

Patterns of health
and disease are largely
a consequence of how
we learn, live and work.

Results From Commissioned Study Reveal Insights Into CPHI's Impact on Scientific Community

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PULSE

Findings from a recently commissioned study show that CPHI's work over the last decade has achieved a high profile in peer-reviewed scientific literature.

Specifically, the study assessed

- The frequency with which CPHI-funded research studies were cited in peer-reviewed literature—the more a study is cited in peer-reviewed articles, the more it is used by the scientific community;
- The frequency with which peer-reviewed papers that cited CPHI's literature were themselves cited; and
- The geographical location of authors who cited CPHI's literature.

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INSIGHTS AND HIGHLIGHTS

Health of the Nation was launched in February 2004 in conjunction with the Canadian Population Health Initiative (CPHI) flagship report, *Improving the Health of Canadians 2004*. Release of this report set the stage for the focus of *Health of the Nation*—taking action to improve population health knowledge generation, synthesis and exchange. This newsletter aims to promote CPHI activities, including funded research, synthesis papers and workshop reports.

Health of the Nation is produced and distributed quarterly.

View past editions of *Health of the Nation* at www.cihi.ca/cphi.

Commissioned Study Results Reveal Insights Into CPHI's Impact on the Scientific Community

Background

The Canadian Population Health Initiative (CPHI) launched its funded research program in July 2000. In subsequent years, the program funded 44 research programs and projects facilitating innovative, policy-relevant research on population health issues. In July 2009, CPHI commissioned a study to answer questions that would shed light on the investment impact of CPHI's funded population health research.

Method

Data for this study was drawn from Elsevier's Scopus database—one of the most reliable sources of data on published research in the health sciences. Apart from its extensive coverage of more than 15,000 academic journals, Scopus's greatest strengths are in its capacity to identify every address in the case of co-authored papers and to be able to link cited papers to citing papers, thereby facilitating the calculation of indicators based on citation counts. The time period covered for this study was 1999 to 2008 (10 years).

Findings

The report provided baseline statistics on the overall impact on the scientific community for publications generated as a result of CPHI's funded research program, which included a total of 136 peer-reviewed publications.

The main finding regarding the scientific impact of CPHI's peer-reviewed articles is that they perform considerably better than the average world impact for peer-reviewed scientific publications.

This finding was corroborated by two indicators of scientific impact: the *average of relative citations* (ARC), which provides a direct measure of scientific impact, and the *average of relative impact factors* (ARIF), which provides an indirect measure of scientific impact. As both indicators point in the same direction and because the articles that cited CPHI's papers were mostly produced by authors with no connection to CPHI, it can be safely concluded that CPHI-supported papers have had an appreciable impact on the scientific community. Similarly, articles citing CPHI's peer-reviewed papers have greater impact than the world level as measured with both the ARC and ARIF indicators. In short, the knowledge produced with support from CPHI is being used in studies that are themselves, in turn, being used by the scientific community to advance knowledge in the area of population health.

The peer-reviewed articles that cited CPHI-supported papers were produced by authors from more than 300 primarily academic institutions in nearly 80 countries. These institutions consisted mainly of universities, which were responsible for most citations of CPHI's papers. The top 16 institutions citing CPHI-supported papers were 12 Canadian universities, 2 American universities and 2 Canadian institutions from the health sector. Most citations (60%) were attributable to three countries, namely Canada, the U.S. and the U.K.

These results indicate that there is considerable uptake of the research produced as a result of CPHI's funding investments and a good deal of diversity among the users of CPHI's outputs within the scientific community.

This study is part of CPHI's ongoing efforts to evaluate the impact of its work.

To access the research report summaries from CPHI's funded research program, please visit CPHI's web page at http://secure.cihi.ca/cihiweb/dispPage.jsp?cw_page=cphi_research_analysis_e.



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WHAT'S NEW AT CPHI?

New Report: *Mentally Healthy Communities: Aboriginal Perspectives*

CPHI is pleased to announce that *Mentally Healthy Communities: Aboriginal Perspectives* is now available online! This report, which is a compilation of six CPHI-commissioned papers that focus on Aboriginal communities in Canada, asked contributing authors to address the following questions: "What are mentally healthy communities?" and "What makes some communities more mentally healthy or resilient than others?" In response, the authors presented various perspectives on topics about Aboriginal mental health that span the fields of research, clinical practice and policy. Some of the views shared include the importance of culture among young Aboriginal Canadians, diversity within the realm of service delivery and the potential for culture, including language, values and ancestral law, to be protective factors in mental health.

