# Manitoba's Francophone Children: Assessing their Health and Well-being

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- · Too few studies on health of Francophones living in linguistic minority settings (1)
- Most French-minority studies originate from Ontario or New Brunswick (2)
- · Clear lack of knowledge about the health of the Franco-Manitoban population

To describe the determinants of health of Franco-Manitoban children

### Limited access to French-language services

• Over 50% of Francophones living outside Quebec rarely have access to French-language health services (3)

### Language barriers

- Can have negative consequences
- Discouraging use of preventive services (4)
- Lower satisfaction (5)
- Reduced treatment compliance (6)
- · Most vulnerable clients are CHILDREN and the elderly (7)

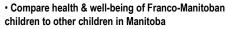
### **Early Childhood Development**

• Important for long-term health and well-being (8)

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- Ages 0 to 18
- Francophone children = children attending French first language schools (FL1) in the Division scolaire franco-manitobaine (DSFM)
- Using the Population Health Research Data Repository
  - · Housed at the Manitoba Centre for Health Policy



- · Poor health will be associated with poorer socioeconomic status (SES) (9)
- · Education and children in care are child health indicators that will be associated/predictive of longer term health outcomes
- Lack of French-language health services may affect families' willingness or comfort in bringing children to an English-speaking physician, this could lead to:
  - ↓ Physician Visits
  - ↓ Continuity of Care
  - ↑ Hospitalization for Preventable Infections

## **Child Health Indicators**

### Perinatal Health

Teen Pregnancy/Teen Birth

Preterm Birth Size at Gestational Age

Breastfeeding Initiation

Infant and Child Mortality

**Health Care Utilisation** 

Immunization Hospitalization for Preventable

Infections

Hospitalization for Injury

Physician Visits Continuity of Care **Childhood Chronic Conditions** 

Asthma

Diabetes **ADHD** 

Disabilities

**Autism Spectrum Disorders** 

**Use of Prescription** 

Medication Any Prescription

**Antibiotic Prescriptions** 

Education

EDI School mobility

Grade 9 completion of credits Grade 12 Standards Test

High School Graduation

# Community and Social Services

Licensed Child Care Spaces Receipt of Income Assistance Children in Care

Children in Families Receiving Protection/Support Services

- Inform the Division scolaire franco-manitobaine (DSFM), school board, parents' committees and major players in the Ministry of Education about the health / well-being status of the Francophone students
- · Develop initiatives within the Francophone community that would target child outcomes that show to be poorer than other children in Manitoba
- If health services are part of the issue:
  - Increase health services offered in French
  - · Encourage current Francophone students to consider a career in health

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