

GEM

Gerontological Environmental Modifications

Environmental Assessment

Studio Apartment

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Project GEM (Gerontologic Environmental Modifications) gratefully acknowledges the support of the Isaac H. Tuttle Fund, the Ira M. Resnick Foundation, and the Weill Medical College of Cornell University

Client _____
 Address _____

Date _____

GEM Studio Environmental Assessment

Accessibility

Client moves in/out & through room without bumping/tripping into anything (T) Suggestions: remove doorsill _ , door frame _ , door _ , or clutter _ install offset hinges _ re-arrange furniture _ other _ Corrected by: _____ Not corrected due to: client refusal _ funding _ inadequate solution _ other _	Y_ N_ NA_
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Bed

Sitting on edge of bed, client's thighs are parallel with floor, with feet firmly on floor Suggestions: lower bed: remove castors _ cut wooden frame _ order new 3" frame _ Raise bed: new 7" frame _ leg extenders _ other _ Corrected by: _____ Not corrected due to: client refusal _ funding _ inadequate solution _ other _	Y_ N_ NA_
Client has a handle to help get in & out of bed if needed (T) Suggestions: new handrail _ other _ Corrected by: _____ Not corrected due to: client refusal _ funding _ inadequate solution _ other _	Y_ N_ NA_
Bedcovering does not touch floor Suggestions: hem bedcovering _ new bedcovering _ other _ Corrected by: _____ Not corrected due to: client refusal _ funding _ inadequate solution _ other _	Y_ N_ NA_
Hospital bed only: There is a maximum of 2" spacing between mattress & siderails Suggestions: contact home care agency _ replace bed, mattress or rails _ other _ Corrected by: _____ Not corrected due to: client refusal _ funding _ inadequate solution _ other _	Y_ N_ NA_
Mattress is supportive & does not sag when sat on (assessor: ask client if you can sit on bed to test) Suggestions: replace mattress _ other _ Corrected by: _____ Not corrected due to: client refusal _ funding _ inadequate solution _ other _	Y_ N_ NA_
Bedside commode available if nighttime trips to bathroom are difficult (T) Suggestions: Doctor to prescribe commode _ other _ Corrected by: _____ Not corrected due to: client refusal _ funding _ inadequate solution _ other _	Y_ N_ NA_

Communication

Telephone next to bed usable by client Suggestions: large print dial overlay_ new phone/large type _ hearing impaired phone or flashing light adaptor _ voice activated service _ furniture rearranged _ other _ Corrected by: _____ Not corrected due to: client refusal _ funding _ inadequate solution _ other _	Y_ N_ NA_
Doorbell can be heard by client Suggestions: plug-in remote doorbell _ doorbell with flashing light _ other _ Corrected by: _____ Not corrected due to: client refusal _ funding _ inadequate solution _ other _	Y_ N_ NA_

Flooring

Lamp, extension & telephone cords are located outside of walking path Suggestions: furniture re-arranged _ cords relocated _ outlets installed or repaired _ other _ Corrected by: _____ Not corrected due to: client refusal _ funding _ inadequate solution _ other _	Y_ N_ NA_
Area rugs in walking path are taped to floor with double-sided tape or have non-skid pad Suggestions: tape rugs to floor _ purchase non-skid pad _ remove rugs _ other _ Corrected by: _____ Not corrected due to: client refusal _ funding _ inadequate solution _ other _	Y_ N_ NA_
Flooring is free from rips & holes Suggestions: flooring removed/repaired _ other _ Corrected by: _____ Not corrected due to: client refusal _ funding _ inadequate solution _ other _	Y_ N_ NA_

Furniture & Storage

Client uses furniture for support while ambulating (T) If Yes: Suggestions: cane/walker _ furniture replaced/repaired _ castors removed _ other _ Corrected by: _____ Not corrected due to: client refusal _ funding _ inadequate solution _ other _	Y_ N_ NA_
Low tables or ottomans are located out of the walking path for person with low vision Suggestions: low lying furniture removed/replaced _ other _ Corrected by: _____ Not corrected due to: client refusal _ funding _ inadequate solution _ other _	Y_ N_ NA_
Table tops & floor are free of excessive clutter (answer no for either case) Suggestions: furniture needed _ drawer(s) repaired _ baskets needed _ clutter reorganized _ other _ Corrected by: _____ Not corrected due to: client refusal _ funding _ inadequate solution _ other _	Y_ N_ NA_

