the fall risk perception questionnaire; FRPQ = Fall risk perception questionnaire; KFES-I = Korean Falls Efficacy Scale-International; MFS = Morse Fall Scale.

Table 4. Known-Group Comparison of the Short-FRPQ Scores between the MFS Risk for Falls Group and the No-Risk for Falls Group ($N = 246$)

Groups	Short-FRPQ	
	Mean $\pm$ SD	t (p)
Risk for falls (MFS score $\geq$ 45)	7.03 $\pm$ 6.97	3.26 (.001)
No risk for falls (MFS score < 45)	4.30 $\pm$ 5.07	

Short-FRPQ = Short version of the fall risk perception questionnaire; MFS = Morse Fall Scale; SD = Standard deviation.

Table 5. Descriptive Statistics and Reliability of the Short-FRPQ

Short-FRPQ	Mean $\pm$ SD	Range	McDonald's omega
I	2.00 $\pm$ 2.74	0~15	.86
II	1.03 $\pm$ 1.46	0~9	.70
III	2.30 $\pm$ 2.85	0~13	.87
Total	5.91 $\pm$ 5.97	0~32	.90

Short-FRPQ = Short version of the fall risk perception questionnaire.

DISCUSSION

Falls are considered preventable safety problems, and the first step in their management is to assess the patient's fall risk. Therefore, an individualized, continuous, and repeatable strategy is required to assess fall risk under changing conditions [27]. In previous studies, nurses' fall risk assessment was primarily included as a first step in fall prevention [28,29]. Recently, studies on patient perceptions of fall risk have increased, and it is recommended that such recognition be performed together with nurses' fall risk assessments [9,10,30]. Furthermore, the patient's condition may change rapidly depending on the treatment administered after admission to an acute care setting, and patients should adapt to the hospital environment. Therefore, we aimed to develop a scale to evaluate patient perceptions of fall risk rapidly and repetitively in acute care hospitals.

In this study, the reliability-measured internal consistency was calculated using McDonald's omega coefficient. McDonald's omega coefficients can be used for both unidimensional

and multidimensional scales, whereas Cronbach's alpha has been reported to be suitable for unidimensional scales [31–33]. As the difference between McDonald's omega coefficients and Cronbach's alpha has been reported [32], studies reporting reliability using McDonald's omega coefficients have increased [34,35]. Additionally, McDonald's omega coefficients can help with brief form construction by removing items from a longer scale [31]. Therefore, we decided it would be more appropriate to use McDonald's omega coefficients for internal consistency in this study.

In this study, McDonald's omega coefficients of the Short-FRPQ were .90, .86, .70, and .87 for the total, I, II, and III, respectively. Although the interpretation criteria of McDonald's omega vary depending on the study, the values were mentioned as excellent (.93~.94), strong (.91~.93), and reliable (.84~.90), and a value of .70 or greater is considered acceptable [31]. In this study, McDonald's omega values for the Short-FRPQ were greater than .70, indicating good reli-

ability. In future research on the development of scales with multidimensional properties, it would be desirable to calculate the internal consistency using McDonald's omega coefficients.

This study confirmed the construct, convergent, and known-group validity of the Short-FRPQ. In this study, the construct validity of the two models—the original three-factor model and the three-factor model with error correlation—was tested by calculating the goodness-of-fit indices of the measurement models using CFA. The three-factor model with error correlation demonstrated reasonable goodness-of-fit and was selected as the final model for this investigation. The MI offered by AMOS suggested that when fitting the models, one should permit error covariance between the two environmental-related items, “I am at risk of falling because the lighting in the patient room is too low (item 12)” and “I am at risk of falling because the hospital environment is unfamiliar (item 13)”. Justifying the error correlation between pairs of items is acceptable because it frequently denotes perceived repetition in item content or nonrandom errors because of technique impacts [26,36]. The inclusion of an error correlation between the two items was justified because they reflected the similarities evoked by the hospital's physical environment in the fall risk set. Therefore, further investigation should be conducted to assess the environmental subdomain, which revealed an error correlation between items 12 and 13.