The report complements the 2008 collection *Mentally Healthy Communities: A Collection of Papers* and CPHI's *Improving the Health of Canadians* report series on mental health and resilience. The collection was released on September 29, 2009, and can be accessed by visiting the CPHI web page at http://secure.cihi.ca/cihiweb/dispPage.jsp?cw_page=GR_3130_E&cw_topic=3130.

New Analysis in Brief From CPHI—Do Lifestyle Behaviours Really Differ Between Overweight and Non-Overweight Girls and Boys?

On October 8, 2009, CPHI released the Analysis in Brief (AiB) *Comparing Activity and Fruit and Vegetable Consumption by Weight Status Among Children and Youth*. This AiB is based on survey data from Statistics Canada and compares lifestyle behaviours between overweight and non-overweight children (age 6 to 11) and youth (age 12 to 17). The behaviours examined include screen-time activities, fruit and vegetable consumption and physical activity.

"Over the past two decades, the proportion of overweight children and youth has grown tremendously in Canada, by more than 70%," says Lisa Corscadden, Senior Analyst with CPHI and lead author of the study. "Our study examines how lifestyle behaviours between weight groups differ by age, as well as by sex. This is important to note when tailoring exercise and lifestyle programs for children and youth."

To access this study, please visit www.cihi.ca/cihiweb/dispPage.jsp?cw_page=media_20091008_e.

CPHI and the INSPQ Host Joint Workshop—The INSPQ Deprivation Index for Health in Canada: Applications for Research, Policy and Practice

On September 23, 2009, CPHI, in collaboration with the Institut national de santé publique du Québec (INSPQ), hosted a one-day interactive workshop titled The INSPQ Deprivation Index for Health in Canada: Applications for Research, Policy and Practice. The event, which was held in Montréal, Quebec, brought together approximately 80 representatives spanning multiple sectors and disciplines. Within a mixed plenary and working group format, participants explored how the Deprivation Index may be used in health surveillance, needs evaluation, service evaluation and resource allocation and examined the potential for the INSPQ index and other indices to be utilized in strategic planning and policy development.

Watch the CPHI web page in spring 2010 for a CPHI workshop proceedings report!



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WHAT'S NEW AT CPHI?

Now Available Online! Proceedings Report—Improving the Health of Canadians: Mental Health, Delinquency and Criminal Activity Workshop

On September 1, 2009, CPHI released a proceedings report for the Improving the Health of Canadians: Mental Health, Delinquency and Criminal Activity workshop that was presented in collaboration with Alberta Health Services. The report features highlights from the one-and-a-half-day event and focuses on issues related to the potential links between mental health, delinquency and criminal activity. Guest speaker synopses spanning the fields of mental health, delinquency and criminal activity and key points from inspired discussion among participants are featured in the report, as are success stories, challenges and potential next steps for consideration within the fields of policy, research and practice.

To access the report please visit the CPHI web page at http://secure.cihi.ca/cihiweb/products/ihc2_workshop_proceedings_en.pdf.

Population Health Intervention Research: Summary of Training Consultation Meeting

CPHI continued to support the advancement of population health intervention research in Canada with the sponsorship of, and participation in, a meeting hosted by the Population Health Intervention Research Initiative of Canada (PHIRIC). Held in June 2009, and co-sponsored by the Centre for Behavioural Research and Program Evaluation at the University of Waterloo, the meeting explored various means of improving training in the field of intervention research.

A summary of the meeting's outcomes, including training strategies and priorities, is now available on the PHIRIC website at www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/27325.html.

CPHI Collaborates With the Canadian Public Health Association (CPHA) for the CPHA Centennial Conference—Register Today!

This year marks the 100th anniversary of the founding of CPHA, and CPHI is pleased to celebrate the centennial with continued sponsorship of CPHA's national conference. This year's centennial event, titled Public Health in Canada: Shaping the Future Together, will be held from June 13 to 16, 2010, in Toronto, Ontario. It will provide a forum for public health practitioners and others from the fields of research, policy and practice to discuss current initiatives, share success stories, address challenges and reflect upon the past as a means to help shape the future of public health.

