Title: In-Home Assistive Devices for Elderly Patients in the Community: Clinical and Cost-Effectiveness

Date: 05 May 2008

Research question:

1. What is the clinical effectiveness of in-home assistive devices for decreased hospitalizations of elderly individuals living in the community?

2. What is the cost effectiveness of in-home assistive devices for decreased hospitalizations of elderly individuals living in the community?

3. Is there any evidence for the utilization of in-home assistive devices in elderly individuals living in the community?

Methods:

A limited literature search was conducted on key health technology assessment resources, including PubMed, the Cochrane Library (Issue 1, 2008), University of York Centre for Reviews and Dissemination (CRD) databases, ECRI, EuroScan, international HTA agencies, and a focused Internet search. Results include articles published between 2003 and April 2008, and are limited to English language publications only. No filters were applied to limit the retrieval by study type. Internet links are provided, where available.

Results:

HTIS reports are organized so that the higher quality evidence is presented first. Therefore, health technology assessment reports, systematic reviews and meta-analyses are presented first. These are followed by economic evaluations, randomized controlled trials (RCTs), and observational studies.
One systematic review, one economic study, and six observational studies were identified pertaining to the cost-effectiveness and evidence for the utilization of in-home assistive devices in the elderly individuals living in the community. No information regarding the effectiveness of assistive devices to reduce hospitalizations was identified. No relevant health technology assessments or RCTs were found. Additional information that may be of interest has been included in the Appendix.

**Health technology assessments**
No literature identified

**Systematic reviews and meta-analyses**

**Economic analyses and cost information**

**Randomized controlled trials**
No literature identified

**Observational studies**


Appendix – Further information:

Information from national and provincial organizations


2. Categories of assistive devices covered by the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care [web page]. Toronto: Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care; 2008. Available: 


Observational studies


Additional references


