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 Street, Suite 425 Toronto, Ontario M5T 1P8 http://www.hcerc.utoronto.ca

Home and Community Care Highlights Volume 5, Number 1: January 2006

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: recent trends in home care provision, the relationship between need and amount of home care received, the importance of age in allocating health care resources, nurses' preferences for pain assessments in nursing homes, the use of specific interventions to achieve desirable health outcomes, assessing economic evaluations and the potential of new home-based technologies. The following topics are addressed:

- 1. Trends in home care provision from 1991 to 2001: Alberta's experience
- 2. According to need? Predicting the amount of municipal home help allocated to elderly recipients in an urban area of Sweden
- 3. The importance of age in allocating health care resources
- 4. Nurses' preference for assessing pain of nursing home residents
- 5. Home-based intervention can reduce asthma symptoms in children
- 6. Using vitamin D to prevent falls in an elderly residential care population
- 7. A 'how to' guide to detect, and minimize, common flaws in economic evaluations
- 8. You've got mail checking lab results over the Internet
- 9. No place like home: telemonitoring can improve home care