CLSA Approved Project

Applicant
Dr. Elizabeth M Badley, Krembil Research Institute/Toronto Western Hospital

E-mail Address
e.badley@utoronto.ca

Project Title
Arthritis in Aging Canadians: Prevalence and Impact in the Population

Project Summary
Arthritis is a leading chronic condition and cause of disability. The most frequent type is osteoarthritis, and it has been suggested that there may be a 'metabolic' sub-type of osteoarthritis when this condition affects multiple joints and is associated with obesity, hypertension, heart diseases and/or diabetes. The study goals are to describe 1) the characteristics of people who report arthritis, and compare the impact on functioning, pain and general health to people with other chronic conditions or no chronic conditions. 2) To investigate the characteristics of people with osteoarthritis in terms of risk factors and disability, to identify subgroups by site of joints affected and in relationship to obesity and metabolic-associated co-morbidities. This study will include the first report of the prevalence of self-reported osteoarthritis in Canada. Findings will inform The Arthritis Society priorities, highlight key areas for further research, and contribute to the emerging literature on 'metabolic osteoarthritis'.

Keywords
Arthritis; osteoarthritis; prevalence; risk factors; multi-morbidity