

# Assisted Living or Facility?

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We are pleased to present the first issue of the *Canadian Geriatrics Journal* for 2014. This issue addresses a wide variety of issues, including medical education, the relationship between urinary tract infections and delirium, and an analysis of which patients are admitted to a facility versus assisted living.

The role of assisted living in providing functional support for older adults is a growing, but relatively unexamined area of research. Rockwood *et al.*<sup>(1)</sup> have provided a cross-sectional analysis of which factors and events predispose patients to be admitted to assisted living versus facility care. The underlying assumption of most physicians is that assisted living is just for the “worried well”, but the findings by Rockwood *et al.* show that assisted living is playing a role in discharge planning for much sicker and frailer patients.

Another area of concern is the growing population of older adults who are either current or former illicit drug users. Dr. Sztramko and his co-investigators<sup>(2)</sup> have examined the demographic characteristics and health utilization behaviours in older adults in Canada’s most impoverished community (Vancouver’s Downtown Eastside).

Rounding out our issue, Haque *et al.*<sup>(3)</sup> prospectively examined the ability of a Clinical Skills Day to change medical students attitudes about caring for older adults, and Balogun *et al.*<sup>(4)</sup> has performed a systematic review that formally examines the relationship between urinary tract infections and delirium. We are also delighted to include a summary of the recent Geriatric Psychiatry meeting,<sup>(5)</sup> as

well as presenting the abstracts for the Geriatric Psychiatry scientific sessions.<sup>(6)</sup>

Thanks, again, for all of your support!

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## REFERENCES

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