



# **Biomarkers of Frailty: A Collaboration between CLSA, CFN, Metabolon & MIRA**

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**Canadian Frailty Network  
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# What is the Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging (CLSA)?

**A research platform –**  
Infrastructure to enable  
state-of-the-art, interdisciplinary  
population-based **research**  
and **evidenced-based**  
decision-making that will lead  
to better health and quality of  
life for Canadians.



# CLSA Research Platform

50,000 women and men aged 45 - 85 at baseline

Target: 20,000  
Actual: 21,241  
Randomly selected within  
provinces

Target: 30,000  
Actual: 30,097  
Randomly selected  
within 25-50 km of 11 sites

Questionnaire  
• By telephone (CATI)

Questionnaire  
• In person, in home (CAPI)

2010 - 2015

2015

2018

Clinical/physical tests

Blood, urine

• @ Data Collection Site

Participants  
aged 45 to 85  
at baseline  
(51,338)

20 Years

Baseline

FU-1

FU-2

FU-3

FU-4

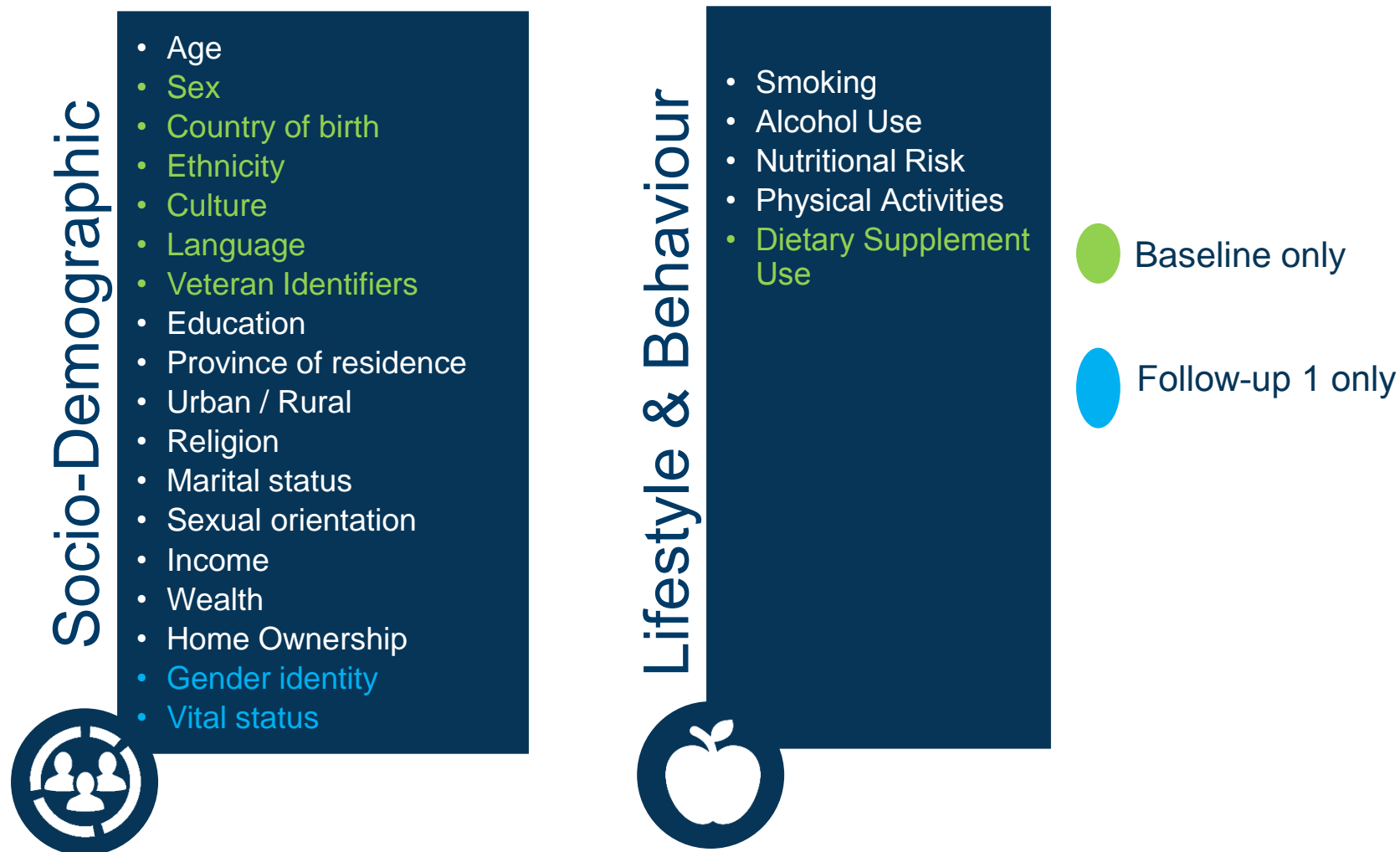
FU-5

FU-6

Active follow-up every 3 years

# Baseline & Follow-up 1 Questionnaires

## Tracking & Comprehensive



# Baseline & Follow-up 1 Questionnaires

## Tracking & Comprehensive

- Baseline only
- Follow-up 1 only

- General Health
- Women's Health
- Vision
- Hearing
- Oral Health
- ADL/IADL
- Pain and Discomfort
- Health Care Utilization
- Injuries
- Falls
- Falls due to Consumer Products
- Preventative Health Behaviours
- Hearing Handicap Inventory for the Elderly
- Unmet Health Care Needs

