



**Building Operational Excellence: Home-Based Palliative Care** identified leading operational practices in home-based palliative care to address gaps and improve the quality and efficiency of end-of-life care. As part of this work, the CHCA conducted an evidence synthesis on Managing Medication and Supplies in Home-Based Palliative Care.

## 10 ways to manage medication and supplies in the home setting

- 1 Create policies and procedures specific to managing controlled drugs (i.e. access, storage, disposal).
- 2 Develop patient and caregiver education materials on safe storage and disposal practices.
- 3 Educate and assist patients and caregivers with medication management.
- 4 Use emergency medication kits for easy and timely access.
- 5 Learn about the HPSA medication and sharps return programs in BC, MB, ON, PEI.
- 6 Tap into pharmacists' expertise for medication safety and delivery options (short versus long-acting).
- 7 Encourage patients and caregivers to keep a medication diary.
- 8 Use SMART Pump infusion devices.
- 9 Learn about the Patch-For-Patch Fentanyl Return Program in Ontario.
- 10 Check out medication disposal pouches; a safe inactivation and disposal method.