For convergent validity, we analyzed the correlations among the Short-FRPQ, FRPQ, KFES-I, and MFS. The Short-FRPQ displayed a strong correlation with the FRPQ, and the scale was significantly correlated with the KFES-I and MFS scores. These findings are consistent with the fact that the FRPQ scores correlated with the KFES-I and MFS scores in the original scale development study [16]. Furthermore, the Short-FRPQ I, Short-FRPQ II, and Short-FRPQ III had the highest correlations with FRPQ I, FRPQ II, and FRPQ III, respectively. Therefore, we confirmed the convergent validity of the Short-FRPQ.

For known-group validity using the MFS, a statistically significant difference was observed in the Short-FRPQ scores between the fall and non-fall risk groups. This finding is consistent with the statistically significant difference in

FRPQ scores between the fall and non-fall-risk groups in the original scale development study [16]. Therefore, we confirmed the known-group validity of the Short-FRPQ.

The limitations of this study are as follows: First, the original study mainly included patients in the gastroenterology ward. Therefore, we attempted to include participants with a variety of diseases in this study, including orthopedic diseases, in which falls frequently occur [37]. Data were collected from six wards of an acute care hospital. Two-thirds of the participants underwent surgery, and the number of patients receiving medical treatment was relatively small. A previous study reported that a surgical specialty decreases the risk of falls [2]. Therefore, fewer individuals at a high risk of falling may have been included in the study. Further studies that include participants with various diseases and studies that equally include those who received surgical and medical treatment are needed for more well-rounded research. Second, the scale did not derive criterion validity based on fall occurrence because of the low number of falls.

When providing interventions for fall management and prevention, understanding patients' perceptions and views of falls is important. In addition to the fall risk assessment by healthcare professionals using a scale with established validity, the assessment of a patient's fall risk perception should be conducted systematically.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the Short-FRPQ presented good reliability and validity. Patient perceptions of fall risk should be assessed using a fall risk recognition scale that can be used rapidly and repeatedly in acute care hospitals. As the risk of falls in patients admitted to an acute care hospital is constantly changing because of rapid changes in their disease, medications, and treatment procedures, healthcare professionals should pay close attention to fall prevention in inpatients. The perception of fall risk is a promising new indicator for preventing falls, and the patients' perceived fall risk should be considered along with the assessment of fall risk factors. As using a scale for the quick assessment of fall risk perception can potentially help prevent falls in hospital set-

tings, it should be included in fall prevention interventions across all hospital setups. This proactive approach can significantly contribute to enhancing patient care and preventing falls.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Kim, Sung Reul and Kim, Hye Young have been the Editorial Board Members of JKAN between 2020 and 2023 but have no role in the review process. Except for that, no potential conflict of interest relevant to this article was reported.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

None.

FUNDING

This work was supported by the Basic Science Research Program through the National Research Foundation of Korea (NRF) grant funded by the Korea government (Ministry of Science and ICT) [NRF-2021R1F1A1048955]. The funding source was not involved in the study design, data collection, analysis, interpretation of results, preparation of the manuscript, or decision to publish.

DATA SHARING STATEMENT

Please contact the corresponding author for data availability.

AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

Conceptualization or/and Methodology: Choi J & Lee S & Park E & Ku S & Kim SW & Yu W & Jeong E & Park S & Park Y & Kim H & Kim SR.

Data curation or/and Analysis: Choi J & Lee S & Park E & Ku S & Kim SW & Yu W & Jeong E & Park Y & Kim H & Kim SR.

Funding acquisition: Kim SR.

Investigation: Choi J & Lee S & Park E & Ku S & Kim

SW & Yu W & Jeong E & Park S.

Project administration or/and Supervision: Choi J & Park S & Kim SR.

Resources or/and Software: Choi J & Park Y & Kim H & Kim SR.

Validation: Choi J & Lee S & Park E & Ku S & Kim SW & Yu W & Jeong E & Park S & Park Y & Kim H & Kim SR.

Visualization: Choi J & Park Y & Kim H & Kim SR.

Writing original draft or/and Review & Editing: Choi J & Lee S & Park E & Ku S & Kim SW & Yu W & Jeong E & Park S & Park Y & Kim H & Kim SR.

