

## **Benchmarking predicting tools for falls in older adults**

ITU/PAHO Webinar - Decade of healthy aging: role of digital technologies  
Session 1: Healthy Aging in the Digital Age

Pierpaolo Palumbo

University of Bologna

TG Falls – ITU/WHO FGAI4H

# Overview

Falls and fall prevention

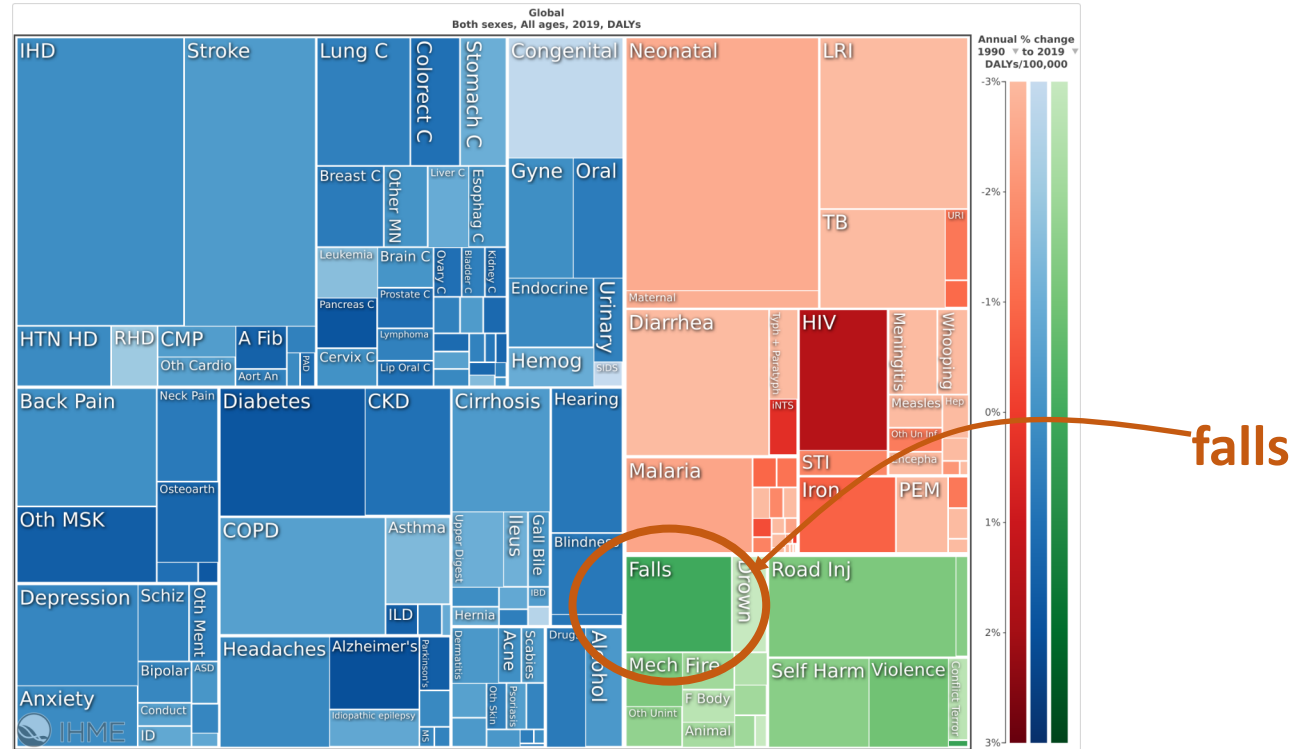
Fall prediction tools

ITU/WHO FGAI4H

Systematic review and IPD meta-analysis

# Falls and fall prevention

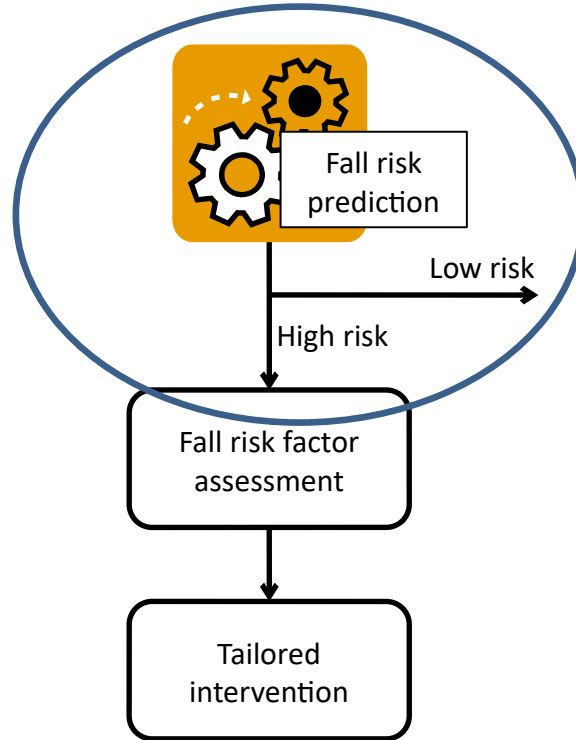
- About 30% older individuals fall at least once a year
- Falls occur as the consequence of multiple risk factors
- Falls may cause fear of falling, physical injuries, loss of independence, hospitalizations, death. About 10% falls require medical attention.
- Falls are preventable (RR  $\approx 0.7-0.8$ )



Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME). GBD Compare Data Visualization. Seattle, WA: IHME, University of Washington, 2020. Available from <http://vizhub.healthdata.org/gbd-compare>.

