

**American Association for Elder Care (AAEC)
White Paper Series – October 2025**

White Paper: Elder Care At Home

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1. Executive Summary

This white paper provides a comprehensive overview of the home-based elder care landscape, addressing the growing demand for in-home services that support aging in place. It outlines policy frameworks, technology integration, and quality assurance systems to ensure safe, efficient, and person-centered care delivery at home.

2. Introduction – The Home Care Landscape

With aging populations expanding worldwide, home-based elder care has emerged as a key component of sustainable long-term care. Families increasingly prefer aging-in-place models that preserve independence while integrating clinical oversight, caregiver support, and smart monitoring technologies.

3. Models of Home-Based Elder Care

AAEC categorizes home care models into three major types:

- Family-led caregiving supported by community or remote clinical teams;
- Agency-based care staffed by trained home caregivers;
- Hybrid care models integrating telehealth and on-site visits.

Each model requires tailored protocols for safety, documentation, and regulatory compliance.

4. Integration with Telehealth and Digital Monitoring

The integration of telehealth, wearable sensors, and AI analytics enhances home-based care by enabling continuous health monitoring, fall detection, and predictive risk alerts. AAEC supports interoperability between care platforms, ensuring that data from remote devices feeds securely into electronic health records accessible to both clinicians and families.

5. Training and Certification of Home Caregivers

AAEC's caregiver certification framework emphasizes core competencies: personal care, infection prevention, communication, and digital literacy. Continuous education programs help caregivers adapt to new technologies and care standards, improving safety and consistency across home care environments.

6. Payment and Reimbursement Mechanisms

Financing remains a major barrier to expanding quality home care. AAEC advocates for policy alignment across Medicare, Medicaid, and private insurers to reimburse certified home care services. The association also supports outcome-based reimbursement models linked to patient well-being and reduced hospitalization rates.

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7. Risk Management and Safety

Home environments present unique safety challenges—ranging from fall hazards to medication errors. AAEC promotes standardized safety checklists, caregiver training on emergency response, and technology-assisted surveillance to mitigate risks while preserving patient autonomy.

8. Governance and Quality Oversight

AAEC collaborates with state and federal agencies to establish home care quality benchmarks, performance audits, and rating systems. The governance model emphasizes transparency, regular review, and stakeholder participation from families, providers, and regulators.

9. Conclusion and Policy Recommendations

Home-based elder care represents the future of aging with dignity. By combining family engagement, trained caregivers, and technology-driven support, the AAEC framework ensures that seniors receive high-quality care within their preferred environment. Future policies should promote funding equity, caregiver workforce development, and cross-sector collaboration to strengthen the home care continuum.