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## Home and Community Care Highlights Volume 4, Number 2; June 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.

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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. Computer-assisted care is effective for diabetes management
- 2. Home-telehealth initially costs more, but may save more in the long-run
- 3. Home care services of the future? A home-telehealth demonstration project
- 4. Annual revaccination programs benefit the elderly
- 5. Unpaid labour substitutes paid labour for certain types of health service utilization
- 6. Unpaid caregivers desire more communication with their chronically ill patients
- 7. Communication Notes Developing a dissemination plan