**Minakshi Raj**

2007 Huff Hall [mraj@illinois.edu](mailto:mraj@illinois.edu)  
Champaign, IL 61820

**CURRENT AFFILIATION**

**August 2020 - present Assistant Professor**

Department of Kinesiology and Community Health

University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign

**EDUCATION**

**2015 – 2020 University of Michigan School of Public Health, Ann Arbor, MI**

PhD - Health Management and Policy

Concentration in Sociology/ Organizational Studies

Department of Learning Health Sciences Fellow

*Dissertation Title: “Meeting the needs of an aging population: Older adult,*

*caregiver, and provider perspectives on geriatric care”*

*Committee:* Shoou-Yih Daniel Lee, PhD (chair); Jodyn E. Platt, PhD; Denise Anthony, PhD;

James T. Fitzgerald, PhD

**2013 – 2015 University of Michigan School of Public Health, Ann Arbor, MI**

Master of Public Health - Health Behavior and Health Education

Certificate in Health Informatics

**2009 – 2013 Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY**

Bachelor of Science (Honors Program) – Psychology

Bachelor of Arts (with Distinction) - English and Textual Studies

Minor - Public Health

**PUBLICATIONS**

***Peer-reviewed***

1. **Raj, M.**, Stephenson, A.L., DePuccio, M.J., Sullivan, E.E., Tarver, W., Fleuren, B., Thomas, S.C. and McAlearney, A. (2022). Conceptual framework for integrating family caregivers into the health care team: A scoping review. *Medical Care Research and Review* (conditional acceptance).

2. **Raj, M.**, Jimenez, F., Rich, R., Okland, K., Roy, L., Opollo, J., Rogers, J.L., and Brittin, J. (2022)Influence of evidence-based design strategies on nurse wellness. *Health Environments Research and Design Journal* (in press).

3. Amara, P.S., Platt, J.E., **Raj, M.,** and Nong, P. Learning about COVID-19: Sources of information, public trust, and contact tracing during the pandemic. *BMC Public Health* (in press).

4. **Raj, M.,** Gupta, V., Hoodin, F., Clingan, C., Roslin, C., Yahng, L., Braun, T., and Choi, S.W. (2022) Evaluating mHealth technology use among cancer caregivers in the digital era. *Digital Health, 8*.

5. Spector-Bagdady, K., Trinidad, G., Kardia, S., Krenz, C.D., Nong, P., **Raj, M.**, and Platt, J.E. (2022). Reported interest in notification regarding use of health information and biospecimens. *Journal of the American Medical Association* (in press).

6. **Raj, M.**, Feldman, S., and Chang, T. (2022). Policies and resources identified by youth as being important to prepare for caregiving responsibilities. *Journal of the American Board of Family Medicine* (in press).

7. Greer, S.L., Massard, E., Willison, C., and **Raj, M**. (2022). Institutions and the politics of agency in COVID-19 response: Federalism, presidentialism, and public health policy in Brazil, India, and the United States. *Journal of Social Policy* (in press).

8. Nong, P., **Raj, M.**, and Platt, J. (2022). Integrating predictive models into care: Facilitating informed decision-making and communicating equity issues. *American Journal of Managed Care, 28*(1).

9. **Raj, M.,** Iott, B., Anthony, D., and Platt, J. (2022). Family caregivers’ experiences with telemedicine during COVID-19: Insights from Michigan. *Annals of Family Medicine*, *20*(1), 69-71.

10. Stephenson, A., **Raj, M.,** Thomas, S.C., Sullivan, E.E., DePuccio, M., Fleuren, B., and McAlearney, A. (2021). Reconceptualizing family caregivers as part of the health care team.  *Journal of Hospital Management and Health Policy, 6*(20).

11. Nong, P., **Raj, M.,** Trinidad, M.G., Rowe, Z., and Platt, J. (2021). Understanding racial differences in attitudes about public health efforts during COVID-19 using an explanatory design. *Social Science and Medicine, 287.*

12. **Raj, M.**, Zhou, S., Yi, S.S., and Kwon, S. (2021). Caregiving across cultures: Priority areas for research, policy and practice to support family caregivers of older Asian immigrants. *American Journal of Public Health, 111*(11), 1920-1922.

13. **Raj, M.** and Iott, B. (2021). When do family caregivers use their care recipient’s online medical record? Evidence from the 2019 NCI HINTS Survey. *JMIR Aging, 4*(4).

14. Lee, S-Y.D., Iott, B. Banaszak-Holl, J., Shih, S-F., **Raj, M.**, Johnson, K., Kiessling, K., and Moore-Petinak, N. (2021). Application of mixed methods in health services management research: A systematic review. *Medical Care Research and Review, 79*(3), 331-344.

