

**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: 416/946-5960  
Email: [peter.coyte@utoronto.ca](mailto:peter.coyte@utoronto.ca)  
Courier address: 12 Queen's Park Crescent West  
Toronto, Ontario M5S 1A8  
<http://www.hcerc.utoronto.ca>

***Home and Community Care Highlights***  
**Volume 4, Number 1; March 2005**

*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 role and affect of social networks, patient safety, using new technologies for rehabilitation and cardiac services, the burden of care on family caregivers, inappropriate medication, and exploring and privacy issues and assessing home-based interventions. The following topics are addressed:

1. Can social networks protect the elderly from mobility disabilities?
2. Information about informal care networks improves ability to predict the amount, type and adequacy of care received by frail seniors
3. Many issues affect bathing amongst elderly
4. Home inotropic infusion combined with internal defibrillator for heart failure patients is cost effective
5. Exploring the use of remote technologies for motor rehabilitation of post-stroke patients in the home
6. Effects of nursing home placement on family caregivers
7. Inappropriate medication prescriptions a serious concern among nursing home elderly
8. Personal Health Information (PHI) disclosure: Differences of opinion among professionals, care recipients, and family members.
9. The impact of hospital restructuring on home care nursing