## FINDING OUR BALANCE PREVENT SLIPS, TRIPS & STUMBLES



## simple ways to prevent falls and maintain your independence when you age

1	<b>Keep moving</b> Find an exercise class near you and work on improving balance and strength. Bring a friend!
2	<b>Talk to your health care provider</b> Tell them about any recent falls and review your medication to make sure side effects aren't increasing your risk of falling.
3	<b>Keep your home safe</b> Remove trip hazards like cords and furniture; increase lighting in dark spaces; and install railings on both sides of stairs and grab bars in areas like the bathroom.
4	<b>Get your vision and hearing</b> <b>checked annually</b> Eye disease and normal aging can make it difficult to judge distances or see hazards.
5	<b>Talk to your family</b> and enlist their help to stay safe. Falls are not just an issue for older adults.

For more information about what YOU can do to prevent falls visit <u>doh.wa.gov/findingourbalance</u>.



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