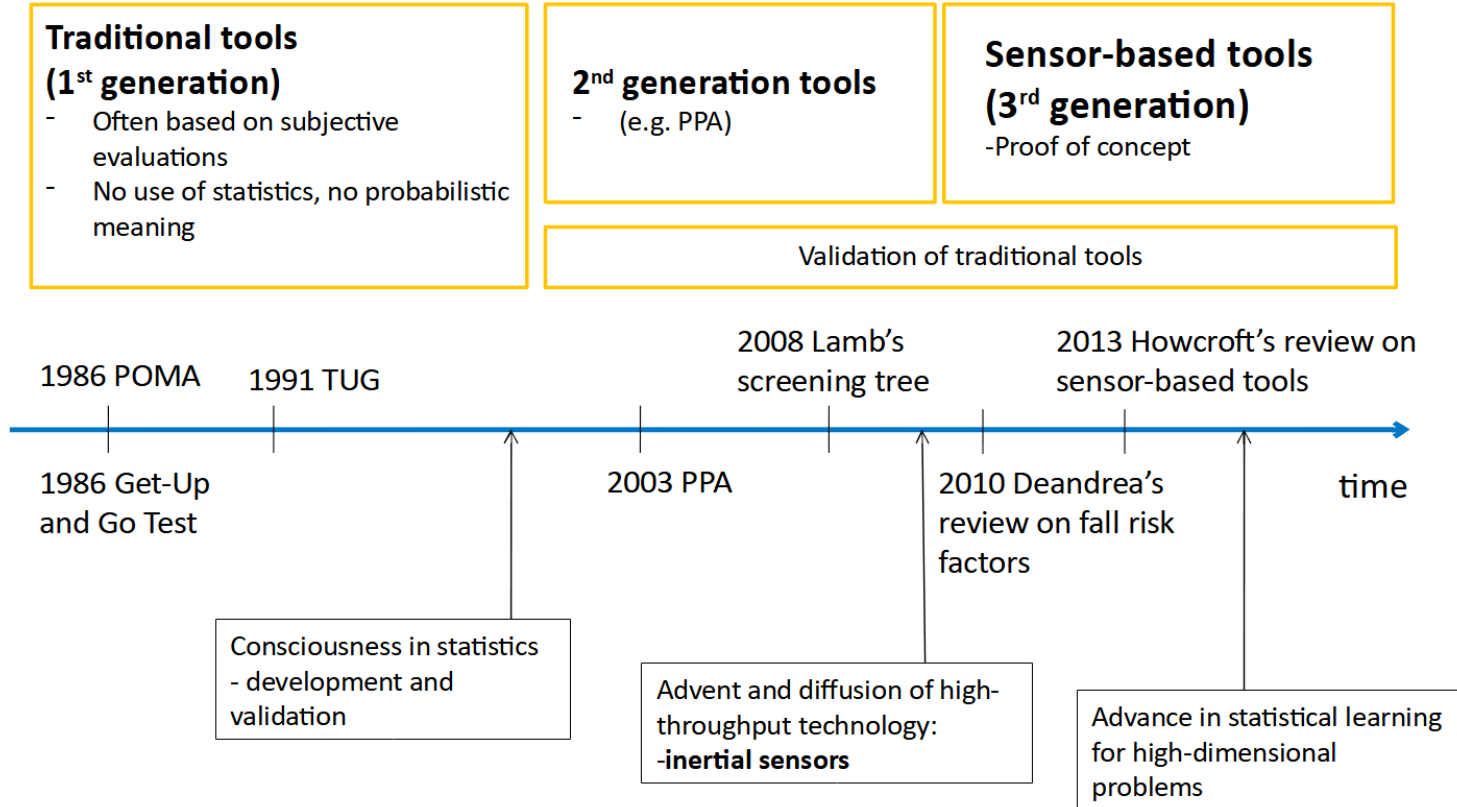
# Falls and fall prevention

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- Falls may cause fear of falling, physical injuries, loss of independence, hospitalizations, death. About 10% falls require medical attention.
- Falls are preventable (RR  $\approx 0.7-0.8$ )
- **Fall prediction tools** are recommended for identifying high risk individuals to target with preventive interventions



AGS/BGS Guidelines clinical practice guideline for prevention of falls in older persons 2011  
M. Montero-Odasso, Global guidelines for falls in older adults. Age Ageing, 2022  
M.E. Tinetti. NEJM 2003  
D.A. Ganz et al. JAMA 2007

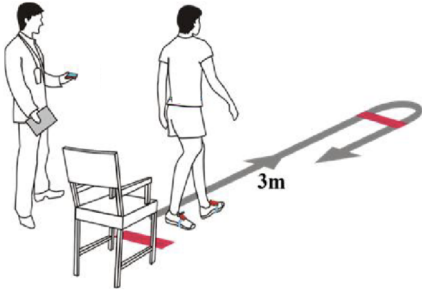
# Fall prediction tools



# Fall prediction tools

## Traditional tools

Timed Up and Go test (TUG)

