

ROTMAN RESEARCH ROUNDS

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"Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging as a Platform for Studying Transitions and Trajectories of Aging and Health"

Despite long-standing awareness that the aging process involves complex changes during an individual's lifetime (from the cellular level, to individual behavioural and psychological factors, to broad social contexts) a clear picture of the combined effects has not yet emerged. The CLSA plans to investigate the transitions and trajectories of aging and health that are influenced by the interrelationship among intrinsic and extrinsic factors. In recent years, our ability to study aging has increased with biological and technological advances, such as the sequencing of the human genome. Thus in this new era of longitudinal research, we are conducting a study that moves beyond a mere description of change over time to actually studying the dynamic determinants of change within and between individuals over time. The CLSA is a 20-year longitudinal study of 50,000 Canadian men and women between the ages of 45 and 85 years at baseline. All participants are asked to provide a common set of information on demographic, social, physical/clinical, psychological, economic, and health service use aspects relevant to health and aging. Thirty-thousand of the 50,000 participants are also asked to provide additional in-depth information through series of unique physical examinations and biological specimen collection (blood, DNA and urine). The individual data will also be linked to administrative health service utilization records, disease registries, mortality files, as well as contextual and environmental indicators. This presentation will provide details about the design and preliminary results, and future application of this platform to understand the trajectories of aging population.

Monday, April 14th 2014 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Location: Jacob Theater Classrooms ABC, Baycrest Hospital