

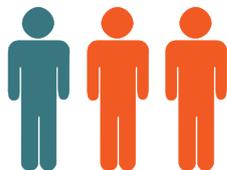
FACTS ON FALLS

Why is preventing falls and minimising the harm caused by falls important?



Falls have significant physical and emotional impacts on older people:

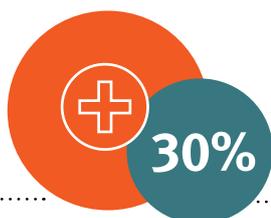
1 in 3 older people have a fall each year



The number of **hip fractures** resulting from a fall in Australia is expected to **double by 2026** and **increase fourfold by 2051**.

40%

of older people have multiple falls



of those who fall require medical attention

Ageing population

resulting in:



Falls and fall related injury will be a major health issue for health systems throughout the developed world.



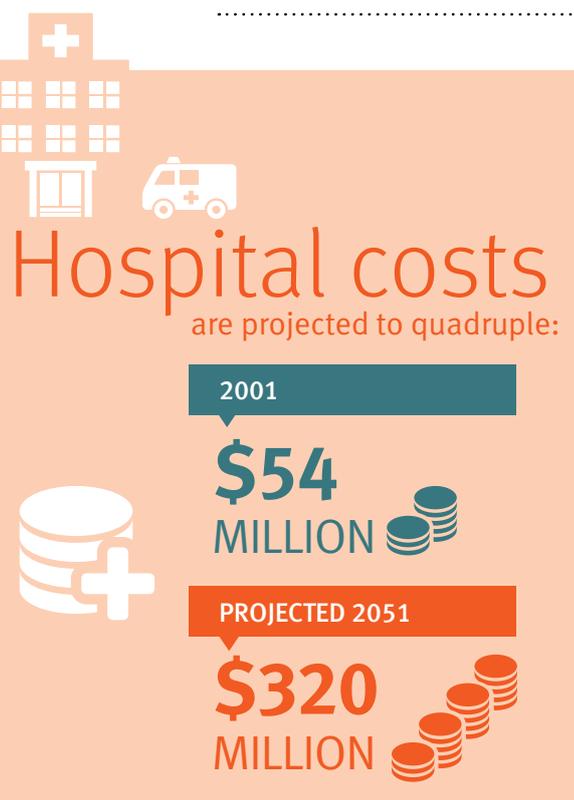
The number of people aged 65 years and older in Queensland is expected to more than triple in the next 20 to 50 years.



The issue of falls will grow as the population ages.



Unless effective preventative strategies are put in place, the cost of care and services associated with fall related injury in older people will absorb a significant proportion of the increased spending on the health of older people.



Queensland already spends more than twice as much on the treatment of falls in older people than on victims of road traffic crashes.

\$\$\$\$ FALLS

\$\$ ROAD TRAFFIC CRASHES

Stay Strong, Stay Safe, Stay On Your Feet®

AIHW: Bradley C 2013. Hospitalisations due to falls by older people, Australia 2009–10. Injury research and statistics series no. 70. Cat. no. INJ/CAT 146. Canberra: AIHW. NARI (National Ageing and Research Institute) (2004). An analysis of Research on Preventing Falls and Falls Injury in Older People: Community, residential Care and Hospital Settings (2004) update, Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing, Injury Prevention Section. Health.qld.gov.au, (2015). Preventing falls - Stay On Your Feet. [online] Available at: <http://www.health.qld.gov.au/stayonyourfeet/facts/preventing-falls.asp> [Accessed 29 May 2015].