The objectives of this year's conference are to

- Celebrate CPHA's 100th anniversary and the achievements of the public health community and its leadership;
- Showcase and learn from innovative research, policies and practices that address the social, political, cultural, economic and environmental determinants of health and promote diversity;
- Share successes and challenges in public health programs, policies and practice;
- Create a forum for knowledge exchange among practitioners, planners, policy- and decision-makers, researchers, the media, community organizations and the public; and
- Facilitate networking and mentoring to strengthen the bonds within the public health community.

To learn more and to register for the CPHA 2010 centennial conference, please visit www.cpha.ca.



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CPHI-FUNDED AND -COMMISSIONED RESEARCH

Learn About the Results of CPHI Funding

CPHI is a funder of *The Canadian Census Mortality Follow-Up Study, 1991 Through 2001*, which was used to support a number of research articles, including the following:

- “Income Disparities in Health-Adjusted Life Expectancy for Canadian Adults, 1991 to 2001,” by Cameron N. McIntosh, Philippe Finès, Russell Wilkins and Michael C. Wolfson. See the November 18, 2009, edition of *Health Reports*.
- “Mortality of Métis and Registered Indian Adults in Canada: An 11-Year Follow-Up Study,” by Cameron N. McIntosh, Philippe Finès, Russell Wilkins and Michael C. Wolfson. See the December 15, 2009, edition of *Health Reports*.

CPHI-Funded Research: Patterns of Suicide Rates in British Columbia in First Nations Communities

New analyses of suicide rates in First Nations communities were released in June 2009, as part of a report from the Provincial Health Officer of British Columbia. With funding from CPHI and under a special agreement with the Provincial Health Officer, researcher Chris Lalonde (University of Victoria) examined suicide rates and their patterns among First Nations bands for the period 1992 to 2006. Consistent with previous research for the period 1987 to 1992, rates of youth suicide were lower for communities with a higher number of protective factors. Such factors included the presence of cultural facilities and some control over services such as education and health care. In terms of adult suicide rates, a pattern similar to that shown for youth was exhibited.

Read more in *Pathways to Healing: 2nd Report on the Health and Well-Being of Aboriginal People in British Columbia*, at www.hls.gov.bc.ca/pho/pdf/abohlth11-var7.pdf.

Summary Reports—CPHI-Funded Research Projects

CPHI continues to promote key findings from its funded research portfolio by sharing summaries of research results. The following summaries were recently published on the CIHI website:

- *The Effects of Labour Market and Community Change on the Health of Sawmill Workers and Their Children* (principal investigator: Alec Ostry)
- *Vulnerable Teens: A Study of Obesity, Poor Mental Health and Risky Behaviours Among Adolescents in Canada* (principal investigator: J. Douglas Willms)
- *Metropolitan Socio-Economic Inequality and Population Health* (principal investigators: James R. Dunn and Nancy A. Ross)
- *Building Healthy Mi'kmaq Communities in Prince Edward Island* (principal investigator: Vianne Timmons)

To view these and other CPHI-funded research summaries, go to www.cihi.ca/cihiweb/disPage.jsp?cw_page=cphi_funded_research_investigators_e.



POPULATION HEALTH IN CANADA: RECENT EVENTS

If you would like to submit to the Connections section of *Health of the Nation*, please visit our website at www.cihi.ca/cphi for complete submission criteria and guidelines.

Obesity in Canada—Snapshot Now Available Online!

The report *Obesity in Canada—Snapshot*, which is now available online, explores obesity trends in Canada using data analyzed by the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC). The report features national and provincial trends and explores the many factors that influence the prevalence of obesity. CPHI, in collaboration with PHAC, is pleased to announce that a more detailed report is in development! The upcoming report will provide the latest information about how obesity is distributed in the Canadian population to health care providers, health promotion specialists and decision-makers, thus building the understanding required for a population health approach to obesity. To download complimentary copies of *Obesity in Canada—Snapshot*, please visit the PHAC website at <http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/publicat/2009/oc/index-eng.php>.

Watch future editions of the CPHI e-newsletter for updates regarding the new obesity report!

National Consultation on Developing Social–Emotional Protective Factors for Children, Youth and Families

On September 15 and 16, 2009, the Public Health Agency of Canada hosted a two-day invitational consultation titled National Consultation on Developing Social–Emotional Protective Factors for Children, Youth and Families. CPHI staff members were among the participants who explored the concept of social–emotional health and discussed the evidence for enhancing related protective factors among children, youth and families. As part of the event, participants also examined various federal, provincial and territorial mental health promotion initiatives and explored strategies for incorporating mental health into the Pan-Canadian Healthy Living Strategy.