### Physical Health



- Self-Reported Chronic Conditions & Disease Symptoms:
  - Diabetes
  - Stroke/Cerebrovascular
  - Traumatic Brain Injury
  - Hypo & Hyperthyroidism
  - Hypertension
  - Ischemic Heart Disease
  - Osteoarthritis of the Hand
  - Osteoarthritis of the Hip
  - Osteoarthritis of the Knee
  - Musculoskeletal
  - Osteoporosis
  - Neurological
  - Neuropsychiatric
  - Asthma
  - COPD
  - Gastrointestinal
  - Cancer
  - Epilepsy

# Baseline & Follow-up 1 Questionnaires

## Tracking & Comprehensive

### Psychological Health

- Depression
- General mental health (self-reported)
- Satisfaction with Life
- Post-traumatic Stress Disorder
- Cognitive Battery:
  - Rey I/Rey II
  - Animal Fluency Test
  - Mental Alternation Test
  - Meta Memory
  - Subjective Cognitive Decline
- Loneliness Scale
- Childhood Maltreatment Elder Abuse



### Labour Force

- Retirement Status
- Pre-Retirement Labour Force Participation
- Pre-Retirement Labour Force Participation – open text
- Labour Force
- Labour Force – open text question
- Retirement Planning\*
- Work Limitations Questionnaire



\*Abbreviated in Comprehensive

### Social Health

- Social Networks
- Social Support – Availability
- Social Participation
- Care Receiving 1 / Formal Care
- Care Receiving 2 / Informal Care
- Care Giving
- Social Inequality
- Online Social Networking
- Transportation, Mobility, Migration
- Built Environments
- Social Cohesion



Baseline only  
Follow-up 1 only

Current Data Availability: [www.clsa-elcv.ca/data-availability](http://www.clsa-elcv.ca/data-availability)



# Baseline & Follow-up 1 Questionnaires

## Tracking & Comprehensive

### Comprehensive Only

- Short Diet Questionnaire
- Disease Algorithms & Disease Symptoms
- Medications
- Sleep & Snoring
- Life Space Index
- Psychological Distress
- Personality Traits



### Tracking Only

- Self-reported Height
- Self-reported Weight
- Functional Status
- Dietary Supplement Use
- Medication Use



# Physical Assessments

## Comprehensive Only

### Biospecimens

- Blood
  - Serum
  - Plasma
  - Buffy Coat
  - Whole blood
  - Cells
  - DNA
  - PBMC
- Urine
  - Random



### Psychological Measures

- Full Cognitive Battery\*:
  - Miami Prospective Memory Test (event- & time-based)
  - Stroop – Victoria Version
  - Controlled Oral Word Association Test
  - Choice Reaction Time
  - Meta Memory
  - Subjective Cognitive decline



\*Includes Rey, Mental Alternation & Animal Fluency Tests. [Meta Memory](#), [Subjective Cognitive Decline](#)

### Physical Measures

- Measured Height/Weight
- Body Mass Index
- Hip & Waist Circumference
- Blood pressure & Pulse Rate
- Body Composition
- Timed Get Up and Go
- Standing balance
- 4-metre walk
- Chair rise
- Grip strength
- Visual Acuity
- Fundus Scans (Diabetic Retinopathy & micro vessel disease)
- Tonometry
- Hearing
- Spirometry
- Carotid Intima Media Thickness
- Carotid Pulse Wave Velocity
- ECG, Aortic Calcification
- Bone Density by DXA
- Body Composition by DXA



Current Data Availability: [www.clsa-elcv.ca/data-availability](http://www.clsa-elcv.ca/data-availability)



# Upcoming Follow-up 1 Releases

- Cognition
- Alphanumeric physical assessment data:
  - Spirometry
  - Hearing
  - Visual acuity, Tonometry, Fundus Scans
  - Electrocardiogram
  - Carotid-intima Media Thickness
- Hematology



**Available  
Fall 2019**

# Upcoming Releases

- Chemistry FU-1
- Epigenetics (Baseline)
- Metabolomics (Baseline)
- Medications Baseline & FU-1

A decorative graphic on the right side of the slide. It features a large, semi-transparent blue circle containing a glowing DNA double helix. Overlapping the bottom-left of this circle is a smaller, solid dark blue circle. Inside this smaller circle, the text "Anticipated 2019-2020" is written in white.

