

**Applicant**

Dr. Pasqualina (Lina) Santaguida, McMaster University

**E-mail Address**

santag@mcmaster.ca

**Project Title**

Understanding the disablement process in people with osteoarthritis and rheumatoid arthritis:  
Analysis of the CLSA Comprehensive Cohort baseline data

**Project Summary**

Both osteoarthritis (OA) and rheumatoid arthritis (RA) are associated with significant impact on disability and quality of life. Living with arthritis is a barrier to healthy aging strategies aimed at improving function, social health, and independence. Canadian data suggests that rates of self-reported arthritis are increasing, especially in people over 60 years old. We will conduct a study using data from the CLSA Comprehensive cohort to learn about factors associated with healthy functioning and conversely accelerated disablement in people with arthritis compared to those without. We will explore relationships between physical limitations and other health factors (e.g. lifestyle factors, mental health status, social support, hormone replacement therapy (in women only), etc.). We will identify key factors that can be modified to minimize future disability.

**Keywords**

Osteoarthritis, Rheumatoid arthritis, ICF, Disability, SEM