Doorknobs/furniture knobs easy-to-use Suggestions: Install "C" shaped handles _ textured hand grip over doorknobs _ lever adaptor _ other _ Corrected by: _____ Not corrected due to: client refusal _ funding _ inadequate solution _ other _	Y_ N_ NA_
Closet clothing is accessible without client standing on tiptoes or chair Suggestions: hanging pole lowered _ clothing rearranged _ new door or door removed _ hanging shoe bag _ stepstool with handle _ other _ Corrected by: _____ Not corrected due to: client refusal _ funding _ inadequate solution _ other _	Y_ N_ NA_

Lighting (ask client if you can turn on all lights)

Bedside lamp(s) is usable by client Suggestions: new lightbulb _ lamp(s) repaired _ new lamp(s) _ lamp(s) moved _ tabletop pad switch _ or touch turn-on _ switch repaired or installed _ other _ Corrected by: _____ Not corrected due to: client refusal _ funding _ inadequate solution _ other _	Y_ N_ NA_
Lighting is adequate to client (make recommendations if there are significant dark areas with lights on) Suggestions: new light bulbs _ lamp(s) repaired _ new lamp(s)_ lamp(s) relocated _ other _ Corrected by: _____ Not corrected due to: client refusal _ funding _ inadequate solution _ other _	Y_ N_ NA_
Client has lamp(s) nearby main seating area Suggestions: fixture relocated _ new fixture _ other _ Corrected by: _____ Not corrected due to: client refusal _ funding _ inadequate solution _ other _	Y_ N_ NA_
Client can easily turn lights on/off Suggestions: switch or outlet replaced/repaired _ table top pad switch or touch turn-on adaptor _ other _ Corrected by: _____ Not corrected due to: client refusal _ funding _ inadequate solution _ other _	Y_ N_ NA_
Pathway to bathroom lit at night (by nightlights, flashlight or light left on) Suggestions: install automatic nightlights _ battery sensor light _ lighted switchplate _ other _ Corrected by: _____ Not corrected due to: client refusal _ funding _ inadequate solution _ other _	Y_ N_ NA_

Seating

Seating has firm seat that doesn't sag, arm rests on both sides (for chairs) & not too low or deep Suggestions: new chair_ extender legs_ seat or back cushion restuffed _ or replaced _ other _ Corrected by: _____ Not corrected due to: client refusal _ funding _ inadequate solution _ other _	Y_ N_ NA_
If wheelchair is used, it has a pressure relief seat cushion (not patient's own seat pillow) (T) Suggestions: Contact doctor for prescription _ other _ Corrected by: _____ Not corrected due to: client refusal _ funding _ inadequate solution _ other _	Y_ N_ NA_

Windows & Shades

Client easily opens/closes at least one window & all blinds or shades (answer no for either case) Suggestions: reduce tension in window frame rods _ remove paint on window casing _ reorganize furniture _ shades or blinds fixed _ new shades/blinds _ furniture relocated _ other _ Corrected by: _____ Not corrected due to: client refusal _ funding _ inadequate solution other _	Y_ N_ NA_
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Hallways (ask client if you can turn on lights)

Hallway lighting is adequate to client (make recommendations if there are significant dark areas with lights on) Suggestions: new light bulbs _ new fixture _ automatic sensor switches _ lighted switch _ Corrected by: _____ Not corrected due to: client refusal _ funding _ inadequate solution _ other _	Y_ N_ NA_
Hallways are free from clutter & flooring is free of rips & holes Suggestions: remove clutter _ flooring to be removed _ replaced _ repaired _ Corrected by: _____ Not corrected due to: client refusal _ funding _ inadequate solution _ other _	Y_ N_ NA_
Area rug is taped to floor with double-sided tape or has non-skid pad Suggestions: tape rug to floor _ purchase non-skid pad _ remove rug _ other _ Corrected by: _____ ot corrected due to: client refusal _ funding _ inadequate solution _ other _	Y_ N_ NA_

