

THE A/C STUDY



Monitoring trends in the prevalence of HIV and associated behavioural, socio-demographic and systemic factors among African-Caribbean people in Ontario

WHAT:

The A/C study is a community based study that aims to answer two questions:

- a) How widespread is HIV among African, Caribbean and Black communities in Toronto and Ottawa?
- b) What are some of the factors that may determine the prevalence of HIV among African Canadians in both cities?

WHY:

Information about why and how African Canadians become exposed to HIV is limited. Moreover, ethnic or racial background of those diagnosed with HIV is not always collected or accurate, leaving uncertainty about how widespread HIV is among African Canadians.

Better information is needed to help determine advocacy, activism, education and community mobilizations related to health and wellbeing.

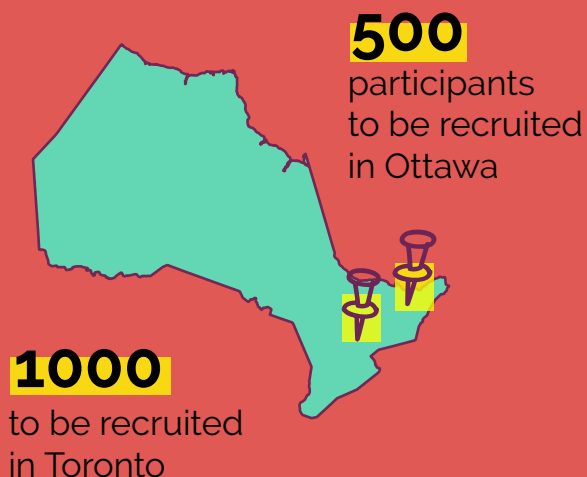
HOW:

First or second generation African, Caribbean and Black people living in Toronto and Ottawa provide information in three distinct ways.

Through an anonymous questionnaire; anonymous collection of a blood sample; and by consenting to anonymously link their questionnaire data to the Ontario Health Insurance Plan (OHIP) database

IMPACT:

This study is ongoing with overall impacts and data to be assessed upon completion, to date:



The team has developed an **operations manual and conducted trainings in Toronto and Ottawa** for survey interviewers.



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