



Who are the candidates for dizziness?

A reference document for staff, clinician and technician

Dizziness is a common occurrence. Second to lower back pain, dizziness is the most common complaint heard in doctors' offices. Forty-two percent of the adult population report dizziness or vertigo to their physicians. What causes dizziness?

Checklist of common causes of dizziness:

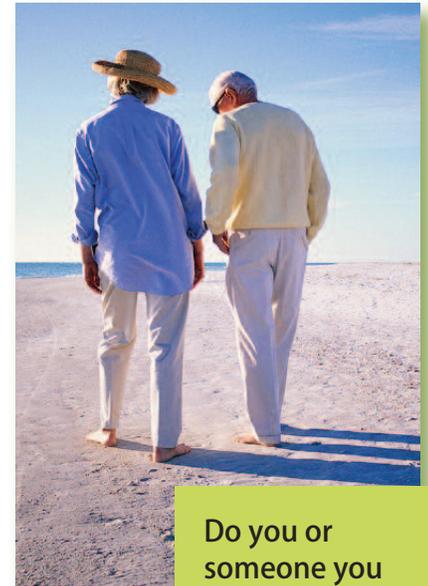
- Patients over 55 with the onset of presbyastasis or degeneration of the normal balance mechanisms with age
- Vestibular disorders or various types of inner ear disease
- Motion sickness patients
- Infections of the ear or central nervous system
- Ototoxic drugs such as aminoglycosides or chemotherapy
- Tumors of the vestibular or acoustic nerves
- Head trauma – the effects of which can linger for months to years
- Visual system diseases
- Hyperventilation or hysterical patients
- Medications affecting the central nervous system such as neuroleptics, sedative-hypnotics, anti-depressants, centrally acting antihistamines
- Cerebrovascular disease – decreases blood flow to the brain and can be caused by dehydration, orthostatic hypotension, vasovagal syndrome, osteoarthritis, atherosclerosis

Peripheral neuropathy – diminished nerve function in the legs or feet causing unsteadiness when standing or walking

Disease affecting the cerebral cortex, cerebellum and brainstem

Post-operative total joint replacement surgical patients

Neoplastic and degenerative diseases of the central nervous system such as basal ganglion disorders and multiple sclerosis



Do you or someone you know suffer from dizzy spells, fear of falling or have fallen in the past?

If so, then we can help.

It is of vital importance to review one's medical records and charts on a regular basis to determine which established patients as well as which new patients have demonstrated symptoms and signs of balance and movement disorders. These patients should be referred immediately for balance screening, and if medically indicated and necessary, for complete balance testing and vestibular rehabilitation therapy.

NAME/PRACTICE NAME

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