Bathroom

Client Uses Bathroom Y_ N_

Accessibility

Client can get in/out of room without bumping/tripping into anything (T) Suggestions: Remove doorsill _ door frame _ door _ or clutter _ furniture re-arranged _ offset-clear hinges _ purchase/install curtain for door _ other _ Corrected by: _____ Not corrected due to: client refusal _ funding _ inadequate solution _ other _	Y_ N_ NA_
Sink is accessible Suggestions: remove vanity _ raise or lower sink _ other _ Corrected by: _____ Not corrected due to: client refusal _ funding _ inadequate solution _ other _	Y_ N_ NA_

Toileting

Observation: raised toilet seat _ with attached grab bars _ toilet safety frame _ grab bar on wall _ other _	Y_ N_ NA_
Client can easily get on & off the toilet (T) Suggestions: raised seat _ with attached grab bars _ toilet safety frame _ grab bar on wall _ other _ Corrected by: _____ Not corrected due to: client refusal _ funding _ inadequate solution _ other _	Y_ N_ NA_
Toilet paper roll is easy to use & less than one outstretched arm distance from toilet Suggestions: new roll _ relocate roll _ attachable bidet _ other _ Corrected by: _____ Not corrected due to: client refusal _ funding _ inadequate solution _ other _	Y_ N_ NA_

Bathing

Observation: wall grab bar on back wall _ & side tub wall _ tub seat _	Y_ N_ NA_
Client lowers into bathtub or showers Suggestions: check stability of wall & order/install grab bar along back wall _ & inner tub wall _ in contrasting color _ tub bench/hand-held shower hose _ shower curtain _ bath lift _ soap mitt _ other _ Corrected by: _____ Not corrected due to: client refusal _ funding _ inadequate solution _ other _	Y_ N_ NA_
Client can easily reach/use faucets & controls Suggestions: lever adaptors _ hand-held shower hose _ hook at lower height _ other _ Corrected by: _____ Not corrected due to: client refusal _ funding _ inadequate solution _ other _	Y_ N_ NA_
For frail elders at risk, anti-scald valves installed in showerhead &/or bathtub spout Suggestions: install showerhead valve _ or bathtub spout _ other _ Corrected by: _____ Not corrected due to: client refusal _ funding _ inadequate solution _ other _	Y_ N_ NA_
Non-skid safety treads or mat on bottom of bathtub Suggestions: install treads/mat _ other _ Corrected by: _____ Not corrected due to: client refusal _ funding _ inadequate solution _ other _	Y_ N_ NA_

Flooring

Bathroom flooring is non-skid (not slippery) with matte finish with no holes or rips Suggestions: no wax or non skid wax used _ flooring repaired _ new flooring _ other _ Corrected by: _____ Not corrected due to: client refusal _ funding _ inadequate solution _ other _	Y_ N_ NA_
Bathroom floor mat is non-skid with intact backing & hung on side of tub when not in use Suggestions: new floor bath mat _ hang up floor bath mat _ Corrected by: _____ Not corrected due to: client refusal _ funding _ inadequate solution _ other _	Y_ N_ NA_
Floor surface is free from clutter Suggestions: remove clutter _ other _ Corrected by: _____ Not corrected due to: client refusal _ funding _ inadequate solution _ other _	Y_ N_ NA_

Sink Area

Water faucets are safe & easy-to-use Suggestions: lever adaptors or straw adaptor _ new non-flood faucets _ other _ Corrected by: _____ Not corrected due to: client refusal _ funding _ inadequate solution _ other _	Y_ N_ NA_
Client can reach medicine cabinet Suggestions: supplies rearranged _ shelf installed _ medicine cabinet lowered _ other _ Corrected by: _____ Not corrected due to: client refusal _ funding _ inadequate solution _ other _	Y_ N_ NA_

Lighting (assessor, ask client if you can turn on all lights)

Lighting is adequate to client (make recommendations if there are significant dark areas with lights on) Suggestions: new lightbulbs _ lamp(s) repaired _ new light switch _ or outlet repaired _ new fixture(s) _ switch extender _ other _ Corrected by: _____ Not corrected due to: client refusal _ funding _ inadequate solution _ other _	Y_ N_ NA_
Nightlight is used (or flashlight or light left on) Suggestions: automatic nightlights _ battery sensor light _ lighted switchplate _ other _ Corrected by: _____ Not corrected due to: client refusal _ funding _ inadequate solution _ other _	Y_ N_ NA_

