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Project Title

Examining determinants of oral health among older adults in Canada

Project Summary

Despite major improvements in Canadians' oral health status, considerable inequities persist among vulnerable groups, including older adults. People over 65 years represent the fastest growing group in Canada, but present higher rates of dental diseases and face unique barriers to maintaining good oral health. Since oral health is an integral part of general health and well-being, it is important to explore its determinants among the aging population. This study will explore barriers and facilitators of oral health status among the aging population. The status of oral health indicators among older adults at Baseline (2015) and Follow Up 1 (2018) will be described overall and stratified by age and sex. Sex-specific analyses will explore determinants of functional independence and barriers to oral care, and their associations with oral health outcomes. Findings will help inform oral health policies and programs that support healthy aging in Canada.

Keywords

Oral health, Aging Population, Barriers, Autonomy, Canada