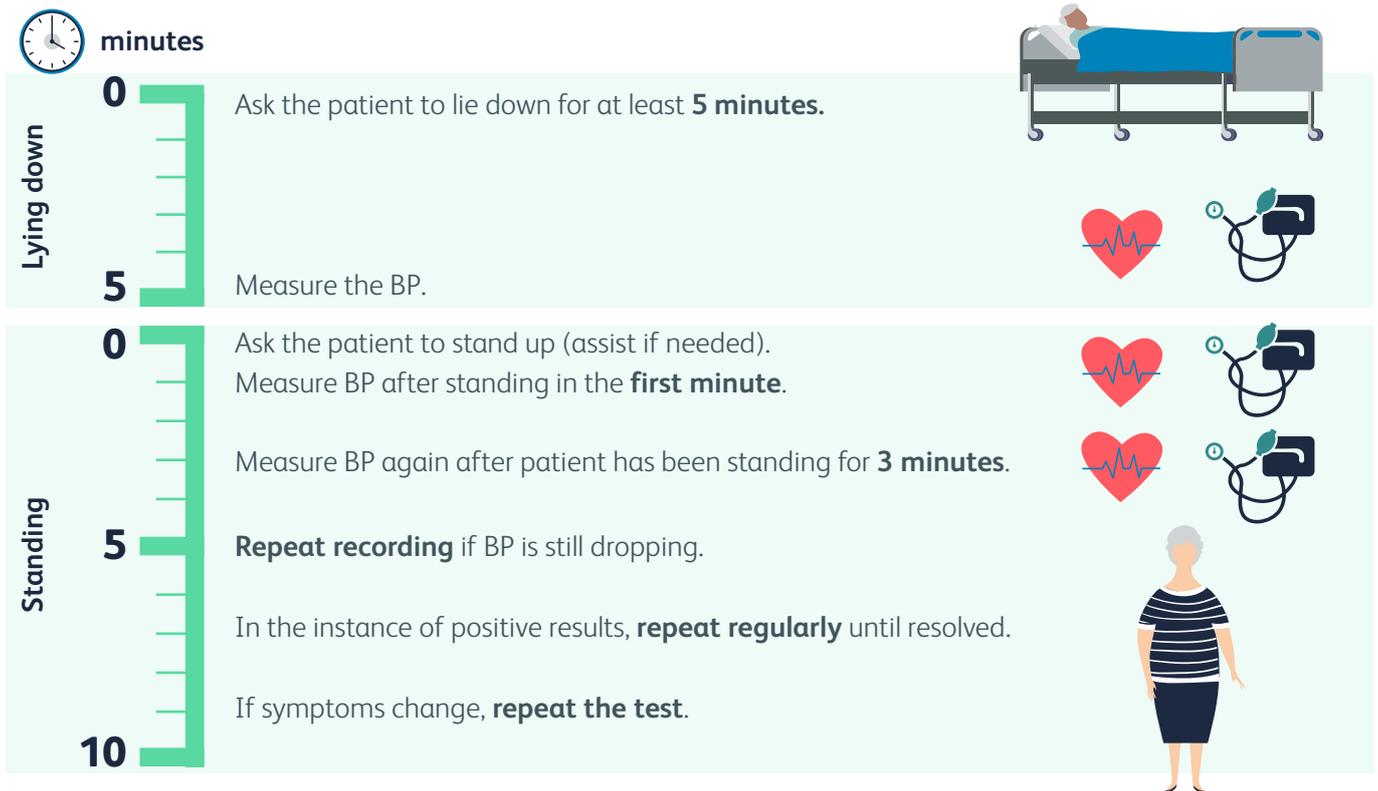


# How to measure lying and standing blood pressure (BP) as part of a falls assessment



- 1 Identify if you are going to need assistance to stand the patient and simultaneously record their blood pressure.
- 2 Use a manual sphygmomanometer if possible and definitely if the automatic machine fails to record.
- 3 Explain the procedure to the patient.



Notice and document symptoms of dizziness, light-headedness, vagueness, pallor, visual disturbance, feelings of weakness and palpitations.

Advise patient of results, and if the result is positive:

- a** inform the medical and nursing team.
- b** take immediate actions to prevent falls and/or unsteadiness.

A **positive result** is:

- a** A drop in systolic BP of 20 mmHg or more (with or without symptoms).
- b** A drop to below 90 mmHg on standing even if the drop is less than 20 mmHg (with or without symptoms).
- c** A drop in diastolic BP of 10 mmHg with symptoms (although clinically less significant than a drop in systolic BP).