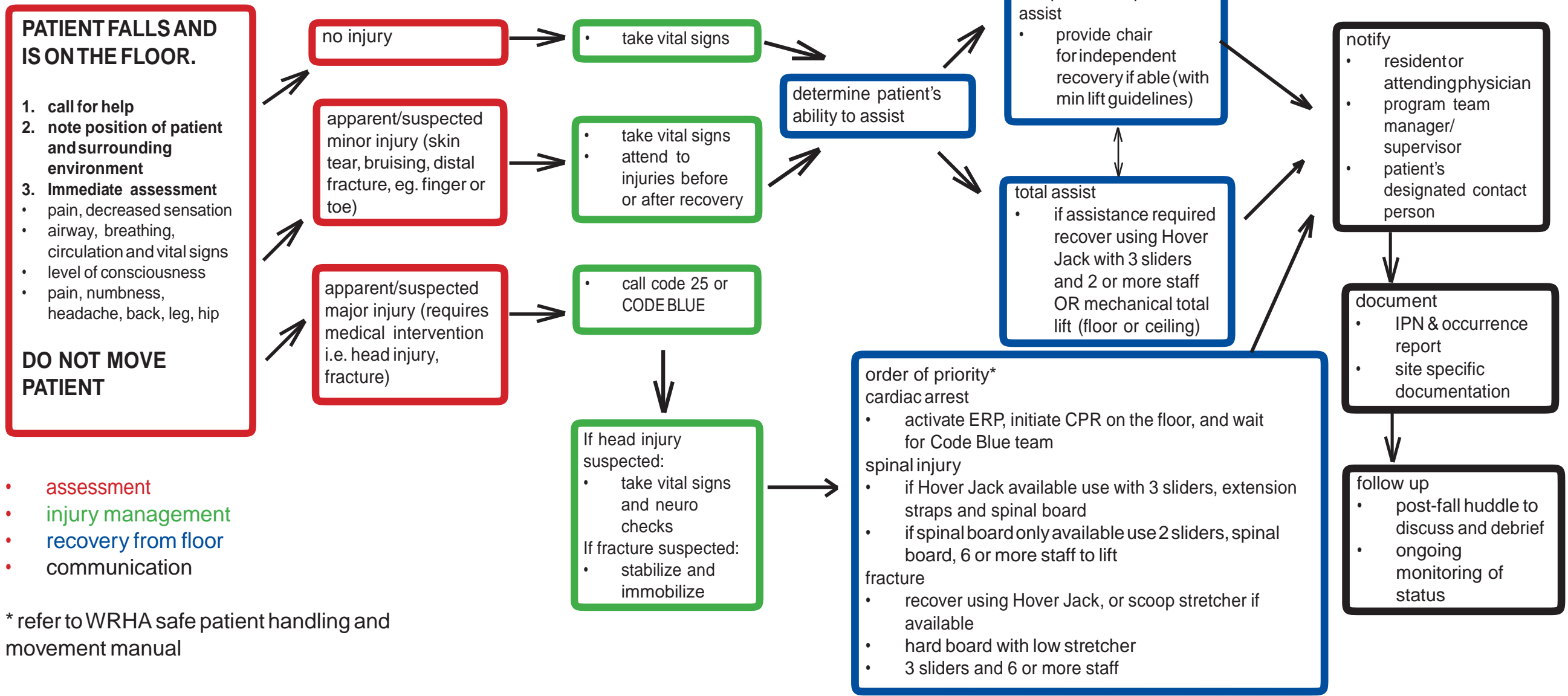


ACUTE CARE SITES post fall assessment and management algorithm



- assessment
- injury management
- recovery from floor
- communication

* refer to WRHA safe patient handling and movement manual

Who should use the post fall assessment and management algorithm? the algorithm can be initiated by any employee (in-patient and out-patient) that sees the patient falling or finds the patient on the floor.

How should the algorithm be completed?

Step 1: assessment includes the environment and the patient | the first responder is encouraged not to move the patient

Step 2: before recovering from floor, some injuries may require attention, which can be performed at floor level

Step 3: goal is to recover the patient from the floor and return them to a more comfortable situation | this process should be a thought-out approach, which will ensure the safety of the patient and staff equally

Step 4: first line of notification is the attending physician, program team manager/supervisor and the patient's designated contact person | onto the permanent record (IPN & occurrence report), document the when, how and why - including any site specific documentation | document in the IPN if a post huddle occurred, who participated and any changes to the patient care plan

Note: if a fracture is suspected, do not use a mechanical lift to transfer patient from the floor.