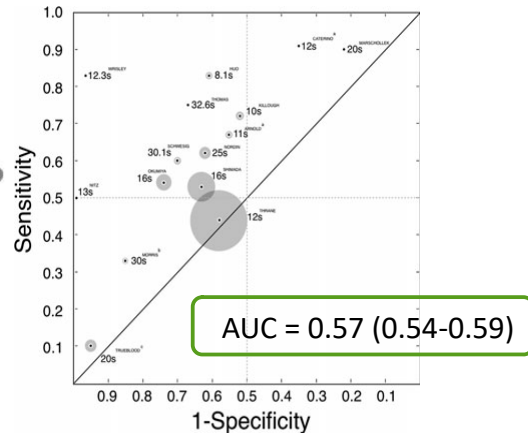
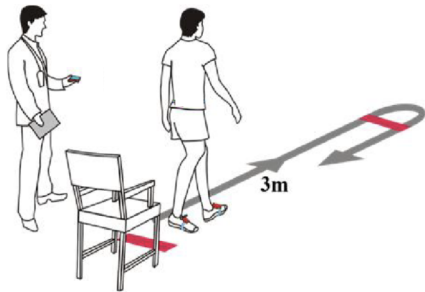


D. Podsiadlo, S. Richardson. J Am Geriatr Soc., 1991

# Fall prediction tools

## Traditional tools

### Timed Up and Go test (TUG)



D. Podsiadlo, S. Richardson. J Am Geriatr Soc., 1991

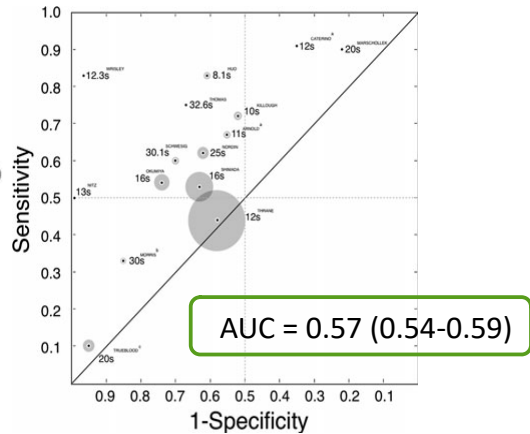
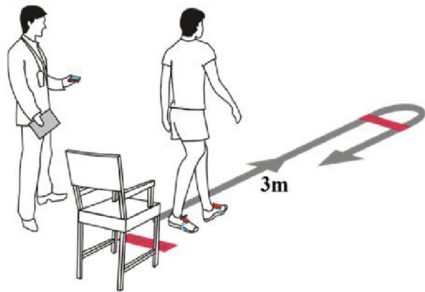
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E. Barry et al., BMC Geriatr., 2014

# Fall prediction tools

## Traditional tools

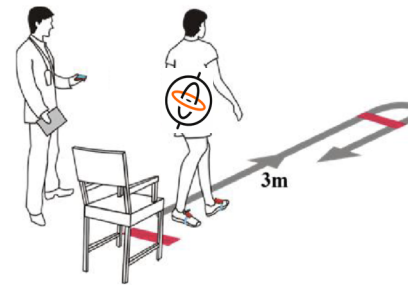
### Timed Up and Go test (TUG)



- D. Podsiadlo, S. Richardson. J Am Geriatr Soc., 1991
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- E. Barry et al., BMC Geriatr., 2014

## Sensor-based tools

### Instrumented TUG



ASSOCIATION TREND AND STRENGTH FOR ALL POSSIBLE TRIADS OF FEATURE CATEGORY, TASK AND SENSOR PLACEMENT

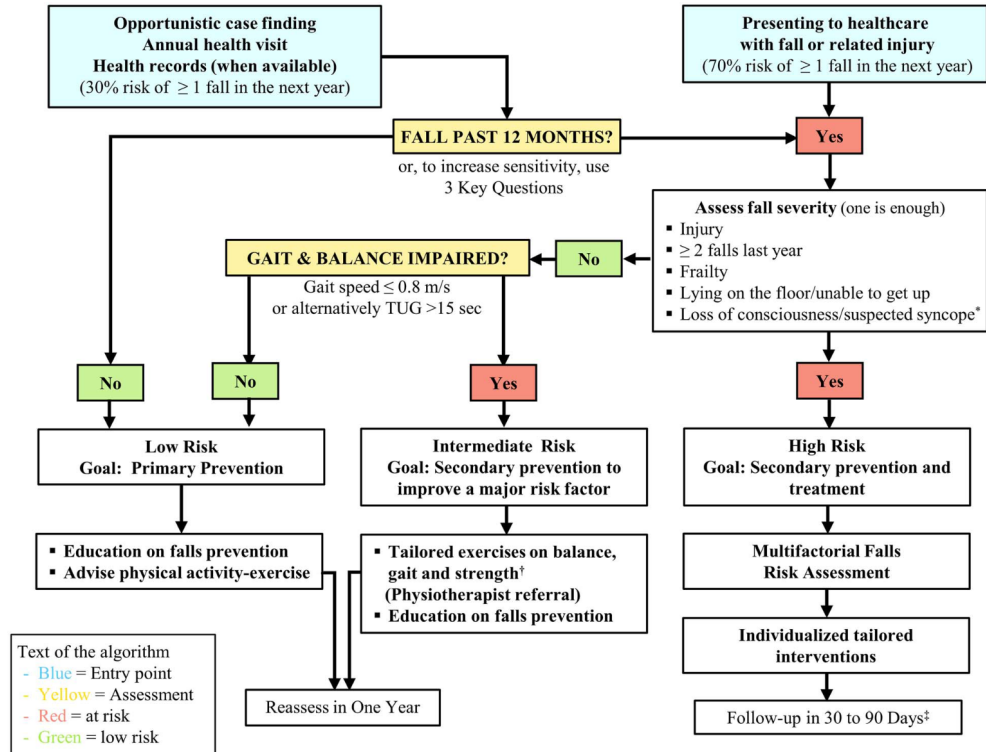
Feature category	Task				Sensor placement
	Quiet standing	SS	TUG	Walking	
Angular velocity	-	-	-	↓	Lower back
	-	-	-	↑↑	Shins
	-	-	-	-	Upper back
Frequency	-	-	-	↑	Lower back
	-	-	-	↓	Shins
	-	-	-	↑	Upper back
Linear acceleration	↑↑	↑↑	-	-	Lower back
	-	-	-	↓	Shins
	-	-	-	-	Upper back
Spatial	-	-	-	-	Lower back
	-	-	-	-	Shins
	-	-	-	-	Upper back
Temporal	-	-	-	-	Lower back
	-	-	↑	-	Shins
	-	-	-	-	Upper back

