1. **Introduction**

The Lifelines Catalogue can be accessed via the website [https://catalogue.lifelines.nl/](https://catalogue.lifelines.nl/)

In this user manual we will explain how to use the Lifelines Catalogue. Via the Lifelines Catalogue you can browse through all available Lifelines data variables and submit a selection of requested variables to Lifelines.

**Note:** The Lifelines Catalogue only works in the newest browsers, namely Internet Explorer 9+, Chrome, Firefox and Safari. It does not work in Internet Explorer 8 and lower.

If you encounter any problems using the Lifelines Catalogue, please contact our data managers at data@lifelines.nl.

2. **How to register**

IMPORTANT: if you want to save or submit your catalogue selection you need to register and sign in first, also highlighted on the screen:

![Register a Catalogue account](image)

You can register a Catalogue account by clicking on the [Sign in] button on the right top of the page.

Fill in at least all the mandatory registration fields (marked with an “*”) and click on the [Sign up] button to register your Catalogue account.
After the registration process, you will receive a confirmation email from email adress “molgenis@gmail.com” requesting to activate your Catalogue account.

**Important note:** please check the SPAM box of your email account if you do not receive this email.

Click on the activation link in the email message to activate your Catalogue account. You will receive again an email message from “molgenis@gmail.com” confirming the activation of your account.

3. **Changing your account details after registration**

If needed, you can make changes to your registered account, for example the registered email address. Click on the [Account] button

Make the necessary changes and click on the [Apply changes] button to save.

4. **Using the search option**

The Catalogue is build up like a selection tree. On top it shows a Search field.

For example, to search on “physical activity”, simply type in “physical activity” and click on the search button:
The catalogue will now only show the variables associated with your search. Click the button to clear your search and show the full Catalogue again.

Note: Clearing the search field does not affect any selections you have previously made.

5. **Selection a variable group**

You can either use the Search field explained above or simply browse through the selection tree to build up your Catalogue selection. Click on the field in front of a variable group to select it. Once selected, it will change into:  

Clicking on an individual variable within a group will show the description of the variable on the right section of the screen. *Individual* variables cannot be selected, only the higher level of the *group* above. You will receive all individual variables of the selected *group* in your dataset!

In the example below the group that can be selected is “Antropometry” and the variable within that group highlighted is “BMI”: 
The group “Antropometry” is now selected. You will receive all highlighted variables within the group in your dataset:

The selected variable group is also seen on the right section of the screen:
Within the selection tree you will find some groups named D1, D2, ...etc. These groups contain variables that belong to the higher level of the group. However, due to technical reasons, these variables could not be placed within the higher level group. For example, the group Baseline assessment -> Questionnaire -> Demographics -> Household composition -> D1 contains one variable that belongs to the group Household composition. **Please also select the D-groups within a higher level group to prevent missing variables.**

6. **Requesting data from children**

The catalogue gives an overview of the data per cohort, taking into account the age of the participant at the moment of data collection. Therefore, the data of the baseline assessment of children aged 16 years can be found among the cohort ‘Child 13-17 years’. However, the data of the second assessment of these children (then aged >18 years) can be found among the cohort ‘Adult 18-65 years’.

7. **Save your catalogue selection and change it**

Changes you make in your catalogue selection are automatically saved. As long as you haven’t submitted your catalogue selection to Lifelines you can make any changes to the draft selection yourself, even if you visit the catalogue several days later. The catalogue will display the previously made selection if you visit the Catalogue website again, until you finally submit it.

8. **Submit your selection to Lifelines**

Once finished with your selection you have to submit it to Lifelines. Click on the [Submit] button in the lower right corner to submit your selection to Lifelines:

Enter the Project title of your request and attach the request form (Research Proposal) and press the [Submit] button:
You will receive a confirmation on the screen after a successful submission:

**Success! Your submission has been received.**

You will also receive a confirmation email from “molgenis@gmail.com” within the attachment a summary of your submitted Catalogue selection.

### 9. Change a submitted selection

Once submitted to Lifelines, you cannot change your catalogue selection anymore. If you require changes to be made after submission, please contact the Lifelines data managers on data@lifelines.nl.

### 10. Download a selection without submitting it

If needed, you can download a summary of your selection to an Excel sheet by clicking on the [Download] button:

**Note:** the download option does not submit your catalogue selection to Lifelines! To submit your selection, you have to use the [Submit] button.

### 11. Question regarding the use of the Lifelines Catalogue?

Please contact the Lifelines data managers on data@lifelines.nl in case of questions or problems with the Lifelines Catalogue.