

2018 Talent Development Competition Awardees

Title: Cognition, Functional Capacity, Metabolic Syndrome Risk, and Healthcare Utilization Trajectories in Older Adults with Schizophrenia: A 10 Year Longitudinal Cohort Study

Waqas Khan

Supervisor: Tarek Rajji

Abstract: Background: Worldwide, the number of older adults with schizophrenia is increasing and will continue to grow in the coming decades. Exacerbating this concern is the limited number of longitudinal studies examining schizophrenia in older adults, which leaves healthcare systems ill prepared to address the expected growth in this population. Objectives: The objective of this study is to examine the cognition, functional capacity, metabolic syndrome risk, and healthcare utilization trajectories in older adults with schizophrenia. Design: A 10 year longitudinal cohort study. Setting: Urban academic tertiary mental health center and community living. Participants: A total of 60 older adults, 50 years of age and above, with schizophrenia. Measurements: Cognition was assessed using the MATRICS Consensus Cognitive Battery (MCCB) and the Cambridge Neuropsychological Test Automated Battery (CANTAB). Functional capacity was assessed using the USCD Performance-based Skills Assessment (UPSA). Information on metabolic syndrome risk factors and healthcare utilization were taken from an electronic medical record system.