Home Safety Assessment Screening Tool

NEIGHBORHOOD
- Elements of high crime
- Poor street lighting
- Noise
- Inaccessible or inadequate services (transportation, shops, pharmacy, emergency response system)

OUTSIDE THE HOME
- Hazardous steps (in disrepair, need nonskid surfaces and/or bright paint)
- Hand rails missing
- Proper markings lacking to identify the home
- Inadequate lighting for entering at night
- Location of nearest neighbor

INSIDE THE HOME
- Inadequate internal lighting and windows
- Inadequate size of living space
- Dirty, cluttered floors
- Slippery floors (or scatter rugs, high-pile carpets)
- Loose electrical cords
- Furnishings with sharp corners
- Telephone is beyond easy reach
- Gas/electric utilities, heating and air conditioning, hot water heater (with accessible and legible controls)
- Stairs (lighting, rails, secure carpeting)

BEDROOM
- Bed was not slept in last night
- Head of bed needs to be elevated
- Bed too low (height should measure 18 inches from floor to mattress)
- Evidence of incontinence (need for a commode?)
- Light switches are inaccessible
- Presence of an unused walker
- Lighting, night lights

BATHROOM
- Needs raised, cushioned toilet seat?
- Needs double-rail assistive device for toilet?
- Needs non-slip floor surfaces, bath chair, grab bars and shower hose for tub?

KITCHEN
- Inadequate contents of refrigerator and cabinets
- Gas stove may be hazard for gas leaks
- Frequently used dishes and utensils are beyond easy reach
- Chairs with low backs, no arms, or with casters may tip
- Pedestal table may tip
- Food, water, or medications are beyond easy reach

GENERAL
- Smoke detectors? fire extinguishers?
- No communication system with central monitor
- Tell-tale odors (e.g. urine, alcohol)
- Lock missing on basement cellar doors
- Pets (cared for and fed, safe?)