CPHI Presents at the Data Users Conference 2009

On September 21 and 22, 2009, Statistics Canada, in collaboration with the Canadian Institute for Health Information, hosted the Data Users Conference 2009 in Ottawa, Ontario. This year's event, titled Translating Data Into Action, engaged participants in a wide range of topic areas, including chronic disease prevention and risk factors, innovative methods and techniques in health analysis, social determinants of health, injury and related prevention strategies, and health surveillance.

CPHI staff presented highlights from the report *Improving the Health of Canadians: Exploring Positive Mental Health*. Of particular focus were the factors consistently associated with positive mental health, as well as some of the challenges and opportunities associated with measuring positive mental health.

Presentations from this conference are available by request through Statistics Canada at <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/conferences/health-sante2009/presentations-eng.htm>.



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POPULATION HEALTH IN CANADA: RECENT EVENTS

CPHI Presents to the Chinese Ministry of Health

On September 26, 2009, CPHI staff presented to a delegation from the Chinese Ministry of Health. The presentation, which was part of an orientation regarding the work of the Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI), provided an overview of the work of CPHI and its contributions to the field of population health in Canada. Representatives from the Chinese ministry were in Canada to gather knowledge about the Canadian government's experience in collecting, managing and using information for public health and health policy development. To learn more about CPHI's work, please visit http://secure.cihi.ca/cihiweb/dispPage.jsp?cw_page=cphi_e.

2007 Report on the Integrated Pan-Canadian Healthy Living Strategy

In October 2009, the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) made available online the first annual Integrated Pan-Canadian Healthy Living Strategy. The strategy employs a population health approach to reducing health disparities and increasing the overall health of Canadians and provides a conceptual framework to guide action on key modifiable factors that can influence chronic disease, including physical activity, healthy eating and healthy weights.

The report is intended to help various groups spanning multiple sectors better align their efforts as they develop and implement initiatives that address healthy living issues. The report also showcases Canadian healthy living initiatives, including the work of CPHI, under various categories, such as strategic directions of leadership and policy development, knowledge development and transfer, community development and infrastructure, and public information.

CPHI continues to contribute to the ongoing strategic work on healthy living issues through participation on various related working groups spearheaded by PHAC. To access the report, please visit www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/hl-vs-strat/index-eng.php.

Pan-Canadian Conference on Youth Mental Health and Justice

The Coalition on Community Safety, Health and Well-Being and the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police hosted the Youth Mental Health and the Justice System conference. The event took place from October 25 to 27, 2009, in Winnipeg, Manitoba, where participants discussed issues related to how different systems (including justice, health and education) support and respond to youth with mental health issues. Through a mixture of presentations and breakout discussions of promising practices, participants engaged with issues related to stigma, diversion and prevention, and quality and continuity of mental health care and social services. CPHI was present at the event to participate in this unique cross-sectoral discussion as well as to promote its current work in the areas of mental health, delinquency and criminal activity.



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POPULATION HEALTH IN CANADA: RECENT EVENTS

National Invitational Symposium on Child and Youth Mental Health

The Child Welfare League of Canada, in conjunction with the National Infant, Child and Youth Mental Health Consortium, the Canadian Association of Paediatric Health Centres, the Mental Health Commission of Canada and the Alberta Centre for Child, Family and Community Research, hosted the second annual National Invitational Symposium on Child and Youth Mental Health, titled *Getting in the Door at the Right Time*.

The event took place November 19 and 20, 2009, in Ottawa, where participants provided input into the Evergreen Framework for Child and Youth Mental Health and examined how the different facets of child and youth mental health fit into broader mental health strategies, including the Public Health Agency of Canada's Pan-Canadian Healthy Living Strategy and the mental health strategy being developed by the Mental Health Commission of Canada.

During the symposium, CPHI was present as part of a guest panel discussion focused on the third report in its *Improving the Health of Canadians* mental health series, titled *Improving the Health of Canadians: Exploring Positive Mental Health*. To access this and other CPHI reports, visit http://secure.cihi.ca/cihiweb/dispPage.jsp?cw_page=cphi_e.