Other

Radiator or hot pipe in walkway is covered Suggestions: cover radiator or pipe _ Corrected by: _____ Not corrected due to: client refusal _ funding _ inadequate solution _ other _	Y_ N_ NA_
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Kitchen

Client Uses Kitchen Y_ N_

Accessibility

<p>Client moves in/out & through the room without bumping/tripping into anything (T) Suggestions: remove: doorsill _ , door frame _ , door _ , or clutter _ install offset hinges _ re-arrange furniture _ other _ Corrected by: _____ Not corrected due to: client refusal _ funding _ inadequate solution _ other _</p>	Y_ N_ NA_
<p>Client has access to sink & to food preparation areas Suggestions: bottom cabinet removed _ cabinet under sink removed _ other _ Corrected by: _____ Not corrected due to: client refusal _ funding _ inadequate solution _ other _</p>	Y_ N_ NA_

Flooring

<p>Kitchen flooring is non-skid (not slippery) with matte finish with no holes or rips Suggestions: no wax or non-skid wax used _ flooring repaired _ new flooring _ other _ Corrected by: _____ Not corrected due to: client refusal _ funding _ inadequate solution _ other _</p>	Y_ N_ NA_
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Storage

<p>Client can easily access needed food & supplies Suggestions: organize supplies _ reacher _ lazy susans _ "C" handles _ loop strap on refrigerator _ tape on refrigerator door insulation (inside) _ other _ Corrected by: _____ Not corrected due to: client refusal _ funding _ inadequate solution _ other _</p>	Y_ N_ NA_
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Cooking & Serving

<p>Faucets easy-to-use Suggestions: lever adaptors or straw adaptor _ new non-flood hold down faucets _ other _ Corrected by: _____ Not corrected due to: client refusal _ funding _ inadequate solution _ other _</p>	Y_ N_ NA_
<p>Client can easily use appliances pots/pans (T) Suggestions: appliance repair _ new microwave _ new toaster oven _ large print dials _ tactile dots _ pan/handles both sides _ pan/flat bottom _ flame retardant pot holder _ other _ Corrected by: _____ Not corrected due to: client refusal _ funding _ inadequate solution _ other _</p>	Y_ N_ NA_
<p>Client can easily use utensils & plate (T) Suggestions: large handled utensils_ rocking knife_ can opener _ color contrast plate with scoop edge _ other _ Corrected by: _____ Not corrected due to: client refusal _ funding _ inadequate solution _ other _</p>	Y_ N_ NA_
<p>Client can easily transfer food from kitchen to table (T) Suggestions: wheeled cart _ attachable tray for walker or wheelchair _ other _ Corrected by: _____ Not corrected due to: client refusal _ funding _ inadequate solution _ other _</p>	Y_ N_ NA_
<p>Stove area is clear of grease, towels & flammable materials Suggestions: cleaning service needed _ rearrange materials _ new hooks _ other _ Corrected by: _____ Not corrected due to: client refusal _ funding _ inadequate solution _ other _</p>	Y_ N_ NA_
<p>Client Education: For fire safety, do not cook in clothing with long loose sleeves</p>	

Lighting (assessor, ask client if you can turn on all lights)

<p>Lighting is adequate to client (make recommendations if there are significant dark areas with lights on) Suggestions: lightbulbs _ lamp(s) repaired _ new fixture(s) _ battery-operated undercounter lights _ switch or outlet repaired _ other _ Corrected by: _____ Not corrected due to: client refusal _ funding _ inadequate solution _ other _</p>	Y_ N_ NA_
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Other

<p>Extension cord/outlet strip with circuit breaker is used with multiple fixtures Suggestions: new extension cord/outlet strip _ Corrected by: _____ Not corrected due to: client refusal _ funding _ inadequate solution _ other _</p>	Y_ N_ NA_
<p>Client uses pillbox that is easy to read & use Suggestions: weekly multiple compartment pill _ automatic dispenser _ other _ Corrected by: _____ Not corrected due to: client refusal _ funding _ inadequate solution _ other _</p>	Y_ N_ NA_
<p>Walls & ceilings are free of holes & peeling paint Suggestions: repair _ repaint _ Corrected by: _____ Not corrected due to: client refusal _ funding _ inadequate solution _ other _</p>	Y_ N_ NA_
<p>Smoke detector is in working order Suggestions: replace battery _ replace detector _ Corrected by: _____ Not corrected due to: client refusal _ funding _ inadequate solution _ other _</p>	Y_ N_ NA_

