

CHSRF/CIHR Chair: Health Care Settings & Canadians
Department of Health Policy, Management & Evaluation
Faculty of Medicine
University of Toronto



For subscription information contact: Peter C. Coyte
Telephone: 416/978-8369; Fax: 416/978-7350
Email: peter.coyte@utoronto.ca
Courier address: 155 College St, Suite 425
Toronto, Ontario M5T 3M6
<http://www.hcerc.utoronto.ca>

Home and Community Care Highlights
Volume 6, Number 1: January 2007

Home and Community Care Highlights responds to decision-makers' needs for timely and relevant evidence by providing accessible synopses of recent research pertaining to the financing, delivery, and organization of home and community-based health care activities.

Synopses are provided in two formats. *Headlines & Conclusions* crystallize the take-home messages of the research in a few sentences. *Thumbnail Summaries* condense the background, methods, findings, and conclusions of the research into quick-to-use, single-page overviews that include reference information.

This digest is produced quarterly at the University of Toronto by the CHSRF/CIHR Health Services Chair in Health Care Settings and Canadians and remains the property of the Chair.

The Chair is supported by the Canadian Health Services Research Foundation in partnership with the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, and by the regional co-sponsor, the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long Term Care.

This issue focuses on: the implementation of competition policies in the home care market; the implementation of a palliative care program; patient safety in Canadian home care settings; the relationship between depression and social engagement in the elderly; the relationship between unpaid caregivers and illness detection among nursing home residents; the experiences of new Canadians acting as unpaid caregivers; the effectiveness of the influenza vaccine among the elderly population; and interventions that reduce disability in later life. Specifically, the following topics are addressed:

- 1) The challenges of introducing competition to health care markets: A home care case study
- 2) Physicians' involvement key to success of new palliative care program
- 3) Patient safety beyond the hospital setting: A look at home care
- 4) Social engagement can protect community-dwelling elderly from depression
- 5) Unpaid caregiver involvement can improve illness detection in nursing homes
- 6) Asian unpaid caregivers experience difficulties accessing services
- 7) How effective are vaccines at preventing influenza in the elderly?
- 8) Reducing the burden of late-life disability