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Project Title

Factors associated with social participation and community ambulation in older adults with stroke and osteoarthritis

Project Summary

Participating in social activities is important for health and well-being in older adults. The extent to which people are able to participate often depends on their ability to walk outside of their home, in both outdoor (e.g., sidewalk, park) and indoor environments (e.g., shopping mall, community centre). Social participation and community ambulation often decrease with increasing age and also become more difficult when an individual suffers from arthritis or has a stroke. In this study, data from the Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging will be used to identify factors associated with social participation and community ambulation in Canadian older adults, those with arthritis and those with stroke. Our findings will help us better understand factors that limit and encourage social participation and community ambulation in Canadian older adults. This is important for clinicians working with older individuals and has implications for future research and policy planning.

Keywords

Community ambulation, social participation, stroke, osteoarthritis