15. **Raj, M.** and Singer, P.M. Redefining caregiving as an imperative for supporting caregivers: Challenges and opportunities. *Journal of General Internal Medicine. 36*(12), 3844-3846.

16. **Raj, M.**, Platt, J., Anthony, D., Fitzgerald, J. T., and Lee, S-Y D. (2021). Understanding patient-centeredness: Qualitative insights from older adults and family caregivers. *Gerontology and Geriatric Medicine, 7*, 1-10

17. **Raj, M.,** Feldman, S., Platt, J., and Chang, T. (2021). “If it needs to be done, it needs to be done”: National survey of youth experiences and perspectives on caregiving. *Journal of Adolescent Health*, *69*(4), 664-667.

18. Greer, S.L., Jarman, H., Falkenbach, M., Massard, E., **Raj, M.,** and King, E.J. Social policy as an integral component of pandemic response: Learning from COVID-19 in Brazil, Germany, India and the United States. (2021). *Global Public Health, 16*(8-9).

19. Cross, D., Levin, Z., and **Raj, M.** (2021). Older adults’ perceptions of provider EHR use: drivers and consequences. *Journal of Medical Internet Research, 23*(5).

20. Fleuren, B.P.I., Stephenson, A.L., Sullivan, E.E., **Raj, M.**, Tietschert, M.V., Sriharan, A., Lai, A.Y., DePuccio, M.J., Thomas, S.C., and McAlearney, A.S. (2021). Even superheroes need rest: A guide to facilitating recovery from work for health care workers during COVID-19 and beyond. *Advances in Health Care Management, 20*.

21. Gupta, V., **Raj, M.\*,** Hoodin, F., Braun, T., and Choi, S.W. (2021). Family caregivers of patients undergoing hematopoeietic cell transplantation: Characteristics, coping, and use of the patient portal. *Journal of Medical Internet Research -Cancer, 7*(1).

\*Co first author

22. **Raj, M.,** DePuccio, M.J., Stephenson, A., Sullivan, E., Lai, A.Y., Fleuren, B., Sriharan, A., McAlearney, A.S., and Thomas, S.C. (2021). Addressing evolving patient concerns around telehealth in the COVID-19 era. *American Journal of Managed Care, 27*(1).

23. **Raj, M.**, De Vries, R., Nong, P., Kardia, S.L.R., and Platt, J. (2020). Do people have an ethical obligation to share their health information? Comparing narratives of altruism and health information sharing in a nationally representative sample. *PLoS One, 15*(12).

24. Nong, P., **Raj,** M., Creary, M., Kardia, S.L.R., and Platt, J. (2020) Experiences and perceptions of discrimination among a nationally representative sample of US adults. *JAMA Network Open, 3*(12).

25. Lai, A.Y., Thomas, S., Sullivan, E.E., Fleuren, B.P.I., **Raj, M.**, DePuccio, M.J., Stephenson, A.L., and McAlearney, A.S. COVID-19 and primary care physicians: Adapting to rapid change in clinical roles and settings. (2020). *Journal of Hospital Management and Health Policy* (Available ahead of print).

26. **Raj, M.**, Platt, J., Anthony, D., Fitzgerald, J. T., and Lee, S-Y D. (2020). Exploring personal, social, and institutional characteristics and trainees’ subspecialty decisions related to geriatric medicine. *Academic Medicine, 96*(3).

27. Iott, B., **Raj, M.,** Platt, J., and Anthony, D. (2020). Family caregiver access of online medical records: Findings from the Health Information National Trends Survey. *Journal of General Internal Medicine*.

28. **Raj, M.** and Banaszak-Holl, J. (2020) Consumer engagement with information on performance: A narrative review. *Quality Management in Health Care, 30*(3).

29. Platt, J., **Raj, M.**, and Wienroth, M. (2020). An analysis of the Learning Health System in its first decade: A scoping review. *Journal of Medical Internet Research, 22*(3).

30. Wolfson, J., Lahne, J., **Raj, M.**, Insolera, N., Lavelle, F., and Dean, M. (2020). Food agency in the United States: Associations with cooking behavior and dietary intake. *Nutrients, 12*(3).

31. **Raj, M.**, Platt, J., and Wilk, A. S. (2020). Trust in provider care teams and health information technology-mediated communication. *The American Journal of Managed Care, 26*(1), 23-25.

32. **Raj, M.**, Wilk, A. S., and Platt, J. (2019). Dynamics of trust between physicians and fellow health care providers, and the role of health information technology. *Medical Care Research and Review, 78*(4).