REFERENCES

1. LeLaurin JH, Shorr RI. Preventing falls in hospitalized patients: State of the science. *Clinics in Geriatric Medicine*. 2019;35(2):273–283. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cger.2019.01.007>
2. Heikkilä A, Lehtonen L, Junttila K. Fall rates by specialties and risk factors for falls in acute hospital: A retrospective study. *Journal of Clinical Nursing*. 2023;32(15–16):4868–4877. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jocn.16594>
3. Zhao YL, Kim H. Older adult inpatient falls in acute care hospitals: Intrinsic, extrinsic, and environmental factors. *Journal of Gerontological Nursing*. 2015;41(7):29–43; quiz 44–45.
4. Spano-Szekely L, Winkler A, Waters C, Dealmeida S, Brandt K, Williamson M, et al. Individualized fall prevention program in an acute care setting: An evidence-based practice improvement. *Journal of Nursing Care Quality*. 2019;34(2):127–132. <https://doi.org/10.1097/NCQ.0000000000000344>
5. Schoberer D, Breimaier HE, Zuschneegg J, Findling T, Schaffer S, Archan T. Fall prevention in hospitals and nursing homes: Clinical practice guideline. *Worldviews on Evidence-Based Nursing*. 2022;19(2):86–93. <https://doi.org/10.1111/wvn.12571>
6. Choi EJ, Lee YS, Yang EJ, Kim JH, Kim YH, Park HA. Characteristics and risk factors for falls in tertiary hospital inpatients. *Journal of Korean Academy of Nursing*. 2017;47(3):420–430. <https://doi.org/10.4040/jkan.2017.47.3.420>
7. Rice LA, Ousley C, Sosnoff JJ. A systematic review of risk factors associated with accidental falls, outcome measures and interventions to manage fall risk in non-ambulatory adults. *Disability and Rehabilitation*. 2015;37(19):1697–1705. <https://doi.org/10.3109/09638288.2014.976718>
8. Solares NP, Calero P, Connelly CD. Patient perception of fall

