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**Age UK London Hosts Staying Safe Conference**

On Wednesday 3rd October Age UK London will host a conference to highlight the areas that can cause harm to older people (particularly in the home), and to look at how these problems can be prevented.

Expert speakers from the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA) and First Aid for Life will look at issues including appliances in the home, poisoning risks and medication issues and there will be plenty of opportunity for discussion.

The conference takes place from 2pm on Wednesday 3rd October at Age UK’s Office, Tavis House, 1-6 Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9NA.

We are bracing ourselves for one of the most challenging winters in NHS history. Because of the incredibly hot summer, the NHS remains gridlocked and has not benefited from the usual summer lull to recover in readiness for the winter surge in admission. With flu season just around the corner - we have to do something to reduce the pressure on the NHS and can start with trying to minimise the huge number of elderly needing emergency care from totally preventable accidents in the home.

Figures from RoSPA show **in 2016-17 there were 316,669 hospital admissions** in England of people aged 65 and over because of falling – the equivalent of more than **867 each day** across the country.

This amounted to two-thirds of all fall-related admissions.

Research by Age UK has found that **falls are the biggest cause of emergency hospital admissions for older people**, and **4,984 people aged 65+ died** from a fall in 2016, equating to **13 people every day**.

Experts are predicting that within 2 years almost **1,000 elderly people per day will be taken into hospital after suffering a fall.**

**Stay Safe for Older People** is a new initiative aiming to help buck this trend and give older people and those who care for them vital information to help them prevent avoidable accidents, the consequential detrimental impact on their health and resultant visits to hospital.

There is currently a wealth of invaluable information available in discreet locations across the web and it can be difficult to find exactly what you are looking for. Stay Safe for Older People has brought advice and resources from key organisations and experts together in one siteto make it much easier for older people and those who care for them to access this vital information when they need it.

**ENDS**

**Notes to Editors:**

* Age UK London is the London regional Age UK that helps London to love later life by campaigning for older Londoners, working on their behalf, and championing their cause.
	+ [www.ageuk.org.uk/london](http://www.ageuk.org.uk/london)
	+ [www.twitter.com/ageuklondon](http://www.twitter.com/ageuklondon)
	+ [www.facebook.com/ageuklondon](http://www.facebook.com/ageuklondon)
* **Stay Safe for Older People** was founded by Emma Hammett RGN (First Aid for Life) and Carolyn Cripps OBE (Fit for Safety) in partnership with RoSPA, AGE UK and the Trading Standards Scams and Fraud team.
* **Stay Safe for Older People (**[**www.staysafe.support**](http://www.staysafe.support/)**)** is a free information and resource website signposting older people and their family, friends and carers, to the wealth of expert advice and support under one umbrella site. The contents of this continually updated site aiming to help older people stay safe, remain healthy and independent and prevent avoidable hospital admissions resulting from accidents in the home environment.