**Anticipated  
2019-2020**

# Follow-up 2

## New Data

- Positive Mental Health
- Generalized Anxiety Disorder
- Digit Triplet Test for Hearing
- Sitting Height measurement
- Weight Perception
- Resiliency
- Intimate Partner Violence
- Post-traumatic Stress Disorder (re-introduced)



**Data  
collection  
launched  
Summer  
2018**

**Ends  
2021**



# CLSA Biomarkers for Frailty Research

## **THE JOURNAL OF FRAILITY&AGING**

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CANADIAN FRAILITY NETWORK WORKSHOP: IDENTIFYING BIOMARKERS OF FRAILITY TO SUPPORT FRAILITY RISK ASSESSMENT, DIAGNOSIS AND PROGNOSIS.

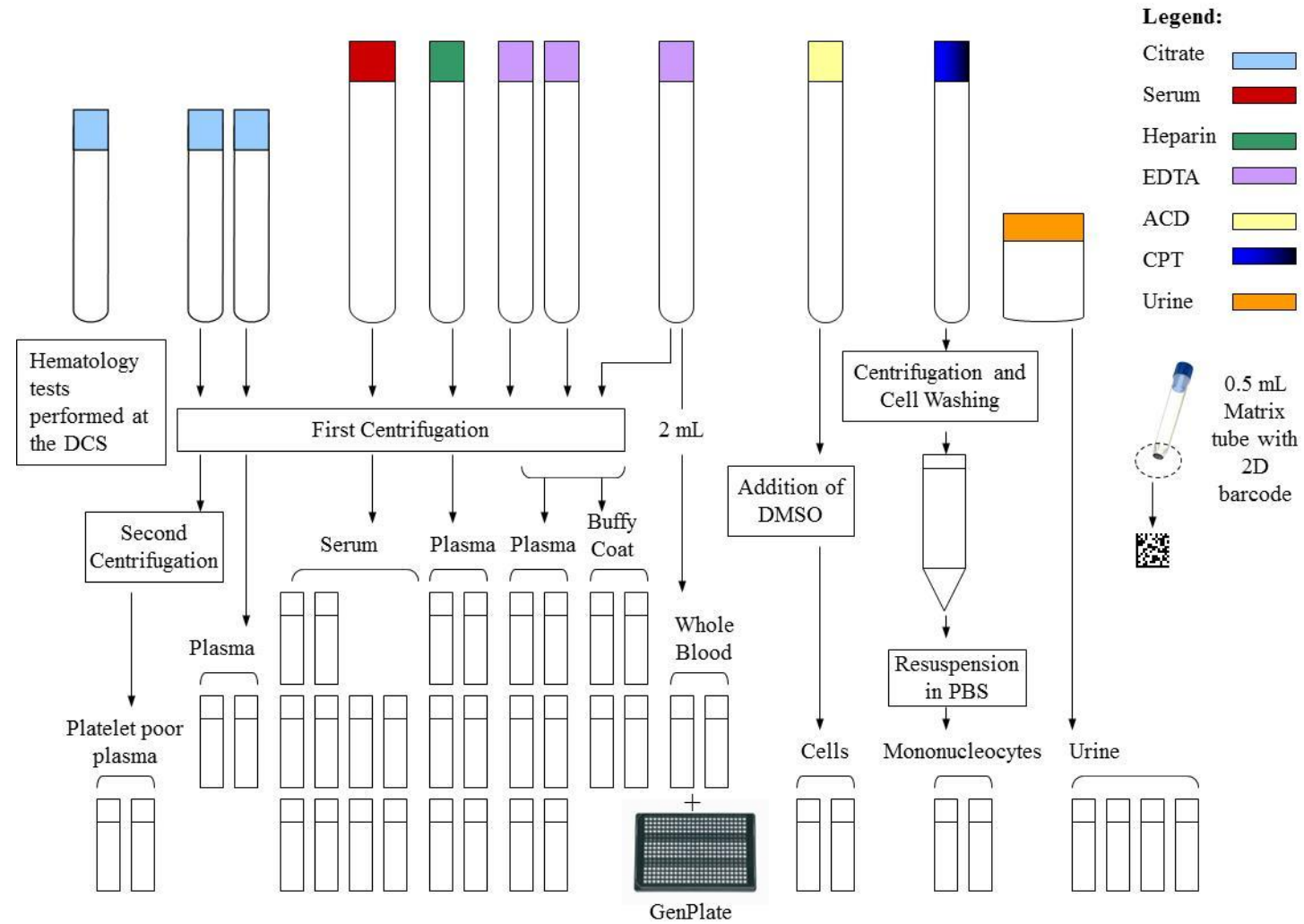
TORONTO, JANUARY 15, 2018

J. MUSCEDERE, P.M. KIM, J. AFILALO, C. BALION, V.E. BARACOS, D. BOWDISH, M. CESARI, J.D. ERUSALIMSKY, T. FÜLÖP, G. HECKMAN, S.E. HOWLETT, R.G. KHADAROO, J.L. KIRKLAND, L. RODRIGUEZ MAÑAS, E. MARZETTI, G. PARÉ, P. RAINA, K. ROCKWOOD, A. SINCLAIR, C. SKAPPAK, C. VERSCHOOR, S. WALTER  
FOR THE CANADIAN FRAILITY NETWORK

