Identification of Unsafe Environmental Factors and Reducing Physical Risks
A hazard can be defined as any existing or potential condition which, by itself or by interacting with other variables, can result in the unwanted effects such as injuries, property damage or other losses.
Safety management is the management of procedures, people and operations such that safety and health is promoted at the workplace systematically and proactively.

Continuous planning, performance, and the monitoring and assessment thereof are all aspects of safety management.
What is an Unsafe Environmental Factor?

1) Features of an environment that could cause harm including improperly maintained devices, safety measures in disrepair, tripping hazards, etc.

2) Failure to maintain warning systems (such as fire alarms or warning posters).

3) Lack of consistent inspections of environmental conditions for hazards.

4) Poor reporting and notation of injuries or safety issues, etc.
What is a Physical Risk?

- Physical risks may include the following in regards to you, your coworkers, clients, and employees:
  - Workplace stress, both physical and psychological;
  - Risk of harm from altercations;
  - Bodily injuries from working;
  - Tripping hazards;
  - Abuse and/or neglect;
  - Criminal actions of others; and
  - Environment factors that could contribute to any of the above.
The purpose of identifying physical risks is to:

- Analyze where risks exist or could occur;
- Prevent injuries related to hazards, work stress, and other workplace issues;
- Reporting risks to those who can assist in developing avoidance or mitigation practices;
- Documentation of risks to ensure they are analyzed and avoided in the future;
- Ensure a safe working environment; and
- Encourage safe working methods.
Prevention of physical risks describes the methods with which new procedures can be integrated that will lead to more safety for you and those around you.
Taking Preventative Measures

Unsafe work practices threaten the physical and mental health of staff, but are avoidable with good management, training and awareness.

You have a duty to:

1) Take care of you, your coworkers, and your employees’ safety;
2) Report safety issues to your supervisor or care manager; and
3) Implement safety practices.
Environmental and physical risks are ever present in our daily routines. In this training we have indentified some potential risk factors and identified some reasonable solutions to minimize the possibility of injuries.

If you have any question or would like further guidance please contact the GT Independence Compliance Manager at 877-659-4500.