- risk and fall risk screening scores. *Journal of Nursing Care Quality*. 2023;38(2):100–106.
<https://doi.org/10.1097/NCQ.0000000000000645>
9. Dabkowski E, Cooper S, Duncan JR, Missen K. Adult inpatients' perceptions of their fall risk: A scoping review. *Healthcare*. 2022;10(6):995.
<https://doi.org/10.3390/healthcare10060995>
 10. Dabkowski E, Cooper SJ, Duncan JR, Missen K. Exploring hospital inpatients' awareness of their falls risk: A qualitative exploratory study. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*. 2022;20(1):454.
<https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph20010454>
 11. Opsahl AG, Ebright P, Cangany M, Lowder M, Scott D, Shaner T. Outcomes of adding patient and family engagement education to fall prevention bundled interventions. *Journal of Nursing Care Quality*. 2017;32(3):252–258.
<https://doi.org/10.1097/NCQ.0000000000000232>
 12. Reuben DB, Gazarian P, Alexander N, Araujo K, Baker D, Bean JF, et al. The strategies to reduce injuries and develop confidence in elders intervention: Falls risk factor assessment and management, patient engagement, and nurse co-management. *Journal of the American Geriatrics Society*. 2017;65(12):2733–2739. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jgs.15121>
 13. Tzeng HM, Yin CY. Patient engagement in hospital fall prevention. *Nursing Economics*. 2015;33(6):326–334.
 14. Gravesande J, Richardson J, Griffith L, Scott F. Test-retest reliability, internal consistency, construct validity and factor structure of a falls risk perception questionnaire in older adults with type 2 diabetes mellitus: A prospective cohort study. *Archives of Physiotherapy*. 2019;9:14.
<https://doi.org/10.1186/s40945-019-0065-4>
 15. Vivrette RL, Rubenstein LZ, Martin JL, Josephson KR, Kramer BJ. Development of a fall-risk self-assessment for community-dwelling seniors. *Journal of Aging and Physical Activity*. 2011;19(1):16–29.
<https://doi.org/10.1123/japa.19.1.16>
 16. Choi J, Choi SM, Lee JS, Seo SS, Kim JY, Kim HY, et al. Development and validation of the fall risk perception questionnaire for patients in acute care hospitals. *Journal of Clinical Nursing*. 2021;30(3–4):406–414.
<https://doi.org/10.1111/jocn.15550>
 17. Kyriazos TA. Applied psychometrics: Sample size and sample power considerations in factor analysis (EFA, CFA) and SEM in general. *Psychology*. 2018;9(8):2207–2230.
<https://doi.org/10.4236/psych.2018.98126>
 18. Yardley L, Beyer N, Hauer K, Kempen G, Piot-Ziegler C, Todd C. Development and initial validation of the Falls Efficacy Scale-International (FES-I). *Age and Ageing*. 2005;34(6):614–619. <https://doi.org/10.1093/ageing/afi196>
 19. Park GB, Cho BL, Kwon IS, Park BJ, Kim T, Cho KY, et al. Reliability and validity of Korean version of Falls Efficacy Scale-International (KFES-I). *Journal of the Korean Academy of Rehabilitation Medicine*. 2010;34(5):554–559.
 20. Morse JM, Morse RM, Tylko SJ. Development of a scale to identify the fall-prone patient. *Canadian Journal on Aging*. 1989;8(4):366–377.
<https://doi.org/10.1017/S0714980800008576>
 21. Sung YH, Cho MS, Kwon IG, Jung YY, Song MR, Kim K, et al. Evaluation of falls by inpatients in an acute care hospital in Korea using the Morse Fall Scale. *International Journal of Nursing Practice*. 2014;20(5):510–517.
<https://doi.org/10.1111/ijn.12192>
 22. Jewell VD, Capistran K, Flecky K, Qi Y, Fellman S. Prediction of falls in acute care using the Morse Fall Risk Scale. *Occupational Therapy in Health Care*. 2020;34(4):307–319.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/07380577.2020.1815928>
 23. Bagui S, Long T, Bagui S. Selecting the optimal Morse Falls Scale cut-off point for patient fall risk. *Health*. 2019;11(7):924–931. <https://doi.org/10.4236/health.2019.117074>
 24. Park SH, Kim EK. Systematic review and meta-analysis for usefulness of fall risk assessment tools in adult inpatients. *Korean Journal of Health Promotion*. 2016;16(3):180–191.
<https://doi.org/10.15384/kjhp.2016.16.3.180>
 25. Hair JF Jr, Black WC, Babin BJ, Anderson RE. *Multivariate data analysis*. 7th ed. Pearson; 2010. p. 1–816.
 26. Kim GS. *Analysis structural equation modeling*. Hannarae Publishing Co; 2010. p. 1–663.
 27. Kim YJ, Choi KO, Cho SH, Kim SJ. Validity of the Morse Fall Scale and the Johns Hopkins Fall Risk Assessment Tool for fall risk assessment in an acute care setting. *Journal of Clinical Nursing*. 2022;31(23–24):3584–3594.
<https://doi.org/10.1111/jocn.16185>
 28. Matarese M, Ivziku D, Bartolozzi F, Piredda M, De Marinis MG. Systematic review of fall risk screening tools for older patients in acute hospitals. *Journal of Advanced Nursing*. 2015;71(6):1198–1209. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jan.12542>
 29. Montero-Odasso MM, Kamkar N, Pieruccini-Faria F, Osman A, Sarquis-Adamson Y, Close J, et al. Evaluation of clinical practice guidelines on fall prevention and management for older adults: A systematic review. *JAMA Network Open*. 2021;4(12):e2138911.
<https://doi.org/10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2021.38911>
 30. Chang WP, Jen HJ, Huang TW. A retrospective cross-sectional study on the risk factors of recurrent falls among inpatients. *Journal of Nursing Care Quality*. 2022;37(2):E31–E37.
<https://doi.org/10.1097/NCQ.0000000000000585>
 31. Hayes AF, Coutts JJ. Use Omega rather than Cronbach's alpha for estimating reliability. *But.... Communication Methods and Measures*. 2020;14(1):1–24.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/19312458.2020.1718629>