# Principles to Guide Future CFN biomarker initiatives

- 1) Biomarkers should reflect a pathophysiological pathway or mechanism that is fundamental to frailty onset, development/progression and severity. Conceptually there may be two categories of biomarkers:
  - i) Biomarkers that are linked with frailty but are not causal to the pathophysiology of frailty. These would not be actionable.
  - ii) Biomarkers that are a component of the pathophysiology of frailty and have a causal role. These would be actionable such that the modulation of the biomarker could directly affect the onset or severity of frailty and/or progression of frailty.
- 2) The utility of biomarkers can be classified into two different types:
  - i) Biomarkers to increase the utility of (or support) existing clinical frailty measures (e.g., FI).
  - ii) Biomarkers to be used independently of clinical frailty measures.
- 3) Biomarkers should be able to be embedded in clinical assessments and tools, but more research on how to best achieve this is needed. Concomitant use of both a clinical frailty assessment instrument and biomarkers is likely to be the optimal method to bring about personalized frailty assessment and individualized care plans.
- 4) Biomarkers chosen for a clinical tool should be evaluated on their ability to accomplish the ultimate clinical purpose. For instance, biomarkers used for diagnosis may be different from those used for risk assessment, which may differ from those used for prognosis
- 5) Different care settings are likely to require different biomarkers due to variation in prevalence of both frailty and biomarkers in different populations.
- 6) Any candidate biomarker should be validated in different populations, care settings and environments.
- 7) An ideal frailty biomarker would be able to measure the effectiveness of an intervention.
- 8) Practical considerations related to ease of measurement (i.e., special instruments and/or expertise required) and ease of securing biological samples (e.g., tissue biopsy vs blood sample collection) should be considered when selecting frailty biomarkers.

# CLSA biospecimens



# Core Biomarkers in the CLSA

	Category	N	Biomarkers
Available from Baseline	<b>HEMATOLOGY</b> Data Collection Sites (DCS) Analysis repeated every 3 years)	25,427	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Erythrocytes</li> <li>Granulocytes</li> <li>Hematocrit</li> <li>Hemoglobin</li> <li>Lymphocytes</li> <li>Platelets</li> <li>MCV</li> <li>MCH</li> <li>MCHC</li> <li>MPV</li> <li>RBC</li> <li>RDW</li> </ul>
	<b>CHEMISTRY</b> Calgary Laboratory Services (CLS) (Analysis repeated every 3 years)	27,012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Albumin</li> <li>Alanine aminotransferase (ALT)</li> <li>C-reactive protein (CRP)</li> <li>Creatinine</li> <li>Cholesterol</li> <li>Ferritin</li> <li>Free T4</li> <li>Hemoglobin A1c (n = 26,961)</li> <li>HDL</li> <li>LDL</li> <li>Thyroid stimulating hormone (TSH)</li> <li>Triglycerides</li> <li>25-Hydroxyvitamin D</li> <li>eGFR</li> <li>TNF-Alpha (n=10,000) (FU-1)</li> <li>IL6 (n=10,000) (FU-1)</li> <li>NT-ProBNP (FU-1)</li> <li>hsTroponin</li> <li>Electrolytes (n=10,000)</li> </ul>
	<b>GENETICS</b> Genetic and Epigenetic Centre (GEC)	26,871*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Genotypes (Affymetrix Axiom array, 794k SNPs)</li> <li>Imputation (Haplotype Reference Consortium release 1.1, 39.2M SNPs)</li> </ul>
Available in 2019	<b>EPIGENETICS</b> Epigenetic Centre (EC) (Repeated every 3 years)	1,488	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DNA methylation</li> <li>DNA extracted from PBMCs</li> <li>850K Infinium MethylationEPIC BeadChip (Illumina)</li> </ul>
	<b>Metabolomics</b> Metabolon	10,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>METABOLON Platform</li> <li>~1,300 metabolites</li> </ul>



