Sex Specific Analysis of the Vulnerable Elders Survey as a Predictor of Falls.

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ED patients aged ≥65 were eligible for the study if they had a mechanical fall risk defined by falling within the last year, worrying about falling, or feeling unsteady when standing or walking. After enrollment, a VES-13 screening was completed. A score of ≥3 was considered a positive screening score for vulnerability. Participants received a six week follow-up call six weeks later, and were queried about their fall history. Overall and sex specific fall outcomes were compared.

CONCLUSIONS:

While there were some sex specific differences, subjects who had a VES-13 score of ≥3 were statistically no more likely to have fallen at 6 weeks than those with a score of <3. Alternative screening methods for fall risk must be contemplated.