33. Platt, J., **Raj, M.,** and Kardia, S.L.R. (2019). The public’s trust and information brokers in health care, public health and research. *Journal of Health Organization and Management*, *33*(7/8), 929-948.

34. Platt, J., **Raj, M**., Trinidad, G., Buyuktur, A., and Kardia, S.L.R. (2019) Willingness to participate in health information networks with diverse data use: Evaluating public perspectives. *eGEMs, 7*(1), 1-10.

35. **Raj, M.**, Choi, S. W., Gurtekin, T. S., and Platt, J. (2018). Improving the informed consent process in hematopoietic cell transplantation: patient, caregiver, and provider perspectives. *Biology of Bone and Marrow Transplantation, 24*(1), 156-162.

* Article was featured in online magazine *Science Trends (March 2018)*

36. **Raj, M**., Platt, J.E., and Choi, S.W. (2017). A qualitative exploration of the informed consent process in hematopoietic cell transplantation clinical research and opportunities for improvement. *Bone Marrow Transplantation*, *52*, 292-298.

37. Johnson, L., Bunn, W.D., Nguyen, L., Rice, J., **Raj, M.**, and Cunningham, M. J. (2016). Clinical comparison of robotic, laparoscopic, and open hysterectomy procedures for endometrial cancer patients. *Journal of Robotic Surgery.*

***Manuscripts Under Review***

1. **Raj, M.**, Platt, J., Anthony, D., Fitzgerald, J. T., and Lee, S-Y D. Who perceives value in geriatric care? A survey of older adults and family caregivers.

2. Feldman, S., Langa, K., **Raj, M.**, and Roberts, J. S. The burden of caregiving in the United States: Correlates of major workplace impacts among dementia and non-dementia family caregivers.

3. **Raj, M.**, Feldman, S., and Chang, T. How do youth describe family caregiving? Findings from the national MyVoice text-message poll.

4. Li, J., Jeffers, T., and **Raj, M.** Experiences of hospital discharge planners when referring patients to post-acute home health care during the Coronavirus disease 2019 pandemic. *Revision under review*.

5. Johnson, K. and **Raj, M.** A narrative literature review of the geriatrics training landscape over the past decade. *Revision under review*.

6. Rao, R. and **Raj, M.** Family caregivers in the health care team: Qualitative perspectives from physicians on trust with family caregivers.

7. **Raj, M.**, Remillard, E., and Rogers, W. Identifying older care partners’ challenges and associated technology needs to age and care in place.

8. Kadylak, T., Bayles, M., and **Raj, M.** Public perceptions of robot assistants as caregivers: Findings from the Pew Research Center’s *Automation in Everyday Life*.

9. **Raj, M.,** Lim, K., Chebli, P., Yi, S.S., and Kwon, S.C. Sociocultural navigators:Asian American family caregivers of older immigrants as “sociocultural navigators” within the health care system.

***Research in Progress***

1. **Raj, M.**, De Vries, R., Ryan, K., Kardia, S., and Platt, J. Concerns and policy preferences regarding use, sharing, and regulation of health information: Findings from two public deliberations with patients with cancer in Michigan. *Preparing manuscript*.

2. **Raj, M.** and Zhou, S. Comparing mental health outcomes between US-born and immigrant informal caregivers. *Analysis in progress*.

***Book Chapters***

**Raj, M.** and McAlearney, A.S. (2022). “Who should be part of the care team? Considering the inclusion of family caregivers.” In: *Health Services Management: A Case Study Approach.* Eds: McAlearney, A.S. and Kovner, A. Health Administration Press; Chicago, IL: Forthcoming.

Ali, T., Boateng, G., Medeiros, A. P., and **Raj, M.** (2021). Caregiving. In: *Social Determinants of Healthy and Resilient Aging.* eds: Guest, A., and Jurkowski, E. APHA Press.

**Raj, M**. (2021). India’s response to the COVID-19 pandemic. In: *Coronavirus Politics: The comparative politics and policy of COVID-19*. eds: Greer, S.L., King, E.J., Peralta, A., and Massard, E. University of Michigan Press.

***Other Publications***

**Raj, M.** (2021). What’s on the menu matters in health care for diverse patients. *The Conversation*.

Hatzigeorgiou, M. and **Raj, M.** (2020). Why is Greece an outlier in EU’s Covid-19 response? *EU Observer* (Op-ed). <https://euobserver.com/opinion/148397>

**Raj, M.** (2019). Caring, and the family caregivers we don’t see. *GeriPal: A Geriatrics and Palliative Care Blog.*

**Raj, M.** and Suh, T. (2019). Remembrance of things past: Preparing for the future of aging. *GeriPal: A Geriatrics and Palliative Care Blog.*

**Raj, M.** and Suh, T. (2019). Remembrance of things past: Preparing for the future of aging. *Annals of Long Term Care: Featured Blog.*

***Invited Presentations and Media***

“Will loosening COVID restrictions put the immunocompromised at risk?” The 21st show (Radio). February 2022.