# Metabolon's HD4 Global Metabolomics Profiling

## Screens >5000 Named and >7000 Unnamed Biochemicals And Reports Back All Detected

### Metabolite Coverage

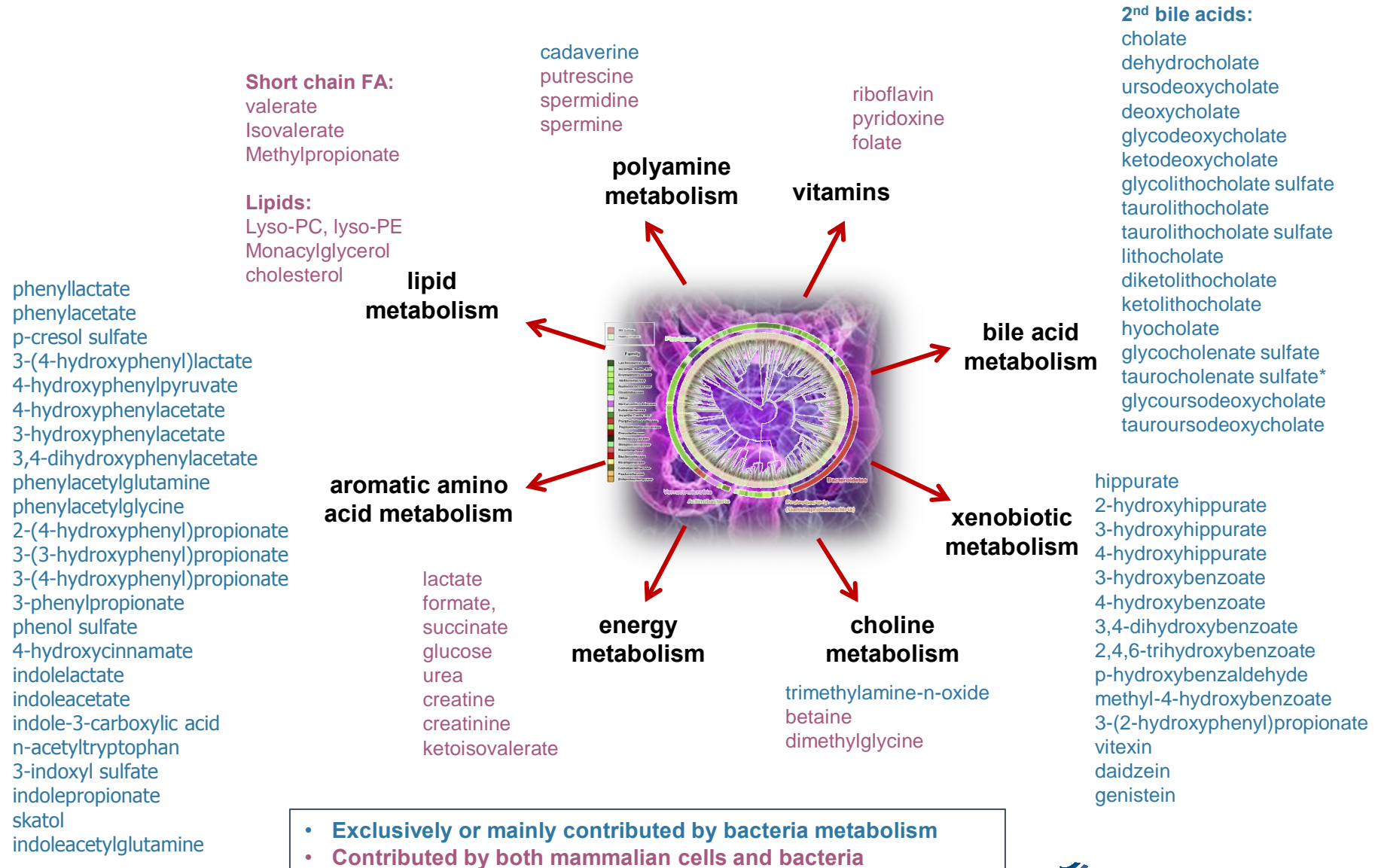
The DiscoveryHD4 platform provides the industry's broadest class coverage from a single sample.

Around 1,000 metabolites across diverse classes can be measured\* from 100  $\mu$ L of plasma/serum, 50-100 mg of tissue, or a 50-100  $\mu$ L cell pellet with approximately 5% CVs.

\* The metabolites detected from the above classes can vary based on the type of sample and the abundance levels in those samples.

