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Home and Community Care Highlights Volume 6, Number 2: May 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 evaluation of palliative home care programs and general home care services; the implementation of a technique to identify abused elderly; the relationship between nurse working conditions and restraint use; a comparison of an exercise and educational program to reduce the risk of disability among elderly individuals; the relationship between the quality of light in homes and disability in older people; the experiences of mothers of children with complex health needs; and an assessment of various international approaches to long-term care financing. Specifically, the following topics are addressed:

- 1. Expectations and evaluations of a palliative home care program
- 2. Home care services in Quebec do not adequately meet user needs
- 3. Screening for potential cases of elderly abuse by family caregivers
- 4. Nurse working conditions and restraint use in long-term care
- 5. A physical activity exercise program for seniors that brings a lasting benefit
- 6. The quality of light in homes and disability in older persons
- 7. Mothers of children with complex health needs face barriers accessing and using home care services
- 8. Is the grass greener? Comparing long term care financing arrangements in various countries