

Enhancing Patient Safety Through Implementation and Utilisation of LifeNet in a Private Healthcare Setting

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HASA QUALITY SUMMIT AND CONFERENCE 2026

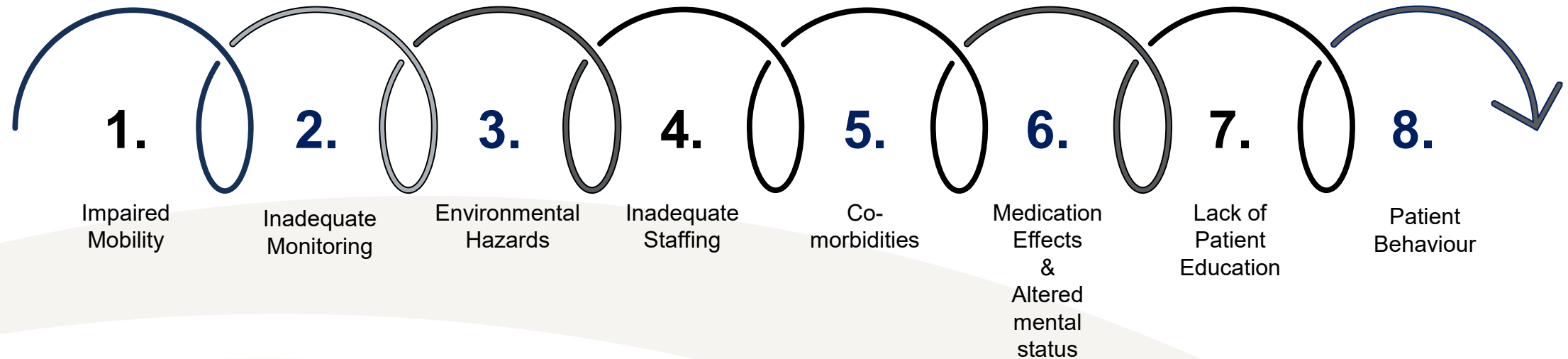
Introduction

- Patient falls are a major patient safety concern impacting quality and clinical outcomes.
- A fall prevention solution was implemented as a strategic quality initiative to address adverse events and strengthen bedside safety.
- The intervention aims to reduce patient falls, enhance safety and support the delivery of high-quality patient care.

Aim / Objective

- To implement the LifeNet as a patient fall prevention strategy, enhancing patient safety by minimising risk and occurrence of falls at the bedside.
- To improve patient safety and outcomes, reduce fall related injuries and associated costs through a measurable reduction in fall-related morbidity and mortality.

Causes of Patient Falls



Introducing the LifeNet

01

Novel and innovative approach.
Addresses patient falls and
unassisted bed exits.
Used in acute facilities.

02

Crafted as an elasticated net.
Strategically installed around the
perimeter of the bed.
Encapsulates the bedrails and end of
the bed.
Forms a cocoon-like structure which
mitigates the risk of patient falls –
maintains patient dignity.

03

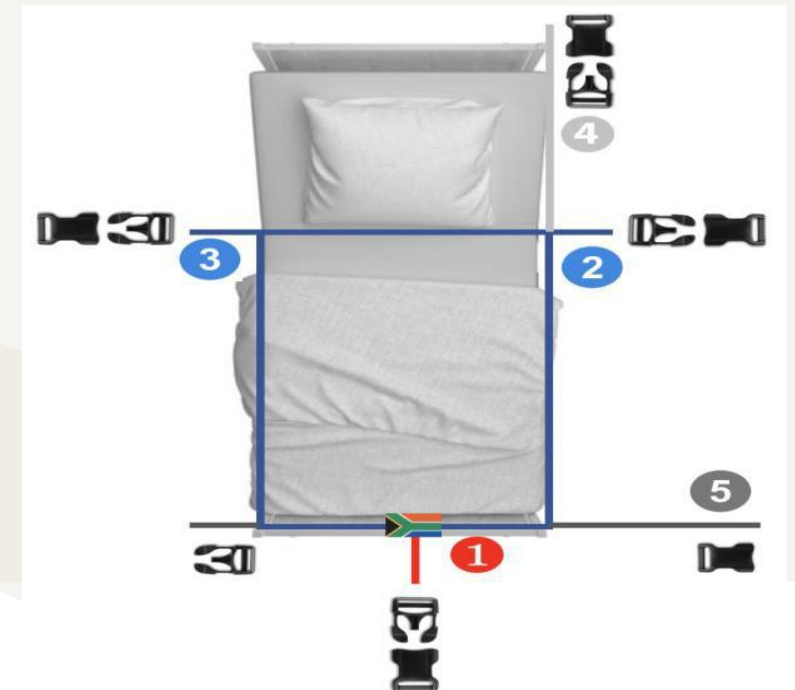
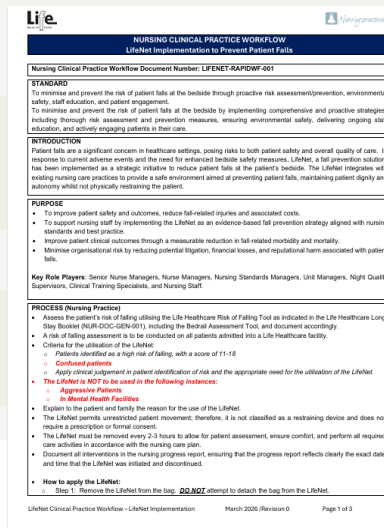
LifeNet seamlessly integrates into
the bed surroundings.
Net forms a secure fit.
Easily removed in an emergency.
Nylon straps and engineered clips
ensure attachment to the bedframe.
The storage bag is designed to
protect the net and clips during
cleaning.