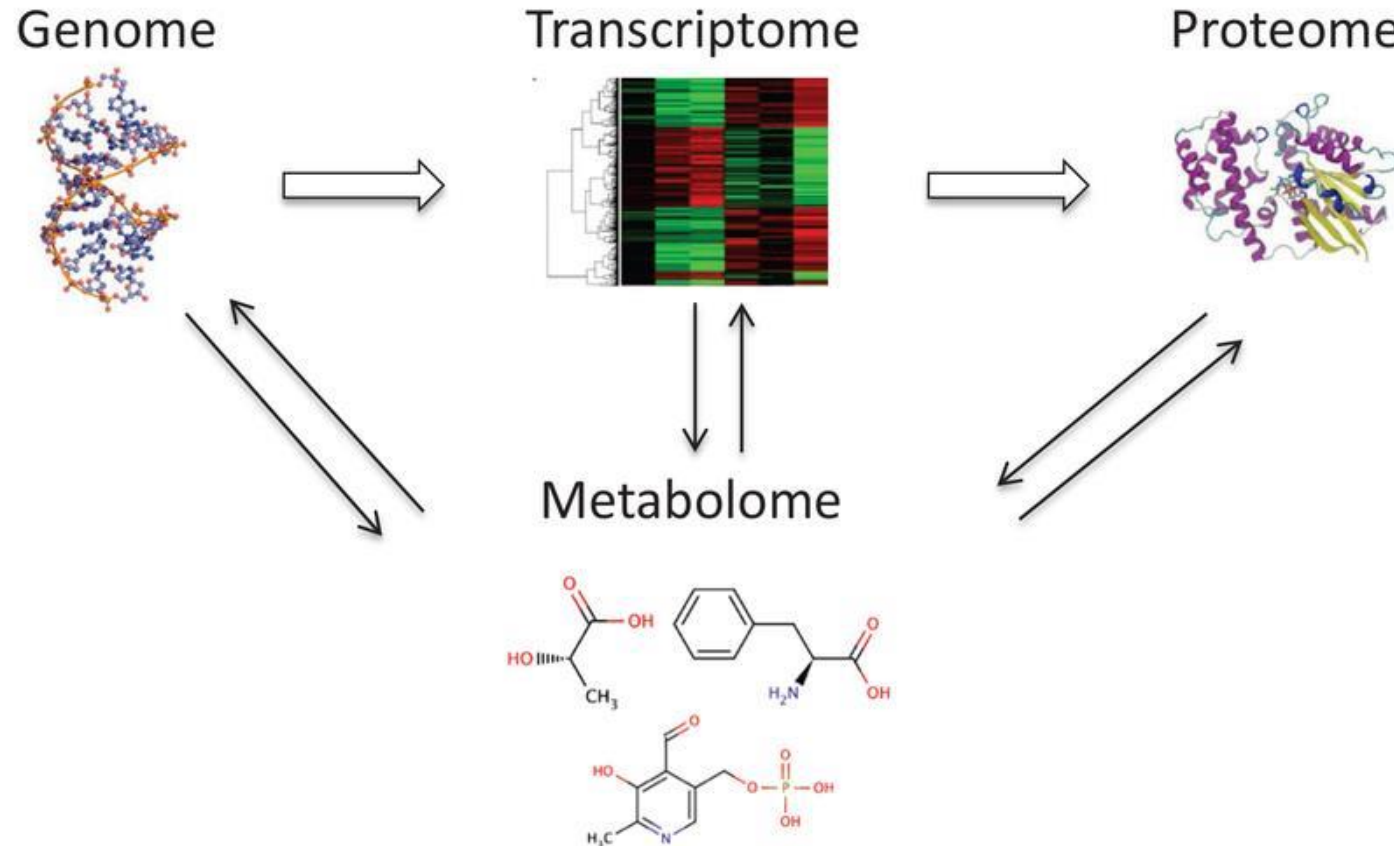
Amino Acid Metabolism	Cofactor & Vitamin Metabolism	Nucleotide Metabolism	Microbiome Metabolism
Amino Acid catabolism Bioactive intermediates & trace amines Glutathione metabolism Inflammatory mediators Microbiome metabolism Polyamines/ornithine metabolism Urea Cycle	Ascorbate metabolism CoA metabolism FAD metabolism Folate metabolism NAD/NADP metabolism PLP metabolism SAM metabolism Many other cofactors and vitamins (tocopherol, B12, Biotin)	Degradation of nucleotides Deoxyribonucleotides DNA damage FAD metabolism Modified nucleotides Nucleotide Coenzymes Purine and pyrimidine <i>de novo</i> synthesis Purine and pyrimidine salvage synthesis Ribose metabolism	2° Bile acids Aromatic amino acids Energy Choline/carnitine Xenobiotics Fatty acids/short chain medium chain Vitamins Polyamines
Carbohydrate Metabolism	Energy Metabolism	Lipid Metabolism	Novel Metabolites
Gluconeogenesis Glucose metabolism Glycogen metabolism Glycosylation pathways Metabolism of other carbon sources Metabolism of sugars (fructose, galactose) Polyol metabolism Pyruvate metabolism	Acyl-carnitines Beta-oxidation Creatine metabolism FAD metabolism Glycolysis Mitochondrial function Pentose phosphate pathway	Bile acids Bioactive lipids Cholesterol Fatty acids Sphingosine Inflammatory mediators Lysolipids Sterols Oxidized lipids (COX, LOX)	Novel drug metabolites Novel xenobiotics Novel microbiota metabolites Novel by-products of non-canonical host metabolism

# About 200 molecules are derived from bacterial metabolism



# The Metabolome

The metabolome is tightly connected with other “omes.” The metabolome interacts and reflects the activity of the genome, transcriptome, and proteome.

