Introduction

- Falling is a major complication in stroke patients
- Falling can cause fractures, head trauma, even death

Purpose

- To build a comprehensive model that can explain risk factors for falls in stroke patients

Search Strategy

- Searched CINAHL, Pubmed, Scopus, and PsycINFO
- Keywords: stroke, fall, factor, influence, characteristics
- **Inclusion criteria:**
  (a) published in English 1980-2017
  (b) full text available
- **Exclusion criteria:**
  (a) duplicate articles or citations
  (b) abstracts only

Results

- **General characteristics**
  - Old age
  - Living with household members

- **Physical function**
  - Impaired mobility
  - Lower extremity muscle weakness
  - Hemiplegia
  - Decreased motor skill

- **Neurological function**
  - Impaired balance
  - Impaired cognitive function

- **Stroke-specific characteristics**
  - Affected left side of the body
  - Longer duration since a stroke
  - Acute stage of a stroke

- **Medical history**
  - Previous fall history
  - Having comorbidity
  - Polymedication

< The risk factors of falls in stroke patients >

Synthesis of Evidence

- Seventeen studies met criteria
- Used theory synthesis strategy
  - Step 1: specified the focal concept
  - Step 2: examined the relationships between factors and falling
  - Step 3: combined the relationships

Implications

- Nurse may develop care plans to prevent falls by focusing on the specific risk factors

References