SS: Sit-to-Stand / Stand-to-Sit; TUG: Timed Up and Go test

- L. Montesinos, R. Castaldo, L. Pecchia. IEEE Trans Neural Syst Rehabil Eng., 2018



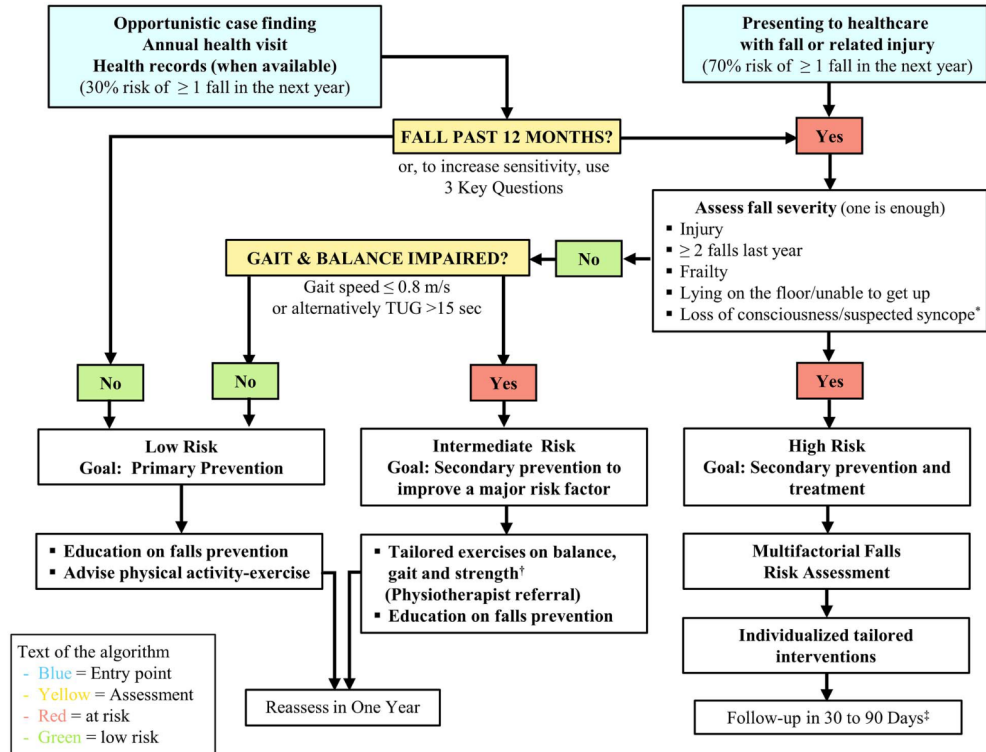
# Fall prediction tools



Notes: † Key Questions (3KQ) are: positive answer to a) Has fallen in the past year? b) Feels unsteady when standing or walking? or c)

M. Montero-Odasso, Global guidelines for falls in older adults. Age Ageing, 2022

# Fall prediction tools



Notes: † Key Questions (3KQ) are positive answer to a) Has fallen in the past year? b) Feels unsteady when standing or walking? or c)

- Not trained on data
- Need for validation
- Advocacy for multifactorial models
- Need to address the usability-performance trade-off
- Advantages of a continuous risk score
- EHRs and wearable inertial sensor data
- Need to estimate the clinical and organizational impact

M. Montero-Odasso, Global guidelines for falls in older adults. Age Ageing, 2022

TG Falls ITU/WHO AI4H, Age Ageing, accepted

# ITU/WHO Focus Group on "Artificial Intelligence for Health"

To establish a standardized assessment framework for the evaluation of AI-based methods for health, diagnosis, triage or treatment decisions