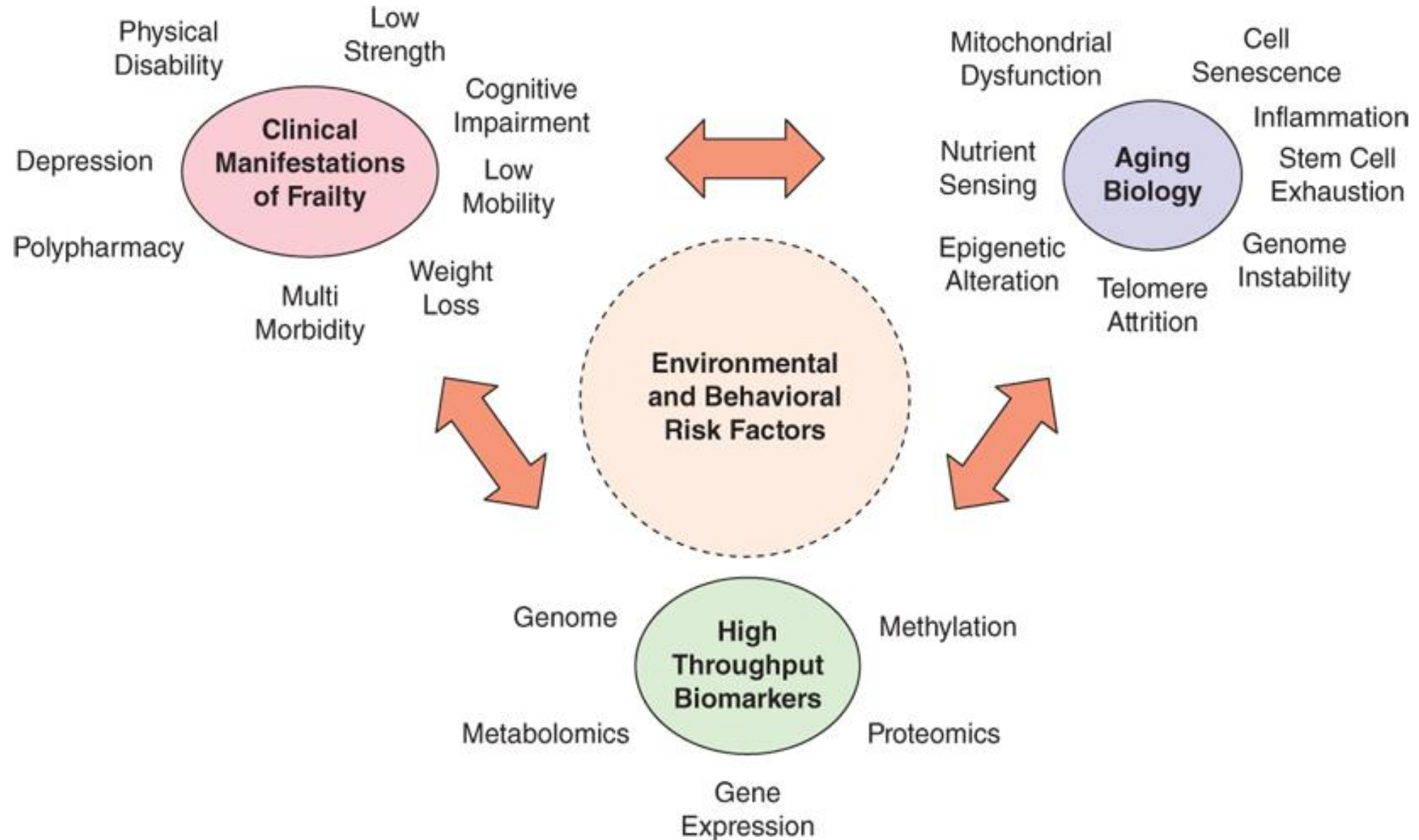


The end result of all biological & environmental interactions is the definitive way to fully understand the phenotype

# NEW OMICS TECHNOLOGIES IN THE CLSA

- Proteomics (O-LINK Multi-Plex Platform)
  - Inflammation panel (1500 CLSA Participants)
    - Available in Fall of 2020
- Whole Genome Sequencing on 500 CLSA participants over two time periods (Pilot)
  - Genetic Instability (Fall of 2020)
- Whole Exome Sequencing discussions in progress

