

Use of the EQUILIBRATE SYSTEM for Community-Wide Balance-Screening and Assessment for Fall-Risk by your County Department

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Gaining increased importance and popularity is the process of community-based wellness assessment and awareness, especially for the growing population of seniors. Recently, open public screenings to assess balance function and risk-for-fall are finding particular interest and demand. The result of such screenings and defined improved outcomes is an aging population in your county that is happier, healthier, more independent, and ultimately less burdensome on county resources.

The ***Equilibrate™ Comprehensive Balance Assessment System*** from **Balance Engineering™** is a quantitative, whole-body diagnostic and therapy tool for the non-invasive and objective assessment and treatment of balance dysfunction (including fall-risk) that can help accomplish these important goals and meet this growing demand.

Benefits to your Department:

- Enhancement of the services you currently deliver through the addition of an inexpensive, permanent, and objective fall-risk assessment tool that provides immediate value to you and your community
- Delivery of high value technological and cutting edge services to county residents that support independence, physical well being, and health awareness
- Appropriate interventions or care plans that can reduce the fiscal burden on municipal healthcare resources
- A portable tool for multiple-site use or shared use with service partners
- The ability to build or improve relationships and partnerships with local healthcare providers that serve seniors by working with them to perform screenings

Benefits to your Community:

- Delivery of quantitative assessment of balance and risk-for-fall in an easily understandable output that promotes fall awareness and improved well being
- A simple assessment that is non-invasive, non-intimidating, and requires only minutes to complete
- An objective tool that allows clinicians and caregivers to apply their expertise through analysis of actionable and quantitative output data
- 'Take-away' records of balance assessment with easily interpreted graphic data analysis
- Comprehensive treatment of balance dysfunctions through active therapy programs that include visual biofeedback and games
- An integrated customizable exercise library that allows take-home exercise programs to be printed or emailed directly to patients or their caregivers

Screening Event Logistics and Typical Process:

Prior to Screening Event:

- ◆ Acquisition of EQUILIBRATE SYSTEM by County Department either solely or through partnership with your healthcare collaborator(s)
- ◆ Training of the clinical experts from your County or healthcare partner on all aspects of the EQUILIBRATE SYSTEM, including operation, balance assessment, output score interpretation, therapy and home exercise functions, and more
- ◆ Coordination of the screening event, including choosing and securing site, coordination with any accompanying event (such as wellness fair or community meeting), estimation of attendance and logistics of assessment, and coordination of trained users
- ◆ Decisions as to extent of screening or assessment and time spent per attendee (Balance assessment on EQUILIBRATE can range from single tests taking a minimum of 2-3 minutes per person on up to a full battery of tests requiring 20-40 minutes, with a range of options in between. Variables such as expected attendance, desired outcome, and level of assessment should be considered.)
- ◆ Promotional activities alerting County residents to the time and place of the screening and the benefits of balance assessment

During Screening Event

- ◆ The set-up and calibration of EQUILIBRATE just prior to start
- ◆ Actual assessment of attendees, including simple standing exercises, output of balance scores, and explanation of scores and individual aspects of the attendee's balance by the trained healthcare professional
- ◆ Attendees are given take-home documentation of balance scores and risk-for-fall, along with additional exercises to improve balance
- ◆ If desired, individuals identified as 'medium or high-risk' for a fall may be given referrals to appropriate healthcare providers or other recommendations

After Screening Event

- ◆ Increased public awareness, through either media or word-of-mouth, of the increased role of improved health and wellness by the County
- ◆ The completely portable and self-contained EQUILIBRATE SYSTEM is available for the next public screening or for use at any time and any place by partners of the County for balance assessment and therapy
- ◆ Increased awareness of individual's fall-risk hopefully transitions to a decrease in fall incidence and a reduction in costs of medical care by the County
- ◆ Follow up by referred individuals identified as 'high risk' to either their personal care providers or to providers recommended by the County
- ◆ In addition to balance assessment, EQUILIBRATE is available for use as a powerful tool to improve balance function through its interactive therapy applications, as well as its library of customizable home exercise programs

For more information, visit www.balanceengineering.com or contact:

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