July 2018 – September 2023

<https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/focusgroups/ai4h/>

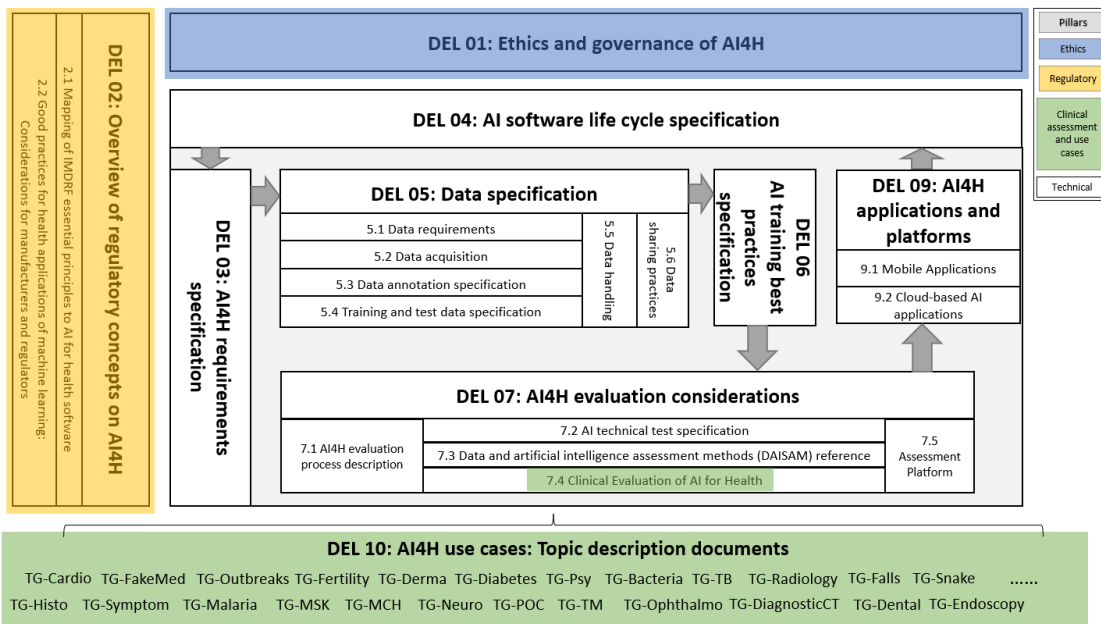
Wiegand T, et al. WHO and ITU establish benchmarking process for artificial intelligence in health. Lancet. 2019



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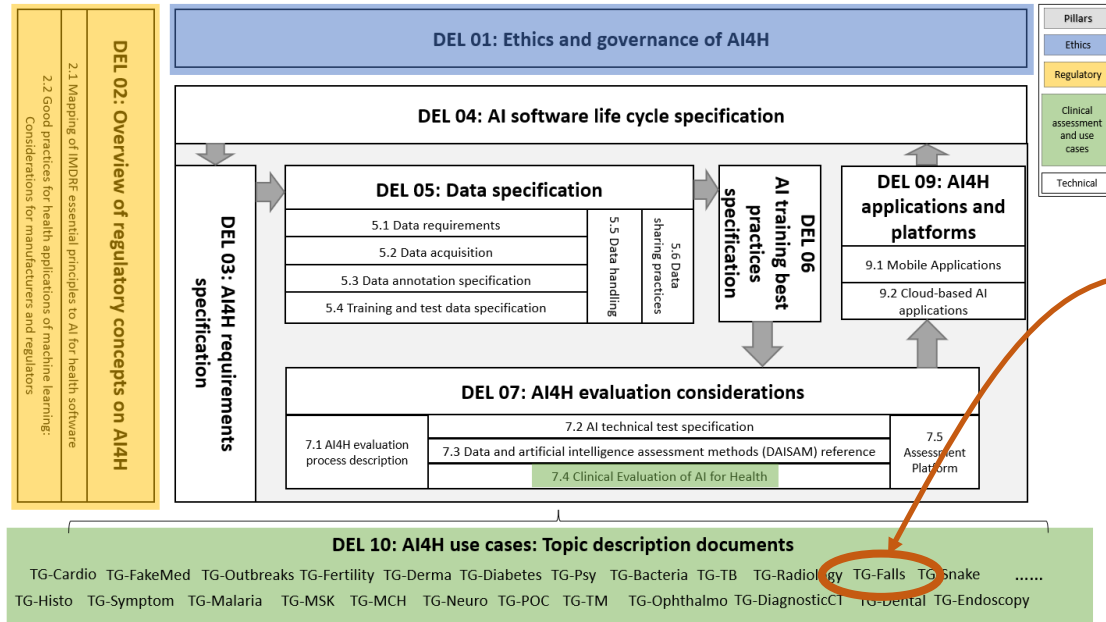
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# ITU/WHO Focus Group on "Artificial Intelligence for Health"

AI systems evaluation frameworks

ALTAI

TEHAI

Park et al. 2020

SPIRIT-AI

CONSORT-AI

PROBAST

TRIPOD

MI-CLAIM

STARD-AI

IJMEDI checklist

GRASP

...

