McMaster’s Best-in-Class Databases to Support Clinical, Public Health and Health Systems Decision-Making

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McMaster University is home to three best-in-class databases that support clinical, public health and health systems decision-making both in Canada and internationally. The databases include McMaster PLUS for clinical decision-making, Health-Evidence.ca for public health decision-making, and Health Systems Evidence for health systems decision-making. A recent donation to the university has created the opportunity to begin to integrate these databases, with the initial focus being on optimal aging and the new interface called the McMaster Optimal Aging Portal. A senior member of each of the teams behind the databases will present briefly the methods, content and usage for their respective databases: Brian Haynes for McMaster PLUS, Maureen Dobbins for Health-Evidence.ca, and John Lavis for Health Systems Evidence. John Lavis will then provide a brief overview of the proposed McMaster Optimal Aging Portal and open a discussion about its potential, challenges and implications. Full audience participation is needed as we explore options for enhancing the use of research evidence in decision-making through the Portal and its constituent databases.

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