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Project: *Intergenerational transmission of chronic pain in Canadian veterans and their children*



### **Background**

Chronic pain and related mental health issues (PTSD, anxiety, depression, insomnia, substance use) occur at high rates in Veterans, and likely put their children at increased risk of developing pain problems that may persist into adulthood. Only one US-based study has examined pain in children of Veterans, suggesting heightened risk for pain. Given the lack of research in this area, there is a critical need to understand the nature and prevalence of chronic pain in Canadian Veterans and their children and factors underlying this intergenerational transmission.

*Aims:* 1.) To understand the prevalence of chronic pain in Canadian Veterans and their children. 2.) To examine potential risk (mental health, overprotective parenting) and resilience (social support, high family functioning) factors underlying this intergenerational transmission. 3.) To qualitatively gain in-depth understanding of the pain experience of Veterans, their spouses, and children and how it unfolds within the family context during critical periods.