Intended use and benefits

Data validity

Algorithmic validity

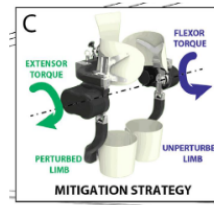
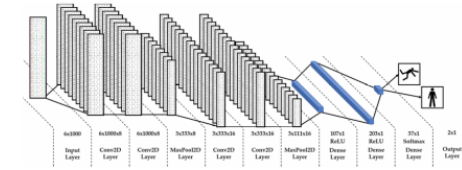
Clinical validity

Safety

Ethical validity

Regulatory validity

## AI SYSTEMS FOR FALLS



Pre-development

Development

Implementation

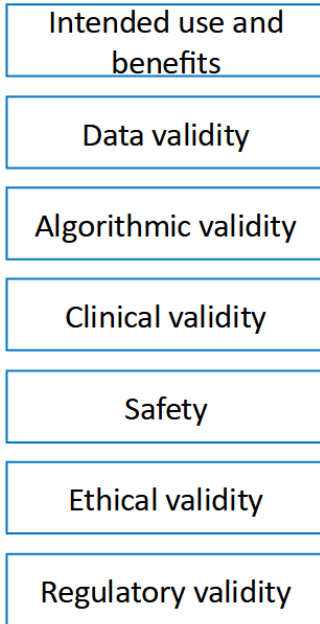
Post-implementation

Images from: F. Buisseret et al., "Timed Up and Go and Six-Minute Walking Tests with Wearable Inertial Sensor: One Step Further for the Prediction of the Risk of Fall in Elderly Nursing Home People," Sensors (Basel), vol. 20, no. 11, pp. 1–15, Jun. 2020 and V. Monaco et al., "An ecologically-controlled exoskeleton can improve balance recovery after slippage," Sci. Rep., vol. 7, p. 46721, May 2017.

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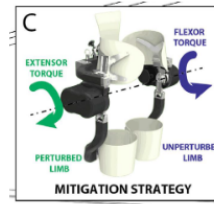
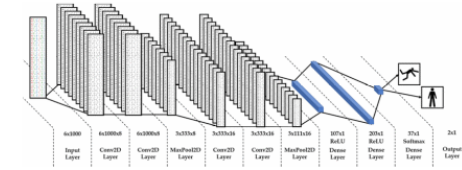
AI systems evaluation frameworks

- ALTAI
- TEHAI
- Park et al. 2020
- SPIRIT-AI
- CONSORT-AI
- PROBAST
- TRIPOD
- MI-CLAIM
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- IJMEDI checklist
- GRASP
- ...



Wearable sensor-based fall prediction tools.  
Systematic review and IPD meta-analysis

## AI SYSTEMS FOR FALLS



Pre-development

Development

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Images from: F. Buisseret et al., "Timed Up and Go and Six-Minute Walking Tests with Wearable Inertial Sensor: One Step Further for the Prediction of the Risk of Fall in Elderly Nursing Home People," *Sensors (Basel)*, vol. 20, no. 11, pp. 1–15, Jun. 2020 and V. Monaco et al., "An ecologically-controlled exoskeleton can improve balance recovery after slippage," *Sci. Rep.*, vol. 7, p. 46721, May 2017.

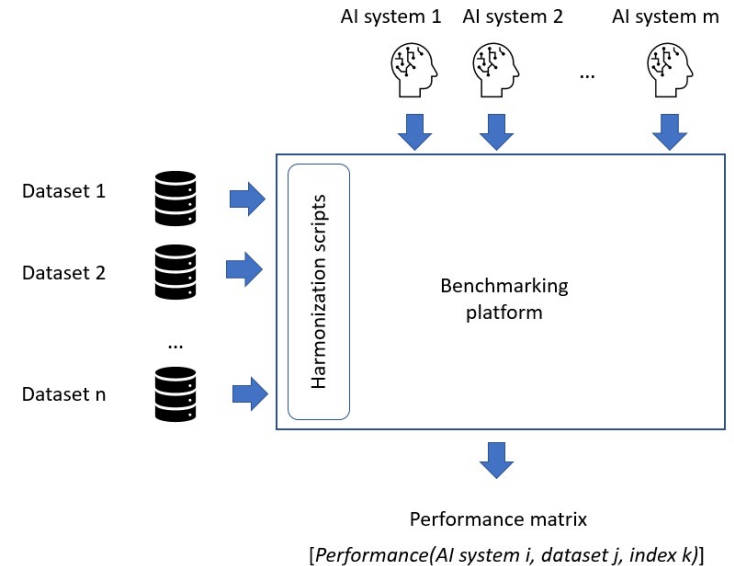
# Systematic review and IPD meta-analysis

## Review title:

“Systematic review and individual participant data meta-analysis of publicly available datasets for wearable inertial sensor-based fall risk assessment”

## Aim/question:

- Which datasets are available for training and validating models for wearable inertial sensor-based fall risk assessment? \*
- What is the prognostic value for falls of features and models derived from wearable inertial sensors?



\* Khan, S. M. *et al.* A global review of publicly available datasets for ophthalmological imaging: barriers to access, usability, and generalisability. *Lancet Digit. Heal.* **3**, e51–e66 (2021).



