

# **Executive Dysfunction in Chronically & Formerly Homeless Adults in Ottawa**



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# Retrospective Case-Control Study

- **31 cases**
  - OICHI affiliated shelters and housing facilities for chronically homeless
- **31 controls**
  - Matched for age (+/- 10 years) & sex
- **Adapted OICHI Intake Questionnaire collected:**
  - Demographics
  - Medical History
  - Mental Health History
  - Substance Use History
- **2 screening tests of executive dysfunction administered**
  - Colour Trails Test (CTT 1&2)
  - The Quick Exit
- **Outcome:** Chronic Homelessness

# Preliminary Results

**Table 1. Baseline Characteristics of Chronically Homeless Participants and Formerly Homeless Controls**

<b>Baseline variable</b>	<b>Chronically Homeless (n=31)</b>	<b>Formerly Homeless (n=31)</b>	<b>P value</b>
Education - finished highschool	12	20	0.042
Assistance for - personal care	14	1	0.0001
- medications	24	3	<.0001
Medication use - antidepressant	16	7	0.0287
- antipsychotic	29	6	<.0001
- sleep aid	9	0	0.002
Medical condition - Cirrhosis	11	3	0.0175
- Tuberculosis	9	2	0.0231
- Epilepsy	5	0	0.0196
- Acquired Brain Injury	28	16	0.0008
Substance use - cocaine	4	13	0.0104

# Preliminary Results



- Executive Function Tests**

**Table 2. Unadjusted Analysis of Executive Function Tests of Chronically Homeless Participants and Formerly Homeless Controls**

<b>Tests</b>	<b>Chronically Homeless (N=31)</b>	<b>Formerly Homeless (N=31)</b>	<b>P value</b>
Colour Trails Test 1 (CTT1) - time in seconds	<b>69.5</b>	<b>48.5</b>	<b>0.0145</b>
<b>CTT 1 – impaired</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0.0383</b>
Colour Trails Test 2 (CTT2) - time in seconds	<b>131.2</b>	<b>101.4</b>	<b>0.0329</b>
<b>CTT 2 - impaired</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0.2554</b>
The Quick Exit - total score	<b>6.5</b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>0.0497</b>
The Quick Exit - <b>impaired</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>0.3844</b>