

Healthcare utilization and preventive care among social housing residents compared to the general population during the COVID-19 pandemic in Ontario, Canada: A population-based cohort study



This study examined the disparities in influenza vaccination and screening for breast, cervical, and colorectal cancers

Social Housing Residents

General Population

Total Size

297,644

11,386,078

Female

58.6%

50.9%

Data Sources



Ontario administrative health data



January 1, 2018 - December 31, 2021

Differences in these factors were observed between cohorts and time periods

Time Period

Social Housing Residents

General Population



At least one
Influenza
Vaccination

Pre (2018/2019)

11.04%

11.34%

During (2020/2021)

9.39%

11.23%



Breast Cancer
Screening
(Mammography)

Pre

46.37%

56.95%

During

17.79%

21.87%



Cervical Cancer
Screening
(Pap Test)

Pre

33.63%

39.72%

During

25.92%

30.16%



Colorectal
Cancer
Screening

Pre

61.42%

69.84%

During

56.69%

66.38%



Key Take Away

This study demonstrates the widening disparities in the uptake of preventive health services among social housing residents compared to the complement cohort during the COVID-19 pandemic.

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