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Suppose  $B_i := B(p, r_i)$  are nested balls of radius  $r_i$  about a point  $p$  in a dynamical system  $(T, X, \mu)$ . The question of whether  $T^i x \in B_i$  i. o. for  $\mu$  a.e.  $x$  is often called the shrinking target problem. In many dynamical settings it has been shown that if  $E_n := \sum_{i=1}^n \mu(B_i)$  diverges then there is a quantitative rate of entry and  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{E_n} \sum_{j=1}^n 1_{B_i}(T^j x) \rightarrow 1$  for  $\mu$  a.e.  $x \in X$ . This is a self-norming type of strong law of large numbers. We establish self-norming central limit theorems (CLT) of the form  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{a_n} \sum_{i=1}^n [1_{B_i}(T^i x) - \mu(B_i)] \rightarrow N(0, 1)$  (in distribution) for a variety of hyperbolic and non-uniformly hyperbolic dynamical systems, the normalization constants are  $a_n^2 \sim E[\sum_{i=1}^n 1_{B_i}(T^i x) - \mu(B_i)]^2$ . Dynamical systems to which our results apply include smooth expanding maps of the interval, Rychlik type maps, certain non-uniformly expanding maps of the interval and, in higher dimensions, piecewise expanding maps. (Received February 18, 2013)