

Publication and Promotion Policy for CLSA Data 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 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 Data Users¹ to 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 objectives of this policy are to: 1) clarify the requirements for publications based on the analysis of CLSA data, 2) provide guidelines for the promotion of such research findings, and 3) increase dissemination of research results from the use of CLSA data and biospecimens.

2.0 GUIDING PRINCIPLES

2.1 Manuscript Review

Final drafts of all manuscripts describing research using CLSA data and/or biospecimens must be sent to the CLSA for review at least 30 working days prior to the anticipated submission to the journal. 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. Appendix A contains a checklist to help Data Users prepare manuscripts 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.

2.2 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 reference 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.

¹ *Data Users are researchers who have been approved to use 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.”

2.3 Supplementary Conditions of Use

The use of some components of the CLSA data come with an additional set of Conditions of Use, beyond those implied through the use of the CLSA dataset and already outlined in this Publication 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 will be included in the CLSA Access Agreement. It is the responsibility of the Primary Applicant to ensure that the Conditions of Use are respected.

2.4 Open Access Publication

The CLSA expects Data 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>.

2.5 Data Availability Statement

Some journals stipulate that the data used for the analyses be deposited with the journal or otherwise be available to replicate the findings. The CLSA’s privacy and confidentiality requirements do not permit Data Users to share CLSA data beyond their research team, so this requirement cannot be met. Data 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 Communication & Media

As a strategic initiative of CIHR, we 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 of approved projects through our website and other communications channels (e.g. news and scientific media, newsletters, presentations and social media).

CLSA Data Users may wish to discuss with the media, or present in public fora (e.g. the CLSA Webinar Series or knowledge translation activities), 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 (PR) offices before engaging with the media.

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

2.7 Policy Review

The CLSA will review and modify this policy as needed.

2.8 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.

Appendix A

Checklist for manuscript preparation by CLSA Data Users

Please ensure that you have included the following items in your manuscript, *before* submitting the final draft to the CLSA for review.

Should you have questions, please email access@clsa-elcv.ca.

- The abbreviation 'CLSA' must be included in the title of the manuscript, or the name of the platform fully spelled out as 'Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging' may also be used.
- The abbreviation 'CLSA' must be included as a keyword in the manuscript.
- Results presented in the manuscript must be in accordance with the research objectives of the approved project.
- Reference must be made to the core design CLSA publication:
Raina P., Wolfson C., Kirkland SA., Griffith LE., Oremus M., Patterson C., Tuokko H., Hogan D., Wister A., Payette H., Brazil K., Shannon H. The Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging (CLSA). *Canadian Journal on Aging*, CLSA Special Issue Volume 28, Number (3), 2009, 221-229.
- CLSA design features (inclusion/exclusion criteria, sampling strategy, data collection procedures, etc.), if included in the manuscript, must be described accurately. Please refer to the relevant CLSA Protocol available for download under the Researchers section of our website (www.clsa-elcv.ca).
- The approved acknowledgement statement must be included.
- The following disclaimer must be included: 'The opinions expressed in this manuscript are the author's own and do not reflect the views of the Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging.'
- Supplementary Conditions of Use should be respected, as applicable.