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CONTINUING CARE RESEARCH PROJECT (CCRP)

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Veterans Affairs Canada and the Ontario Seniors' Secretariat are collaborating on a research initiative called the Continuing Care Research Project. The project is intended to develop new knowledge which can be used to: a) improve health and supportive services to Veterans, seniors, and their families; and b) contribute to national policy making on continuing care issues. The project is endorsed by the Canadian Seniors Partnership. An Advisory Committee, which includes representatives from Canadian seniors' organizations and service provider associations is providing advice throughout the project.

The project consists of two related studies. Study 1 included Overseas Veterans in Halifax, Ottawa and Victoria who are, or were, eligible to receive some home care and treatment services under the Veterans Independence Program; these Veterans had previously been ineligible for these services. The Veterans may be living at home or in a facility. Data collection for this study is now complete. Study 2 includes Veterans who are, or were, eligible to receive services under the Veterans Independence Program; these Veterans may be living at home, in supportive housing, or in a facility. This study is being conducted in Toronto and is expected to continue over the next few months.

The Continuing Care Research Project will provide information regarding costs and outcomes for Veterans in different living situations. In this project, costs include: out-of-pocket expenses covered by Veterans and their families; time and assistance provided by family members and friends; services funded by Veterans Affairs Canada, and services provided by provincial governments and/or regional health authorities. Outcomes include: Veterans' health status, use of care services, satisfaction with care services, and quality of life. The project will also provide information about the types of care and support family members and friends provide to Veterans.

The Continuing Care Research Project is being conducted by Hollander Analytical Services Ltd., a national health services and policy research company headquartered in Victoria, B.C. It is anticipated that the project will be completed by June 2007.

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