32. Dunn TJ, Baguley T, Brunsden V. From alpha to omega: A practical solution to the pervasive problem of internal consistency estimation. *British Journal of Psychology*. 2014;105(3):399–412. <https://doi.org/10.1111/bjop.12046>
33. McDonald RP. *Test theory: A unified treatment*. Psychology Press; 1999. p. 1–498.
34. Hansen CF, Madsen MØ, Warming S, Lind M, Faunø P, Rathcke MW, et al. Pedi-IKDC exhibits questionable measurement properties in a cohort of pediatric patients with ACL rupture. *Scandinavian Journal of Medicine and Science in Sports*. 2023;33(9):1831–1840. <https://doi.org/10.1111/sms.14413>
35. Campo-Arias A, Caamaño-Rocha L, Pedrozo-Pupo JC. Spanish version of the Attitude towards COVID-19 Vaccines Scale: Reliability and validity assessment. *Journal of Nursing Measurement*. 2023;31(2):219–229. <https://doi.org/10.1891/JNM-2021-0044>
36. Byrne BM, Baron P, Campbell TL. Measuring adolescent depression: Factorial validity and invariance of the Beck Depression Inventory across gender. *Journal of Research on Adolescence*. 1993;3(2):127–143.
37. Kobayashi K, Ando K, Inagaki Y, Suzuki Y, Nagao Y, Ishiguro N, et al. Characteristics of falls in orthopedic patients during hospitalization. *Nagoya Journal of Medical Science*. 2018;80(3):341–349. <https://doi.org/10.18999/nagjms.80.3.341>

Appendix 1. The Final Version of the Korean Short-FRPQ

다음은 낙상위험에 대하여 어느 정도 지각하는지에 대한 질문입니다. 해당하는 곳에 V표 해 주십시오.

	전혀 그렇지 않다	조금 그렇다	중간 정도로 그렇다	매우 그렇다
1. 나는 낙상한 경험이 있어 낙상위험이 있다.	0	1	2	3
2. 나는 전신쇠약으로 인해 낙상위험이 있다.	0	1	2	3
3. 나는 걸음걸이가 불안정하고 균형을 잘 못 잡기 때문에 낙상위험이 있다.	0	1	2	3
4. 나는 시력 또는 청력이 좋지 않아 낙상위험이 있다.	0	1	2	3
5. 나는 어지러움이 있어 낙상위험이 있다.	0	1	2	3
6. 나는 밤 동안 화장실에 가기 때문에 낙상위험이 있다.	0	1	2	3
7. 나는 이동 시 사람 또는 보조기구 도움이 필요하기 때문에 낙상위험이 있다.	0	1	2	3
8. 나는 다음과 같은 약물을 복용하기 때문에 낙상위험이 있다. (고혈압 약, 당뇨 약, 수면제, 항우울제, 진정제, 항정신신경용제 등, 진통제, 이뇨제, 대변 완화제)	0	1	2	3
9. 나는 침대의 높이가 높아 낙상위험이 있다.	0	1	2	3
10. 나는 복잡한 병실 내 환경(의자, 보호자침대, 커튼, 전선코드, 개인물품 등)으로 인해 낙상위험이 있다.	0	1	2	3
11. 나는 수액 줄, 이동식 수액걸이로 인해 낙상위험이 있다.	0	1	2	3
12. 나는 병실이 어두워서 낙상위험이 있다.	0	1	2	3
13. 나는 병원의 낯선 환경으로 인해 낙상위험이 있다.	0	1	2	3
14. 나는 미끄러운 병원 바닥으로 인해 낙상위험이 있다.	0	1	2	3

FRPQ = Fall risk prevention questionnaire.

Appendix 2. The Final Version of the Short-FRPQ

I am at risk of falling because _____.

Items	Absolutely not true	Not true	True	Absolutely true
1. I have experiences of falling in the past.	0	1	2	3
2. I have general weakness.	0	1	2	3
3. I feel unsteady on my feet and have poor balance.	0	1	2	3
4. I have poor vision or hearing.	0	1	2	3
5. I feel dizzy.	0	1	2	3
6. I need to go to the bathroom at night.	0	1	2	3
7. I need a person or walking aids when moving.	0	1	2	3
8. I take the following medications: _____. (Antihypertensive, diabetes medicine, sleeping pill, antidepressant or antipsychotic, analgesic, diuretic, or laxative).	0	1	2	3
9. The bed is too high.	0	1	2	3
10. The environment in the patient room (chairs, guardian beds, curtains, power cords, or personal items) is disorganized.	0	1	2	3
11. I use medical devices such as IV tubing and an IV pole.	0	1	2	3
12. The lighting in the patient room is too low.	0	1	2	3
13. The environment of the hospital is unfamiliar.	0	1	2	3
14. The floor of the hospital is slippery.	0	1	2	3

FRPQ = Fall risk prevention questionnaire.