

## **Pharmacist Involvement in Home Visits**

### **Wake Forest Baptist Health**

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Wake Forest Baptist Health provides home-based primary care to the geriatric patient population who are home bound, as well as transitional home visits for patients recently discharged. A comprehensive medication review in the patient's home, in collaboration with providers and/or social workers, is a valuable way to identify and address medication-related problems. However, this pharmacy care model is inefficient and costly in terms of the investment of time for non-reimbursable care. The team developed and tested a screening tool to identify patients most likely to benefit from a pharmacist medication review in the home setting. As a result, a higher electronic frailty index (eFI) score or LACE score categorized patients as high risk and most likely to benefit from a pharmacist home visit. The average time spent preparing for a visit was approximately 33 minutes, and the time spent in the home averaged 63 minutes. Types of pharmacist interventions were categorized with the majority being medication management followed by patient education, medication adherence, medication changes, and medication access. Patient and provider satisfaction were assessed with both showing a high degree of satisfaction. The pharmacy team has attempted to evaluate impact on hospital utilization which showed no statistically significant difference; this could be due to a very small study size. From these findings, the pharmacy home visit model has transitioned to a formal consult service for the health system in collaboration with a social worker. This pharmacist-social worker model for home visits, either before or after a provider visit, is designed to focus on social determinants of health and provide more holistic, patient-centered care.