MOTIVATIONAL INTERVIEWING (MI) FOR FALL RISK MANAGEMENT

Empower patients to take charge of fall-risk behaviors

FOUNDATIONAL PRINCIPLES OF MI





ROLL WITH RESISTANCE

Avoid arguing; resistance is a signal to change your communication strategy.





CORE COMMUNICATION STRATEGIES (OARS)

Technique	Purpose & Example
Open-ended Questions (O)	Explore the person's thoughts and motivations E.g. "What concerns do you have about falling?"
Affirmations (A)	Highlight strengths. E.g. "You've done a great job staying active."
Reflections (R)	Show understanding. E.g. "It sounds like you're unsure if using a walker will help."
Summaries (S)	Reinforce key points and encourage next steps. E.g. "Let me summarize what we've talked about."



SCALING QUESTIONS

Help patients consider importance, confidence, and readiness for change.

- On a scale of O-10, how important is it to you to prevent falls?
- Why are you at __ and not a O?
- What would it take to move up one point?

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HELPFUL REFLECTIVE STATEMENTS

- It seems like you're worried about losing independence
- What I hear you saying is that maintaining balance is harder now.
- You recognize that staying mobile is important to you.
- You believe that exercising might bring risk.