# Systematic review and IPD meta-analysis

## Inclusion criteria:

Peer-reviewed articles/conference proceedings in English including datasets with the following characteristics:

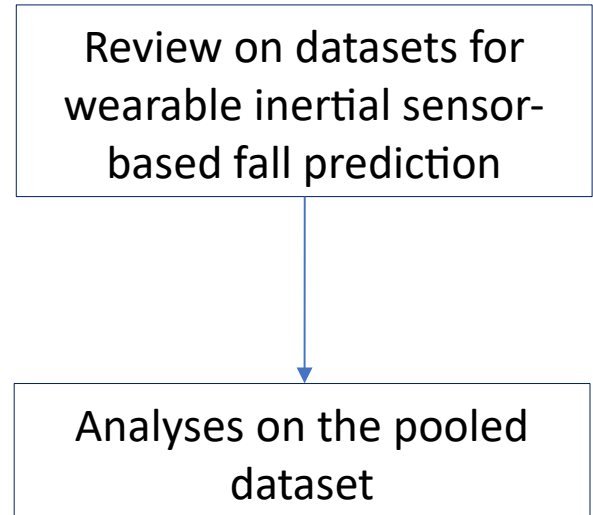
- Datasets including at least 20 individuals
- Datasets where the predicting features comprised of at least one inertial sensor-based feature
- Datasets from any community-dwelling population
- Datasets with individual-level (not aggregated) information about falls\*
- Falls collected after the predicting features (prospective design) #

\* occurrence of at least one fall in a given time period OR number of falls OR date of first fall occurrence

# retrospective studies included only for sensitivity analyses

**Registration:** PROSPERO 2022 CRD42022367394

[https://www.crd.york.ac.uk/prospero/display\\_record.php?RecordID=367394](https://www.crd.york.ac.uk/prospero/display_record.php?RecordID=367394)



# Systematic review and IPD meta-analysis

## Features to extract [1]:

- Study population
  - Sampled population
  - Sample size
  - Geographic location
- Study design
  - Clinical features for fall prediction
  - Characteristics of inertial sensors (acc., acc. + gyro, etc.)
  - Protocol for inertial sensor assessment (sensor location, standardized task/free living)
- Outcome measures
  - Fall definition
  - Protocol for collecting fall information (fall diaries, phone calls, etc.)
- Dataset accessibility (open access, open access with barriers, regulated access, not accessible)

## Quality assessment:

- PROBAST (Prediction model Risk Of Bias ASsessment Tool) [2]
- Risk of bias, applicability
- Participants, predictors, outcome, analysis
- 11 + 9-signalling questions

[1] Moons KGM et al. Critical appraisal and data extraction for systematic reviews of prediction modelling studies: the CHARMS checklist. PLoS Med. 2014 Oct ;11(10):e1001744.

[2] Wolff RF et al. PROBAST: A tool to assess the risk of bias and applicability of prediction model studies. Ann Intern Med. 2019 Jan 1;170(1):51–8.

# Systematic review and IPD meta-analysis

## Access request:

- Email
- Form: rationale, data management, authorship policy [1]

## Meta-analysis:

- Data storage facility: secure, large
- Three data sharing (DS) possibilities
  - DS1: sharing dataset, including raw sensor data, into a secure centralised repository. one-stage IPD meta-analysis
  - DS2: To run the signal processing scripts prepared by the TG-Falls at their own premises and share data on digital biomarkers and falls at individual level
  - DS3: To run at their own premises the processing scripts prepared by the TG-Falls for calculating the digital biomarkers and their association with falls, and share the final association/performance measures (e.g., odds ratios, AUC).
- Univariate analysis: i) ORs, RaRs, and HRs, ii) Mixed-effect logistic regressions
- Multivariate model [2]

