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Clinical Pharmacy Services in the Home: Canadian Case Studies

 from [Journal of the American Pharmaceutical Association](#)

Conclusion

This case study of 16 clinical home care practices is the first study of pharmacists' home services in Canada. Moreover, it adds to a very sparse literature worldwide on clinical pharmacy services in home care. The practices studied were initiated in response to an important perceived patient need, primarily among frail elderly patients. The most important barrier to home care practice was lack of reimbursement, and the major facilitator was other sources of funding, including high prescription revenues and funding from the parent organization. Pharmacists who seek to initiate or advance a clinical home care practice are advised to develop linkages with a team or network of home care providers and to systematically compile evidence of the impact of their service.

Research is needed to determine third party payers', home care administrators', and elderly home care clients' perceptions of the need for, and value of, pharmacists' clinical home care services and to evaluate these services. Collecting this information is critical if the pharmacy profession is to develop effective marketing and reimbursement strategies that will enable pharmacists to implement and expand clinical home care practices and assume responsibility for drug therapy in the home care population.

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Disclaimer

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