Temperature is comfortable to client (not overly hot or cold to assessor) Suggestions: repair windows _ repair or purchase air conditioner _ check heating system _ other _ Corrected by: _____ Not corrected due to: client refusal _ funding _ inadequate solution _ other _	Y_ N_ NA_
The dwelling is free of noxious odors Suggestions: cleaning service _ other _ Corrected by: _____ Not corrected due to: client refusal _ funding _ inadequate solution _ other _	Y_ N_ NA_
The dwelling is free of vermin or insects Suggestions: contact landlord _ or pest control agency _ other _ Corrected by: _____ Not corrected due to: client refusal _ funding _ inadequate solution _ other _	Y_ N_ NA_
Client has a deadbolt front door lock & can easily use it Suggestions: repair or _ replace lock _ Corrected by: _____ Not corrected due to: client refusal _ funding _ inadequate solution _ other _	Y_ N_ NA_
Front door peephole is usable to client Suggestions: install new peephole _ Corrected by: _____ Not corrected due to: client refusal _ funding _ inadequate solution _ other _	Y_ N_ NA_
Clients that live on low floors have window gates Suggestions: install or repair new gates _ Corrected by: _____ Not corrected due to: client refusal _ funding _ inadequate solution _ other _	Y_ N_ NA_
Food bowls & kitty litter are out of circulation path Suggestions: set food bowls on table _ relocate bowls or kitty litter _ Corrected by: _____ Not corrected due to: client refusal _ funding _ inadequate solution _ other _	Y_ N_ NA_
Client wears footwear that have closed backs & medium thickness treads Suggestions: new shoes/slippers needed _ elastic shoelaces _ Corrected by: _____ Not corrected due to: client refusal _ funding _ inadequate solution _ other _	Y_ N_ NA_
Rubber tip on cane is in good condition Suggestions: new rubber tip _ Corrected by: _____ Not corrected due to: client refusal _ funding _ inadequate solution _ other _	Y_ N_ NA_
Client uses glass ashtray (4"-6") with cutouts for cigarettes Suggestions: new ashtray _ Corrected by: _____ Not corrected due to: client refusal _ funding _ inadequate solution _ other _	Y_ N_ NA_
Frail or at risk clients have a personal emergency response system Suggestions: contact doctor for Medicaid prescription _ other _ Corrected by: _____ Not corrected due to: client refusal _ funding _ inadequate solution _ other _	Y_ N_ NA_
Radiators or hot pipes in walkways are covered Suggestions: contact superintendent _ purchase radiator covers _ Corrected by: _____ Not corrected due to: client refusal _ funding _ inadequate solution _ other _	Y_ N_ NA_

Observational Comments

Circle Y if the following answers are yes:

- Client holds onto furniture while walking Y
- Client unsteady upon arising from seating or bedding Y
- Client trips or has difficulty walking over threshold or through doorway Y

Other:

Follow up Referral to Health Care Professionals (T)

A no response to any of the trigger questions (T) may be indicative of functional or physical deterioration & may require additional action. Depending on the situation, you may need to contact a health professional, including a Primary Physician or Nurse, & request a functional assessment &/or equipment from a physical & occupational therapist.

Low Vision Suggested Adaptations

Large print

Lighting (preferred lighting levels will vary depending on patient's type of low vision)

- Shielded light bulbs
- Dimmers switches
- 3-way bulbs
- Compact fluorescent or full spectrum bulbs

- Window treatment to shield natural light/glare
- Task lighting

Color

- Use strong contrasting colors (i.e. royal blue grab bar against white wall) to distinguish foreground from background
- Use bright colors to help identify select objects

Texture or tactile markers

- Rubber band around milk carton to distinguish from juice carton
- Raised tactile dots to locate on/off controls

Follow-Up List

Bathroom	Kitchen
Bedroom	Living Room
Hallways (s)	Other