

## Safety Lesson Learned

## Accident Abstract

*Accident Type: Fall  
Pedestrian*

*Injuries: Unknown*

*Type of Work: Sidewalk  
Replacement.*

### **DESCRIPTION OF THE MISHAP:**

The contractor was working on the section of the sidewalk at the main entrance, which was removed and ready to receive concrete. The contractor started moving the construction fencing to secure the next area of sidewalk to be removed. While the contractor was moving the construction



fencing an elderly woman entered the construction site through an area that was missing two sections of portable fencing. She was heading towards the main entrance which was closed because of the construction. She was standing in an area where the sidewalk was removed. The ground surface was stone and welded wire fabric. The superintendent saw her standing in the construction area and directed her to the temporary entrance. She went to exit the construction site and fell. She was brought inside the clinic for evaluation then the ambulance was called and brought her to the local hospital.

**DIRECT CAUSE:** Tripping hazard at the entrance of the Clinic.

**INDIRECT CAUSE:** The contractor did not identify risk prior to the accident. The contractor was in a rush to quickly perform the work.

**ROOT CAUSE:** Failure of supervision to adequately secure the construction site during the adjustment of the construction fencing and provide signage which clearly identified the temporary entrances.

### **LESSONS LEARNED:**

- At no time shall access to the construction site be left open to the public.
- If the contractor felt their interim life safety plan was not adequate the work should have been stopped and the plan revised.
- Signage redirecting the public to the temporary entrances shall be absolutely clear.