Summary

- LifeNet was introduced as a patient fall prevention strategy at a private hospital in the Western Cape.
- Piloted from November 2024 to mid 2025.
- Trend analysis demonstrated a reduction in fall-related adverse events, which indicated a positive impact on patient safety outcomes.
- Presented at the 2025 Nursing Leadership Conference.
- Approved for national implementation across all acute facilities within the healthcare group.
- National implementation occurred in May 2026.

LifeNet Implementation

- A Nursing Practice Rapid Clinical Workflow was developed.
- Criteria for utilisation was developed and included in the Clinical Workflow:
 - Patients identified as a high risk of falling, with a falling score of 11-18
 - Confused patients
- A training PowerPoint presentation was developed and presented.



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LifeNet Visuals

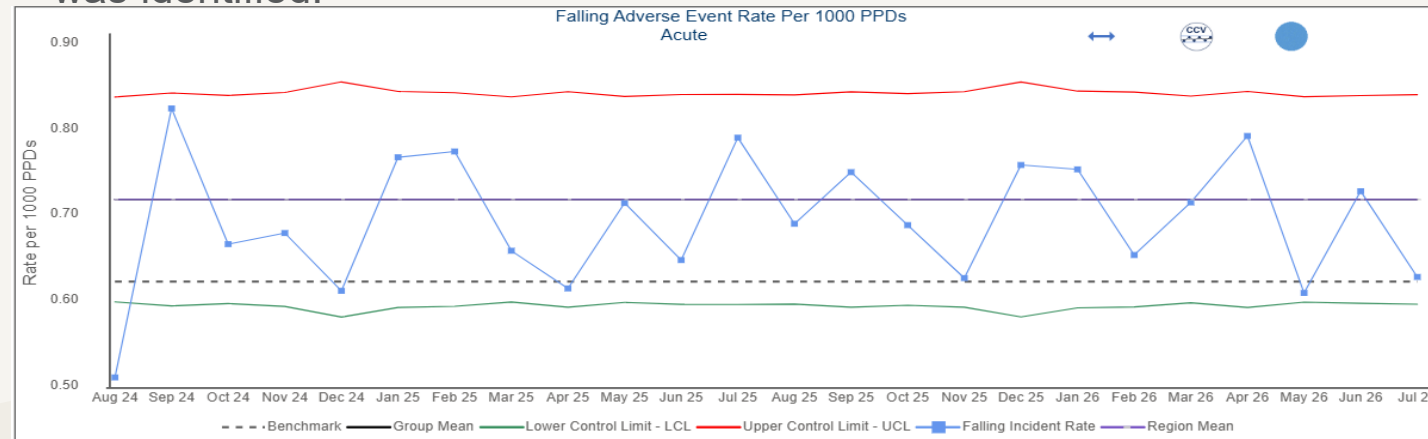


Method

- No formal Qualitative evaluation was conducted.
- A post-implementation survey was conducted.
- Distributed to 40 facilities to access user experience, perceived effectiveness and opportunities for improvement.

Results

- Following the Implementation of the LifeNet in May 2026 the following impact on the falling adverse event rate was identified.



- Initial reduction of 0,61 / 1000PPDs
- A slight increase of 0,12 / 1000PPDs in June 2026
- A decrease of 0,10 /1000 PPDs occurred in July 2026

- Post Implementation survey feedback received from 38 of 40 facilities:
 - Average of 60% of respondents were satisfied with the LifeNet as a fall prevention strategy.
 - 74% of respondents stated that staff perception of patient safety related to patient falls had changed
 - 83% of respondents stated that the training received was adequate
 - 72% of respondents stated that the LifeNet fitted all types of beds

Limitations

- Feedback was influenced by product related challenges.
- Limited time for survey completion post implementation.
- Dr adoption influenced the utilisation of the net

Areas for Improvement

- Quality of the net to be improved.
- Improve the securing clips (stronger clips).
- Strengthen the securing straps.
- Criteria for the use to be changed to exclude patients on pressure relieving mattresses.

Conclusion

- LifeNet is an effective fall prevention tool for use in acute patients to prevent bedside falls.
- The initiative contributed positively to patient safety and fall prevention supporting wider implementation.
- Opportunities for product improvement have been identified and changes made by the supplier.

References

- Fourie.C, Strauss.C. 2026. *Implementing CareNet to Reduce Bed-Related Falls Among Hospitalised Patients in a Selected Private Healthcare Facility.* Unpublished.

Thank You!



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