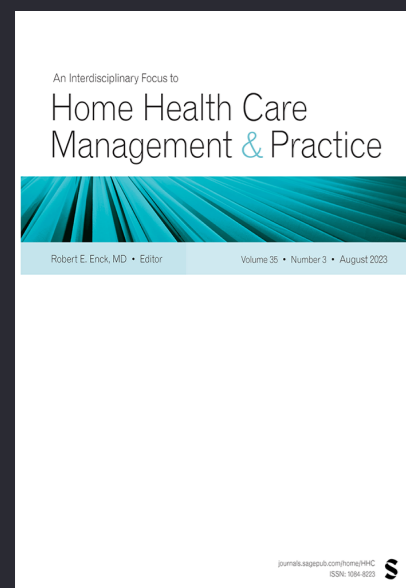


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## ARTICLE

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## Clinical Leadership – An Important Precondition for the Success of Proactive and Interdisciplinary Follow-up of Frail Older Recipients of Home Healthcare

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### Abstract

Early identification and follow-up of sub-acute and acute functional decline in older persons living with multimorbidity at home require integrated and proactive care by interdisciplinary health personnel. Yet, in the context of the task-oriented and fragmented home healthcare services, early identification is challenging. Therefore, the aim of this study was to identify preconditions for the success of a proactive and interdisciplinary follow-up of older recipients of home healthcare. We conducted a qualitative secondary analysis of data from 6 focus group interviews with registered nurses and nurse leaders. In addition, we performed and analyzed data from 2 new focus group interviews with general practitioners and RNs who had a role as super users in a developmental project which introduced a clinical instrument for early identification of sub-acute and acute functional decline (sub-acute functional decline in the elderly—SAFE). Their experiences with using SAFE constituted the backdrop for the study. In total, 41 representatives of the interprofessional primary care staff of 3 city districts participated. Having a common goal, sharing tasks and having reciprocal understanding of each health profession's contribution, systems and tools and clinical leadership were all seen as important factors for succeeding in the proactive and interdisciplinary follow-up of older recipients of home healthcare. Clinical leadership was deemed the strongest precondition, and clear leadership which promotes

