



CONSORTIUM FOR CITIZENS  
WITH DISABILITIES

## **EFFECTIVE CONDUCTION OF HOMECARE MAY AMELIORATE DISABILITY**

*Effective home care, wellness programs, and adapted living arrangements can ameliorate functional limitations.*

There was a congressional briefing in which a roundtable discussed homecare within the context of healthcare. Presenters at the forum were a congressman familiar with the issues of home care, a provider of homecare, a representative from the disability community, and a former Senate Majority leader.

### **Summary**

There was a description of the misplaced fiscal priorities of the current U.S. healthcare system where maximum fiscal resources are spent on tertiary care with decreases of resources for prevention, wellness and homecare efforts. There was confusion about what constitutes the foundation of the public health system (i.e. wellness and prevention). Medically reimbursable clinical prevention services are part of the public health system as are non-medically reimbursable social determinants of health.

### **Disability Prevention Issues**

Reimbursable clinical preventive services, a public health function, have received considerable attention in service delivery for homecare. However, non-reimbursable social determinants of public health, excluding focus on healthy lifestyles, have not. There are care giver skills that can improve or ameliorate functional limitations for self- sufficiency and disability through training caregivers with capabilities to develop functional skills for consumers. Thus, there are human costs for not addressing non-reimbursable public health social determinants of homecare that prevent diminished health and disability.

### **Activity**

A letter was written to the congressman, who participated in the event, to clarify the public health foundation of adapted living arrangements to ameliorate functional limitations of people with disabilities who receive homecare.

### **Principle**

Effective home care should include wellness programs and adapted living arrangements that ameliorate functional limitations.