CPHI Sponsors the Ontario Public Health Association's Annual Conference: Building for the Future

This year's conference, which took place November 1 to 4, 2009, in Toronto, Ontario, marked the 60th anniversary of the Ontario Public Health Association (OPHA). CPHI sponsored this year's event, where participants shared insights on collaboration, knowledge exchange, innovation, health equity and the public health workforce. To learn more about the OPHA, please visit <http://www.opha.on.ca/index.shtml>.



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POPULATION HEALTH IN CANADA

CPHI Reports

Speaking Engagements

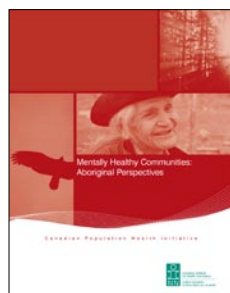
If you are interested in having a CPHI staff member speak to your organization about our work, please contact us at cphi@cihi.ca.

Sharing Your Stories

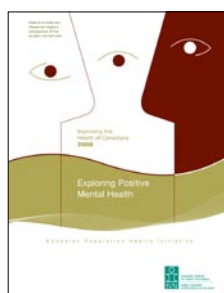
Have you used the work of CPHI to guide your work? Has our work influenced how you develop, implement or evaluate programs or policies? We want to know! Please email us at cphi@cihi.ca and tell us about CPHI's impact on your work.

Ordering CPHI Reports and Other CIHI Products

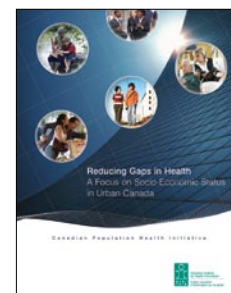
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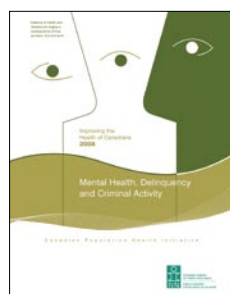
**Mentally Healthy Communities:
Aboriginal Perspectives**



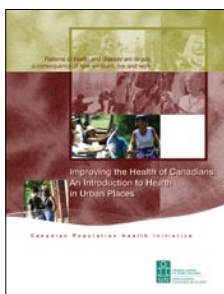
Improving the Health of Canadians: Exploring Positive Mental Health



Reducing Gaps in Health: A Focus on Socio-Economic Status in Urban Canada



Improving the Health of Canadians: Mental Health, Delinquency and Criminal Activity



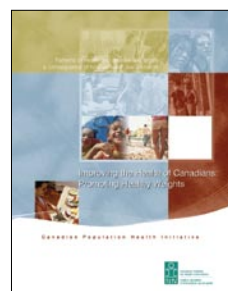
Improving the Health of Canadians: An Introduction to Health in Urban Places



Improving the Health of Canadians: Mental Health and Homelessness



State of the Evidence Review on Urban Health and Healthy Weights



Improving the Health of Canadians: Promoting Healthy Weights

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UPCOMING EVENTS

20th Anniversary Going for the Gold—Manitoba Centre for Health Policy

On March 8 and 9, 2010, the Manitoba Centre for Health Policy (MCHP) at the University of Manitoba will celebrate its 20th anniversary with a conference titled *Going for the Gold*. The conference will take place in Winnipeg, Manitoba, and will—in addition to celebrating the achievements of the MCHP—bring together stakeholders from across the country to help achieve the following goals:

- Nourish and develop collaborative health research environments by sharing successes and best practices in population health research, policies and practice.
- Explore the future of population-based health research, knowledge translation and data linkage and how it will inform policy development.
- Provide a forum to showcase and learn from innovative research, policies and practices that address the determinants of health.
- Profile strategies that build the capacity of population health research at local, regional, provincial/territorial, national and international levels.
- Provide a meeting ground for knowledge exchange among citizens, public health practitioners, clinicians, program planners, policy-makers and researchers from a range of disciplines and sectors.

To learn more and to register, please visit the MCHP website at http://umanitoba.ca/faculties/medicine/units/mchp/20th_Anniversary_Conference.html.

Moving Ahead

The Canadian Population Health Initiative strives to deliver objective and credible information on population health issues through our four complementary functions:

- Knowledge generation and synthesis;
- Policy synthesis and analysis;
- Knowledge exchange; and
- Knowledge transfer and reporting.

It's Your Turn

To evaluate our contribution of relevant, timely and evidence-based knowledge, we are requesting anecdotes that illustrate how CPHI-generated information is used for decision-making.

Please email your story to healthofthenation@cihi.ca.

