



## Effects of Climate Change on Patients with Chronic Conditions and their Healthcare Providers

Climate change poses significant public health challenges due to its associated events such as heatwaves, wildfires, and extreme weather. People with chronic conditions are particularly at risk due to their increased health care needs, being immunocompromised, and sensitivity to their environments that may alter their health status. Climate change events can lead to direct physical and mental health impacts, as well as secondary effects by restricting access to healthcare due to infrastructure damage or safety concerns during travel. In addition, environmental injustices and structural inequities disproportionately heighten exposure to these hazards and climate risk for communities of colour, low-income people, and other marginalized groups. The purpose of this scoping review is to investigate the knowledge, perceptions, and attitudes of climate change impacts among Canadian people with chronic conditions and healthcare providers.

The research results and implications on clinical practice, education, and policy will be shared at a knowledge exchange event with healthcare providers, researchers and patients. Discussions will be co-led by patient partners, emphasizing knowledge gaps and developing solutions to improve healthcare practices and patient education. The aim will be to begin planning work to fill those gaps collaboratively. Knowledge users will collaborate through an implementation mapping process to provide feedback and devise interventions. Activities such as networking, roundtable discussions, and sharing sessions are planned to foster connections and support future efforts in healthcare adaptation to climate change.

### Jenna Rines

#### Patient and Public Partner, SPOR Evidence Alliance

Jenna Rines is a social worker and research consultant who has lived with chronic illness since 2010. She earned a Master of Social Work degree from the University of Toronto and pursued a clinical career in acute and community healthcare settings before transitioning to work in patient and community-engaged research. She was a 2021/2022 Social Work Health Futures Fellow and is interested in contributing to transformative responses to social and environmental injustices.



### Sara Guilcher, PT, PhD

#### Associate Professor, Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Toronto

Sara Guilcher is an Associate Professor at the Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Toronto. Sara and the Optimizing Health and Healthcare Experiences (OPTI-HEx) lab lead science that aims to optimize overall health care delivery, experiences, outcomes and well-being of individuals. Sara's main areas of research include integration of care, multi-morbidity, self-management, person-centered care, patient safety and hospital harm. Understanding what matters to people with lived experience, care partners, providers and decision makers is critical to co-creating solutions to complex health system issues.





## **Mina Tadrous, PharmD, PhD** **Assistant Professor, Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy,** **University of Toronto**

Dr. Mina Tadrous is a licensed pharmacist and pharmacoepidemiologist. He has developed an impactful research program that has helped change drug policies in Ontario and nationally, and has earned a reputation as a respected teacher and mentor. He leads research in the Faculty's clinical, social and administrative pharmaceutical sciences division, using real-world evidence to improve how medications are used. He works with policymakers and large data sets to answer questions about medication safety and effectiveness. Professor Tadrous also has research appointments at Women's College Hospital, ICES and the Ontario Drug Policy Research Network.

Dr. Mina Tadrous' research focus on two main areas of interest: post-marketing real-world evidence of medications' utilization and pharmaceutical policy. He is keenly interested in using and developing advanced pharmacoepidemiologic methods to study the safety, effectiveness, and utilization of drugs to inform clinical practice and policy. His research has helped inform policies that improve access to critical medications, including chronic hepatitis B therapeutics.