# Opportunity for Research on Frailty

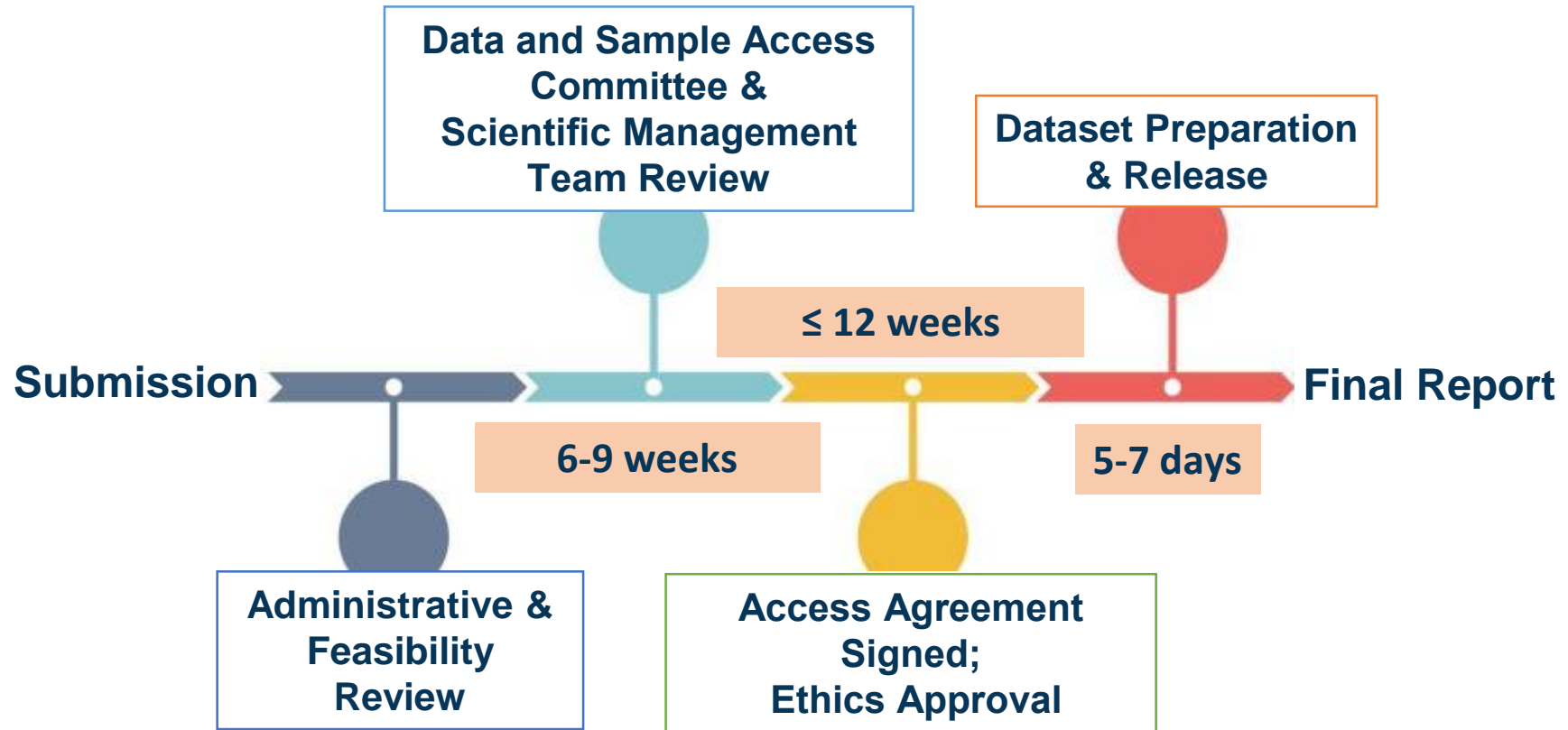




## Applying for Data Access

- **Magnolia**, a new web-based data access application system
- User account requests:  
**access@clsa-elcv.ca**
- 2-3 working days to receive login information

# Data Access Timeline



Applicants advised to plan on receiving data six months after submission deadline



# Data Access Fees

- **Partial Cost Recovery Model**
    - **Alphanumeric data**
      - CAD \$3,000 for researchers based in Canada
      - CAD \$5,000 for researchers based at institutions outside of Canada
      - **Graduate students** using data solely for thesis research & **Postdoctoral fellows** using data solely for the postdoctoral project are eligible for a **fee waiver (once as postdoc)**
      - Trainees must be enrolled at a Canadian institution or be supported by Canadian funds if working outside Canada
    - **Images & Complex data**
      - Additional fees of CAD \$1,000 apply for access to image files, raw data and datasets that require more complex customization
-





**Contact:**

**Data inquiries: [access@clsa-elcv.ca](mailto:access@clsa-elcv.ca)**

**General inquiries: [info@clsa-elcv.ca](mailto:info@clsa-elcv.ca)**

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**[www.clsa-elcv.ca](http://www.clsa-elcv.ca)**