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Prevention of secondary fragility fractures: Integration of fall prevention with post-fracture management

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Abstract

In most Canadian provinces, governmental and community organizations provide fall prevention or fragility fracture (FF) prevention programs; however, none fully integrates fall prevention with post-fracture management. A secondary FF prevention model is currently under implementation in the province of Québec (Canada). The model relies on a collaborative process between secondary healthcare (orthopaedic surgeons and bone specialists), primary care physicians and nurses, and local and provincial fall prevention programs. This is orchestrated by a program coordinator. The program is complemented by a research project which aims to: 1) compare the performance of these integrated programs to results from conventional care, using a pragmatic study design; 2) identify barriers as well as factors that improve effectiveness across different implementation sites; and 3) develop and engage in active knowledge transfer activities with clinicians. One of the main identified barriers is the lack of knowledge concerning the different programs in place to prevent falls by the various healthcare workers or services. Indeed, despite efforts for the development of guidelines and policies related to fall prevention in the past decade, there still appears to be a mountain to climb with regards to translating this work into clinical practice. Therefore,thebiggest challenge for the implantation of the FF prevention program is informing both the users and the different interventionprogram collaborators to improve prevention of falls. In this context, the objective of the presentation is to present the different fall prevention program possibilitiesfor seniors living at home; from home care to different programsin place in the community.

Biography

Hélène Corriveau has a bachelor's degree in physiotherapy and a master's and a PhD degree in clinical sciences from the University of Montreal and the University of Sherbrooke, respectively. She is now a researcher in the Research Centre on Aging at the University of Sherbrooke, and Full Professor in the School of Rehabilitation, Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, at the University of Sherbrooke. She is currently a Clinical Research Scholar of the *Fonds de la recherche en santé du Québec* (FRSQ). She presently has more than 170 publications/presentations.