

## Webinar

### Transforming aging as a research priority in the Americas

Day: September 30th, 2021- Time: 12:30 – 2:00pm EST

Zoom: [https://paho-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_CD1u7NlITyqHH-gFrJQqTA](https://paho-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_CD1u7NlITyqHH-gFrJQqTA)

The population throughout the Region of the Americas is aging faster than ever before. It is expected that by 2030, the Region will have a greater number of older people than children under the age of 15 – a situation that will occur in the Americas 25 years before the world average. To improve the lives of older people, their families, and their communities and promote more quality of life in the second half of the life course, the United Nations has approved the *Decade of Healthy Aging 2021-2030*. The *Decade* is focused on actions areas that are built upon specific enablers, one of which is increasing research and innovation on healthy aging.

The recently published *Decade of Healthy Aging Baseline Report* claims that Governments and other stakeholders must invest in data to monitor healthy aging across the life course as the lack of data in older age groups increases the invisibility of older people<sup>1</sup>. Research on healthy aging must address the existing gaps and current needs of older people, anticipate future challenges, and link the social, biological, economic, and environmental conditions and determinants of healthy aging in the first and the second halves of life and develop interventions to improve healthy aging trajectories. Enhancing research knowledge on older adults and healthy aging and creating a solid scientific base on this matter will contribute to informed and evidence-based decision-making; and to evaluate and promote cost-effective interventions that generate important improvements in the health and well-being of aging societies. Major data gaps regarding older populations have been already identified in countries from Latin America and the Caribbean<sup>2</sup>. Research should explore older persons' current situation and aid in the anticipation of future challenges faced by this population, allowing the creation of evidence-based solutions which are cost-effective and specific to the Region.

### *The special edition of the Pan American Journal of Public Health: [Healthy Aging in the Americas](#)*

This volume builds on the global research agenda for the upcoming *Decade of Healthy Aging* and adds important information to the present state of knowledge on healthy aging in the Region of the Americas. Several papers within the edition address the components of healthy aging and provide insight into the extent to which older persons in the Region can realize their goals. Notably, the special edition is also being launched during the celebration of the Journal 100-year anniversary.

The purpose of this webinar is to discuss and present the rationale for aging and longevity as a research priority in the Region of the Americas, presenting one specific effort to open the space for more investigation and data collection on this area, which is the launch of the Special Edition of the Pan American Journal of Public Health on Healthy Aging.

<sup>1</sup>WHO, Decade of healthy ageing: baseline report. Geneva: World Health Organization; 2020. License: CC BY-NC-SA 3.0 IGO.

<sup>2</sup>National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine. (2015). *Strengthening the Scientific Foundation for Policymaking to Meet the Challenges of Aging in Latin America and the Caribbean: Summary of a Workshop*. Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education. Washington, DC: The National Academies Press.

## Program

Moderator: PAHO Representative

Time	Topic
12:30 – 12:35 pm	<b>Welcome (5')</b> <b>Dr. Jarbas Barbosa</b> , PAHO Assistant Director
12:35 – 12:55 pm	<i>Aging and longevity as a priority in the research agenda of the Americas (20')</i> <b>Dr. Victor Dzau</b> , President of the National Academy of Medicine (NAM)
12:55 – 1:05 pm	<i>Improving data on healthy aging in the Americas (10')</i> <b>Dr. Sebastián García Saiso</b> , Director PAHO- Department of Evidence and Intelligence for Action in Health (EIH)
1:05 – 1:15 pm	<i>The Pan American Journal of Public Health: 100 years supporting public health (10')</i> <b>Ms. Eliane Pereira</b> Advisor, Knowledge Management and Networks PAHO-EIH
1:15 – 1:55 pm	Panel about the Special edition on Healthy Aging: Aging Research in the Region of the Americas: achievements, opportunities and challenges (40') Moderator: <b>Dr. Enrique Vega</b> , Unit Chief PAHO, Healthy Life Course Unit, Department of Family, Health Promotion and Life Course Department (FPL) Panelists <b>Dra. Mariana Lopez Ortega</b> , Researcher in Medical Sciences, Instituto Nacional de Geriatria, Mexico <b>Prof. Norah Keating</b> – Director, Global Social Issues on Ageing (GSIA, IAGG) <b>Dr. Leocadio Rodríguez Mañas</b> – Global Aging Research Network (GARN, IAGG)
1:55 – 2:00 pm	<b>Closing Remarks (5')</b> <b>Dr. Andrés de Francisco</b> , Director PAHO – FPL

\*There will be simultaneous translation to Spanish, Portuguese and English

<sup>1</sup>WHO, Decade of healthy ageing: baseline report. Geneva: World Health Organization; 2020. License: CC BY-NC-SA 3.0 IGO.

<sup>2</sup> National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine. (2015). *Strengthening the Scientific Foundation for Policymaking to Meet the Challenges of Aging in Latin America and the Caribbean: Summary of a Workshop*. Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education. Washington, DC: The National Academies Press.