

## Data Access

- Researchers interested in accessing the CLSA data can apply online by visiting [www.clsa-elcv.ca](http://www.clsa-elcv.ca).
- The CLSA data are available to approved Canadian and international researchers and trainees.\* There are three application deadlines per year. The CLSA only accepts applications for data that are available at the time of submission.
- The time frame from the application submission deadline to the time approved researchers can expect to receive their dataset is approximately six months.
- Applications are reviewed by the CLSA Data and Biospecimen Access Committee (DSAC).
- Following notification of approval, a CLSA Access Agreement is signed between McMaster University (the data custodian) and the primary applicant's institution.
- The CLSA will charge researchers, based in academic settings and research institutes, using a partial cost-recovery model. Visit [www.clsa-elcv.ca](http://www.clsa-elcv.ca) for a complete schedule of fees.
- A fee waiver may be granted to trainees enrolled at a recognized institution in Canada or Canadian trainees based at institutions outside Canada but funded through a Canadian source.
- Ethics approval is not required at the time of application, but no data can be released without proof of approval from an established research ethics board.

## Principles of Data Access

- The rights, privacy and consent of participants must be protected and respected at all times
- The confidentiality and security of data and biospecimens must be safeguarded at all times
- CLSA data and biospecimens are resources that will be used optimally to support research to benefit all Canadians

## Projects using CLSA Data

Ongoing research projects and collaborations using CLSA data span the disciplines of biological, clinical, social and population health:

- **The Health of Older Immigrants in Canada**  
Dr. Esmé Fuller-Thomson, University of Toronto
- **Long-term Exposure to Ambient Air Pollution and Effects on Cognitive Decline in an Older Population**  
Dr. Robert Dales, Health Canada
- **Examining Personal and Environmental Factors Associated with Social Isolation and Loneliness Among Canadians**  
Dr. Verena Menec, University of Manitoba
- **Examining Frailty in Canada from a Population Health Perspective**  
Dr. Lauren Griffith, McMaster University
- **Identifying the genetic determinants of lean and fat body compartments measured by DEXA**  
Dr. Claudia Langenberg, University of Cambridge;  
Trainee: Laura Wittemans



## Transforming Everyday Life Into Extraordinary Ideas

The CLSA is one of the largest and most comprehensive platforms for research on aging, disease and disability, with longitudinal data collected over 20 years from more than 50,000 participants across Canada.

\*Currently, there is no provision to transfer biospecimens to applicants outside of Canada.



## Our Mission

The Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging (CLSA) is a large, national research platform on health and aging allowing researchers to answer critical questions on the biological, medical, psychological, social, lifestyle and economic aspects of aging, disability and disease.

The CLSA follows 51,338 individuals who were between the ages of 45 and 85 at recruitment, for 20 years. Through its large sample, detailed data collection and longitudinal design, the CLSA enables research on the complex interplay among health determinants.

## CLSA Design & Sampling

In 2015, the CLSA completed recruitment and baseline data collection from 51,338 community-dwelling individuals aged 45 to 85 years from across Canada. CLSA participants undergo repeated waves of data collection every three years and will be followed for 20 years or until death. The second wave of data collection, known as Follow-up 1, was completed in 2018. The Tracking cohort is made up of 21,241 participants who were randomly selected from 10 Canadian provinces to provide questionnaire data through telephone interviews.

The Comprehensive cohort is made up of 30,097 participants who were randomly selected from areas extending 25-50 km from one of the 11 Data Collection Sites located across Canada to provide data through in-home interviews and visits to Data Collection Sites, where they undergo physical and cognitive assessments, and are asked to provide blood and urine samples.

## Data Availability

Baseline and Follow-up 1 data collection on all participants are now complete, and these data are available to the research community.

The available data include:

- **Questionnaire data from up to 51,338 participants**
- **Physical assessment data from up to 30,097 participants**
- **Images & raw data (cIMT, DEXA, ECG, retinal imaging)**
- **Genomics data**
- **Hematology data**
- **Biochemistry biomarkers**
- **Linked CANUE data (air quality, greenness neighbourhood factors, weather)**

Additional Baseline and Follow-up 1 data releases are scheduled for 2019. For current data availability, please visit: [www.clsa-elcv.ca/data-availability](http://www.clsa-elcv.ca/data-availability).

Data from more than **51,000** participants available for researchers to access



## Research Areas

Questionnaire modules for all participants include:

Socio-demographics	Social networks
General health	Cognition
Activities of daily living	Depression
Caregiving/care receiving	Injuries & Falls
Labour force participation	Nutrition risk
Retirement	Vision
Chronic health conditions	Hearing
Women's health	Smoking
Social participation	Alcohol use

Additional information gathered from 30,000 participants includes:

Anthropometric measures  
Bone density  
Heart function  
Hearing  
Blood pressure  
Lung function  
Vision  
Sleep  
Diet  
Medication use  
Blood & urine samples  
Physical function

To review data collection tools and summary statistics, visit: [www.clsa-elcv.ca](http://www.clsa-elcv.ca)