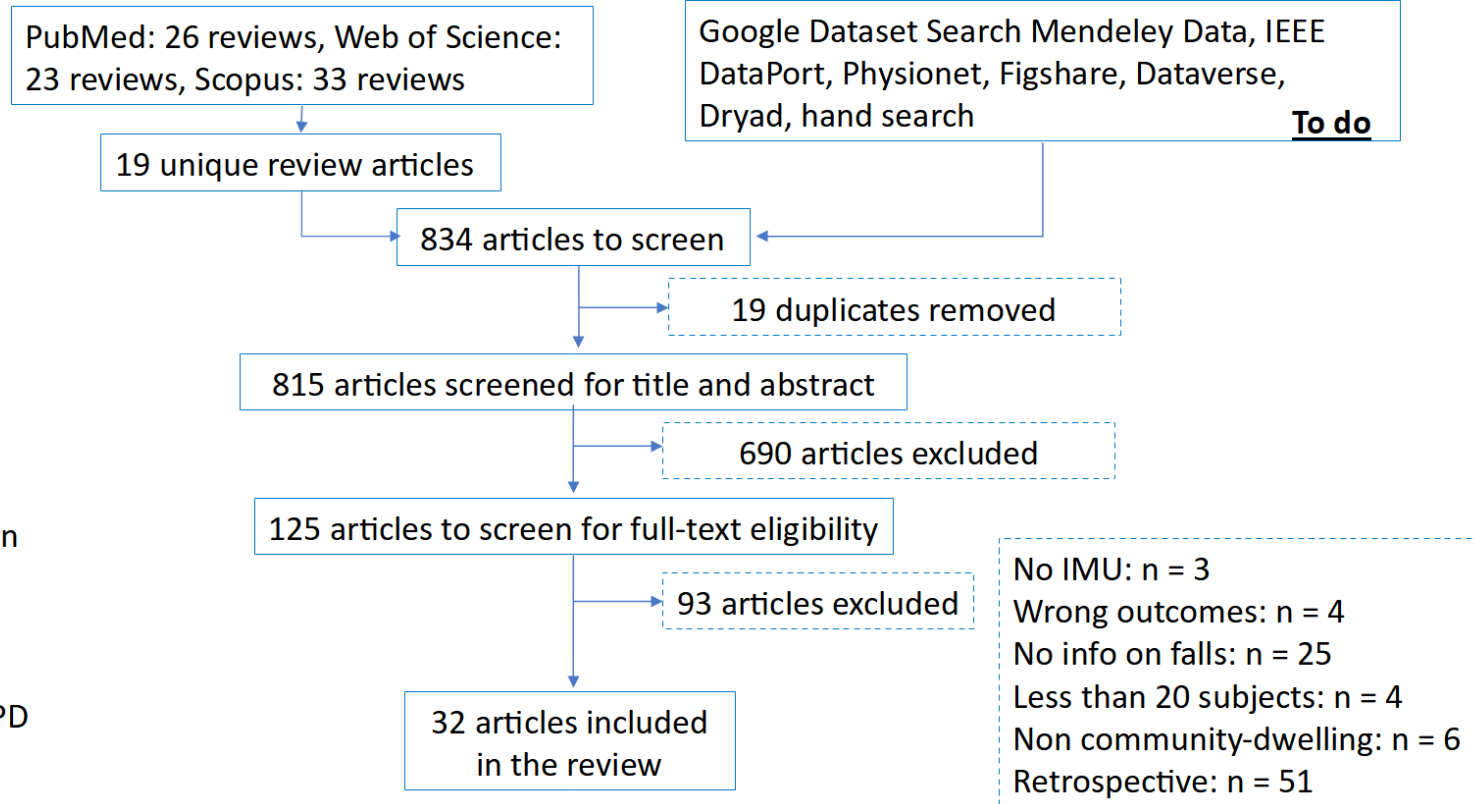
One-stage meta-analysis

Two-stage meta-analysis

[1] <https://www.icmje.org/recommendations/browse/roles-and-responsibilities/defining-the-role-of-authors-and-contributors.html>

[2] Ahmed I, Debray TPA, Moons KGM, Riley RD. Developing and validating risk prediction models in an individual participant data meta-analysis. BMC Med Res Methodol. 2014;14(3).

# Systematic review and IPD meta-analysis



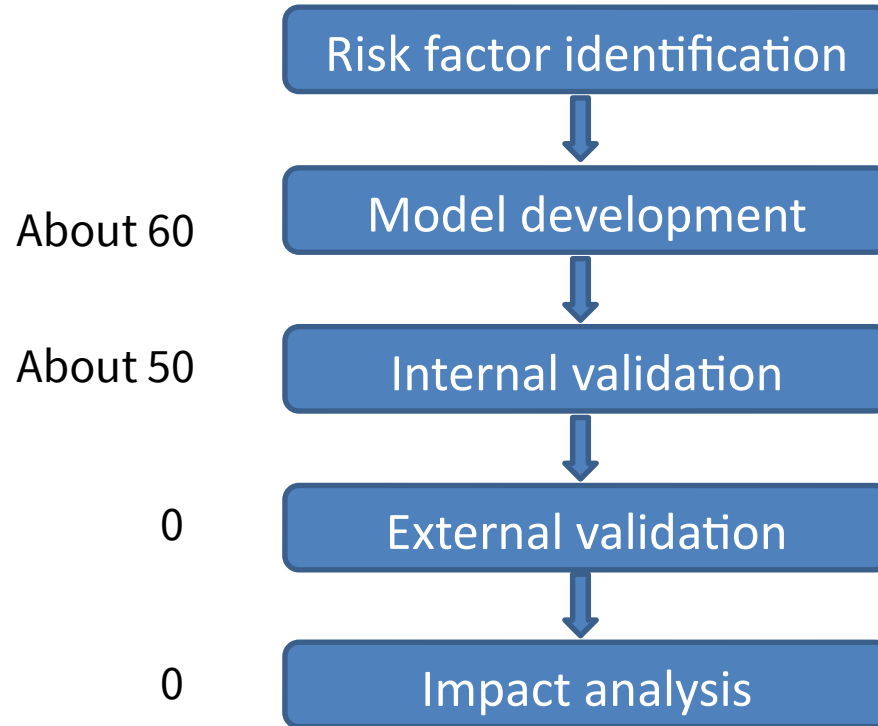
## In progress

- Feature extraction

## To do

- Access request
- One/two-stage IPD meta-analysis

# Systematic review and IPD meta-analysis



E. W. Steyerberg et al., "Prognosis Research Strategy (PROGRESS) 3: Prognostic Model Research," PLoS Med. 2013.

ITU

Jose Luis Albites Sanabria, Barry Greene, Killian McManus, Luca Palmerini, Inês Sousa, Kimberley S. van Schooten, Eva Weicken, Markus Wenzel, Eugenio Zuccarelli

**Thank you!**