

**Applicant**

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**Project Title**

Mediators of Age-related Lung Function Decline

**Project Summary**

Maintenance of lung function is an often under-appreciated, yet critical component of healthy aging. It naturally declines with age, doing so in the presence/absence of overt (eg. smoking), and non-overt (eg. demographics, lifestyle) factors. Although the majority of older Canadians are not exposed to overt factors, many non-overt factors are extremely prevalent and have a substantial impact on lung function. The primary goal of this project is to characterize the relationship between lung function and non-overt factors across multiple disciplines (ie. lifestyle, psychosocial, health and disease), and identify significant mediators of its age-related decline. We are also interested in investigating whether these relationships are also apparent for 'healthy smokers', individuals that currently smoke, but exhibit no loss of lung function.

**Keywords**

Lung function, Age-related decline, Multivariate analysis, Healthy smokers