

Housing and Daily Living

Advancing Safe and Person-Centered Technology Integration for Older Adults in Home and Community Care. Technical Subcommittee on Technology in Home and Community Care, CSA Group. *Gerontechnology* 25(s)

Purpose Digital health technologies-including remote monitoring and assistive devices are increasingly deployed outside traditional clinical settings to support aging-in-place and community-based care. However, inconsistent adoption, variable workforce readiness, and lack of structured guidance create risks for safety, quality, and autonomy. This presentation introduces a newly published national standard, CSA Z2202: Technology in Home and Community Care, to help guide safe, effective, and inclusive technology integration in home and community care. The standard aims to help support service providers, technology vendors, and health system leaders in implementing technologies that enhance care quality, autonomy, and well-being for older adults, while aligning with broader health system goals for innovation, inclusivity, and sustainability.

Method The standard was developed over 18 months through a consensus-based process. A multidisciplinary committee comprising clinicians, engineers, policymakers, care providers, and individuals with lived experience contributed to drafting the standard, with public consultation further informing its content. The standard is structured across five core domains: Quality Management System - Establishes governance, oversight, and continuous improvement mechanisms for safe and ethical technology use, Procurement - Provides guidance for ethical, evidence-informed, and user-centered acquisition of technologies, emphasizing usability for older adults, Workforce - defines competencies, training requirements, and workforce readiness strategies to support safe and effective deployment of technologies, Assessment, Implementation and Management - Offers lifecycle guidance for evaluating, deploying, and maintaining technologies in home and community care settings and Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC) - Integrates infection prevention principles into technology planning and operations, supporting safety in non-institutional care environments. **Results and Discussion** The standard offers a unified framework that helps enable health system leaders and service providers to align best practices, strengthen governance, and promote consistent evaluation of technology use in home and community care. By emphasizing workforce competencies, the standard enhances staff preparedness to safely deploy digital health solutions. The integration of IPAC considerations for infection control and safety in community settings, complements broader quality and person-centered care objectives. Through structured guidance, the standard fosters equity, inclusivity, and sustainability in technology adoption while supporting innovation and aging-in-place strategies. Health organizations and technology developers can use the standard as a practical tool to improve outcomes for individuals receiving care at home and to support system-level transformation across Canada.

References

1. CSA Z2202, Technology in home and community care settings.

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