

Publication and Promotion Policy for CLSA Approved Users

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging (CLSA) is a national research platform collecting data and biospecimens from more than 50,000 participants over 20 years. The fundamental goal of the CLSA is to provide a research platform and to mobilize experts in the community to generate the scientific content that will enable interdisciplinary, population-based research and evidence-based decision-making that will lead to better health and quality of life for Canadians.

As a publicly funded research platform, the CLSA endeavours to promote the availability of findings that result from research based on CLSA data and/or biospecimens, to the widest possible audience. To this end, the CLSA publishes a summary of all approved applications on its website, and encourages the dissemination of research findings following completion of these projects. The CLSA expects that Approved Users¹ will publish their findings in peer-reviewed journals.

This document outlines the CLSA's policy on publishing research results derived from the use of CLSA data and/or biospecimens.

1.1 Policy Objective

The objective of this policy is to enable dissemination of research results arising from the use of CLSA data and/or biospecimens by: 1) clarifying the requirements for publications based on the analysis of CLSA data and/or biospecimens, and, 2) providing guidelines for the promotion of these publications.

2.0 GUIDING PRINCIPLES

2.1 Open Access Publication

The CLSA expects Approved Users to publish their findings in peer-reviewed academic journals as per the Tri-Agency Open Access Policy on Publications <http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/32005.html>.

¹ *Approved Users are researchers who have been approved to use CLSA data and/or biospecimens.*

2.2 Proposed Manuscripts & Other Proposed Primary Publications

Final drafts of all manuscripts, reports, reviews and other proposed primary publications describing research using CLSA data and/or biospecimens must be sent to the CLSA, by the Primary Applicant, for review at least 15 working days prior to the anticipated submission. The goal of this review is to ensure that participants cannot be identified in publications, and that results are presented in a scientifically accurate manner in relation to the CLSA design and data collection methods. The manuscript will also be checked to ensure that the research presented matches the objectives of the approved project. This review is not a substitute for peer review. We have also created the '*Checklist for the preparation of manuscripts and publications by CLSA Approved Users*' included in *Appendix 1*, to help Approved Users prepare manuscripts and to facilitate review by the CLSA. Should the review take longer than expected, the Primary Applicant will be advised. Once the review is completed, feedback will be sent to the Primary Applicant.

2.3 Abstracts, Posters & Presentations

Drafts of abstracts, posters, and presentations do not need to be sent to the CLSA for review, but should consider the Guiding Principles outlined in this document, such as *Acknowledgments* (Section 2.3) and *Supplementary Conditions of Use* (Section 2.4). The CLSA appreciates being advised of these publications for reporting and knowledge translation purposes as described in Section 2.8, below.

2.4 Acknowledgements

Full acknowledgement of the source of CLSA data and biospecimens must be included in any publications that arise from the use of CLSA data and biospecimens. This acknowledgement must identify the sources of funding for the CLSA and the platform, the dataset version number and the Data Access Application Number of the request to use the CLSA data and/or biospecimens.

All publications must include the following acknowledgment:

"This research was made possible using the data/biospecimens collected by the Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging (CLSA). Funding for the Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging (CLSA) is provided by the Government of Canada through the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) under grant reference: LSA 9447 and the Canada Foundation for Innovation. This research has been conducted using the CLSA dataset [insert Dataset name and version number here], under Application Number [insert your CLSA project number here]. The CLSA is led by Drs. Parminder Raina, Christina Wolfson and Susan Kirkland."

The specific wording of the acknowledgement will be checked and finalized during the pre-publication review of your manuscript.

2.5 Data Availability Statement

Some journals stipulate that the data used for the analyses be deposited with the journal or otherwise be made available to replicate the findings. The CLSA's privacy and confidentiality requirements do not permit Approved Users to share CLSA data beyond their research team, so this requirement cannot be met. Approved Users should communicate this to the journal by

providing the following statement:

“Data are available from the Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging (www.clsa-elcv.ca) for researchers who meet the criteria for access to de-identified CLSA data.”

2.6 Supplementary Conditions of Use

The use of some components of the CLSA data come with supplementary Conditions of Use, beyond those implied through the use of the CLSA dataset and already outlined in this Publication and Promotion Policy. These may include a requirement to cite specific publications, to collaborate with an individual or group or to acknowledge a group or an entity. The supplementary Conditions of Use are included in *Appendix 2: Conditions of Use Associated with Scales, Tests and Measures in the CLSA*. It is the responsibility of the Primary Applicant to ensure that the Conditions of Use are respected, including but not limited to Section 8 of the CLSA Access Agreement. For additional clarity, the Approved User’s right to publish shall end upon termination of the CLSA Access Agreement.

2.7 Citing CLSA Questionnaires

All questionnaires and modules made available on the CLSA website must be referenced as appropriate if you use them in any research project. Please contact the CLSA on access@clsa-elcv.ca to know the sources of the questionnaires used in the CLSA. If a questionnaire has been modified by the CLSA, the format of the citation should be as follows:

Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging, [Name of module or questionnaire] [(wave of data collection)] adapted from [Source, ex. survey by government agency, research study]; available at: [Website]; consulted on: [date].

For example, the Social Networking (SN) questionnaire was modified by the CLSA from the General Social Survey by Statistics Canada:

Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging, Social Networks Questionnaire (Baseline) adapted from the General Social Survey, Statistics Canada; available at: <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/en/catalogue/89F0115X> ; consulted on: July 23, 2018.

2.8 Communication & Media

As a strategic initiative of CIHR, the CLSA research team work to inform CLSA participants, the scientific research community, CLSA partners and members of the public about how the platform is being used by promoting approved projects on our website (www.clsa-elcv.ca) and promoting the findings from approved projects through our website and other communications channels (e.g. news and scientific media, newsletters, presentations and social media).

CLSA Approved Users may wish to discuss with the media, or present in public forums (e.g. knowledge translation activities such as the CLSA Webinar Series), their work with the CLSA data. The CLSA is happy to work with researchers and their institutional public relations offices to ensure the best approach to publicity. Researchers are encouraged to discuss their work with their own public relations offices before engaging with the media.

The CLSA encourages researchers to promote their approved projects and findings on social media platforms, such as Twitter. To amplify the reach of your dissemination efforts, please tag the CLSA ([@clsa_elcv](#) on Twitter, or [Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging](#) or [Étude longitudinale canadienne sur le vieillissement](#) on Facebook). Researchers are also encouraged to use the hashtag #CLSAFindings.

Please contact access@clsa-elcv.ca if you wish to discuss the promotion of your CLSA research project.

2.9 Policy Review

The CLSA will review and modify this policy as needed.

2.10 Additional Information

Should you have further questions or require additional information, please contact us via access@clsa-elcv.ca.

References

Tri-Agency Open Access Policy on Publications: <http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/32005.html>
Queried on Dec 8, 2017.