## TE★AS EAR, NOSE & THROAT Specialists, L.L.P.

817-540-3121

## **Falling Precautions**

In order to help you stay safe until your balance improves, we offer these hints to help prevent falls:

- 1. Use any prescribed walking aid at all times
- 2. Move through position changes slowly to avoid imbalance
- 3. Use elevators instead of the stairs or escalators whenever possible
- 4. Use handrails whenever possible, if stairs or ramps must be used
- 5. Avoid sitting in low, overstuffed chairs if you have difficulty standing up. When standing, scoot your hips to the edge of the chair prior to rising
- 6. Wear low heeled, laced shoes with a firm heel. No slippers or high heels
- 7. Modifications you can make at home:
  - a. Always keep the lights on. Turn on a light before entering a dark room
  - b. keep electrical cords and small objects out of walking paths
  - c. remove throw rugs
  - d. keep frequently used items in the kitchen and bathroom within easy reach, preferably on eye level shelves
  - e. use nonskid decals or a rubber mat in the bathtub and shower
  - f. install grab bars in the bathtub and shower, if needed
- 8. If rapid head movements cause imbalance, do not drive