

# OHS Research Bulletin

## **New data, new collab on data linkage, and more – updates from the Ontario Health Study**

Hello friend of the Ontario Health Study,

We've got a few quick fall updates for you.

### **Notable new data available for clinician researchers:**

Data from the OHS Toronto Assessment Centre Questionnaire, collected from more than 4,800 participants, are now available. This questionnaire is notable as it asked questions wholly different from either the OHS Baseline or Follow-Up questionnaires, focusing more on self-reported symptoms and lifestyle factors, including head trauma, fainting, chest pain on effort, joint and body pain, and sleep.

These data are particularly rich for this subset of OHS participants, as all completed the Baseline questionnaire (2010-2017), and 4212 also completed the Follow-Up questionnaire (2016-2018). Many others subsequently participated in two ancillary studies (sleep health and heart health/cognitive function). Visit our [website](#) or email Rachel Chepesiuk at [access@ontariohealthstudy.ca](mailto:access@ontariohealthstudy.ca) to learn more.

### **Administrative health data – what's new?**

The OHS will be part of a new one-stop shop for federated health, lifestyle, genomics, and health services data in Canada. [CanPath](#) (of which the OHS is the biggest contributor), now has an [agreement with CIHI](#) to link data from over 330,000 Canadians with CIHI's comprehensive health services data.

As you know, researchers currently must apply separately for each and every provincially held data set. Once this CanPath-CIHI linkage is operational, researchers will access a ready-made national dataset, saving them at least year's worth of work.

**Expanded environmental exposures available:**

CanPath is adding 17 new environmental exposure data sets to its data resources as part of its ongoing collaboration with the Canadian Urban Environmental Health Research Consortium (CANUE). A November 18 webinar will outline the possibilities for research. [Register here.](#)

**Last call – CIHR funding opportunity:**

The [CIHR Healthy Cities Research Initiative](#) is offering five \$100,000 grants for projects that use **existing data sets** such as the OHS and CANUE. The application deadline is November 7, 2024. Not sure if the OHS has the data you need? Email our data access specialist Rachel Chepesiuk ([access@ontariohealthstudy.ca](mailto:access@ontariohealthstudy.ca)) for a quick chat before you apply for the grant.

Thank you for allowing the OHS to contact you. If you would no longer like to receive these, please reply to let us know.

Regards,

**Kelly McDonald**  
**Senior Program Manager**  
**Ontario Health Study**

P.S. Do you know someone who would be interested in the work of the OHS? Share our [sign-up form](#) so they can receive this occasional email.



**OHS call centre**

Hours: Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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