“India’s response to COVID-19: Negotiating public health interventions and social policies.” Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs – Moynihan Institute. Syracuse University. October 2021.

“Integrating the family caregiver into the care team with a focus on cancer care.” OSF Radio Show. July 2021.

“Family caregivers of sociocultural navigators of older Asian immigrants.” National Alliance for Caregiving Meeting. June 2021.

“What leads to trainee interest in geriatrics? Exploring the institution-trainee intersection.” Aurora Health Care Geriatrics. April 2019.

Sirius XM’s “Doctor Radio” show on *Healthy Aging*. June 3, 2019.

Crisis Conversations: The (Virtual?) Future of Medicine. New America’s Better Life Lab (Host: Brigid Schulte). June 2020.

***Conference Presentations***

1. Panelist with Greer, S., Cylus, J., Reeves, A., Gingrich, J., and Falkenbach, M. Aging and Health: The Politics of Better Policies. European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies 2021. Virtual.

2. **Raj, M.**, Feldman, S., Platt, J.E., and Chang, T. “If it needs to be done, it needs to be done”: Youth experiences and perspectives on caregiving. Population Association of America Annual Research Meeting 2021. Virtual (Podium).

3. Rao, R. and **Raj, M.** Physician trust with family caregivers. University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign Undergraduate Research Symposium. Virtual.

4. Lim, K. and **Raj, M.** Family caregivers of older Asian immigrants as “sociocultural navigators” with the health care system. University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign Undergraduate Research Symposium. Virtual.

5. Nong, P., **Raj, M.,** Trinidad, M.G., Rowe, Z., and Platt, J. (2021). Understanding racial differences in attitudes about public health efforts during COVID-19 using an explanatory mixed-methods design. *American* *Public Health Association Annual Meeting* (Virtual-Podium).

6. **Raj, M.**, Hughes, J., Bettner, J., and Hughes, S. Defining the construct of health behavior maintenance. Gerontological Society of America Annual Research Meeting 2021. Virtual (Panel).

7. Iott, B., **Raj, M.,** Platt, J., and Anthony, D. Characterizing family caregivers’ perspectives on policies regarding adult care recipients. AcademyHealth Annual Research Meeting 2020. Virtual (Poster).

8. **Raj, M.**, Platt, J., Anthony, D. Fitzgerald, J. T., and Lee, S-Y. D. Examining older adults’ perceived value of geriatric care. American Geriatrics Society 2020 Annual Meeting. Long Beach, CA (Poster). \*Cancelled due to Covid-19

9. O’Connor, C., Feldman, S. and **Raj, M.** Evaluating transparency and inclusiveness of university policies on caregiving for older adults. APHA 2019 Annual Meeting. Philadelphia, PA, 2019. (Podium)

10. **Raj, M.**, Platt, J., Anthony, D. Fitzgerald, J. T., and Lee, S-Y. D. Identity and Responsibility: What it Means to be a Caregiver and its Implications for Policy and Health Care. Gerontological Society of America 2019 Annual Scientific Meeting. Austin, TX, November 2019.

11. **Raj, M.**, Rich, R., Opollo, J., and Rogers, J. L. The Impact of a Decentralized Inpatient Unit Design on Nurse Learning Opportunities. 2019 Healthcare Design Expo and Conference. New Orleans, LA, November 2019. (Podium)

12. **Raj, M.**, Platt, J., Anthony, D., Lee, S-Y. D., andFitzgerald, J. T. A Qualitative Comparison of Older Adults’ and Informal Caregivers’ Perspectives on Aging. American Geriatrics Society (AGS) 2019 Annual Scientific Meeting, Portland, OR, May 2019.

13. **Raj, M.,** Platt, J., and Wilk, A. Dynamics of Trust between Physicians, Fellow Health Care Providers, and the Role of Health Information Technology. APHA 2018 Annual Research Meeting, San Diego, CA, November 2018. (Podium)

14. Platt, J., **Raj, M.,** and Kardia, S. The Public’s Trust and Information Brokers in Health Care, Public Health and Research. International Organizational Behavior in Healthcare Conference (OBHC), Montreal, QC, Canada, May 2018 (Podium)

15. **Raj, M.,** Platt, J., and Wilk, A. Evolving Dynamics of Trust between Physicians, Fellow Health Care Providers, and Health Information Technology. Academy Health 2018 Annual Research Meeting, Seattle, WA, June 2018. (Podium)

16. **Raj, M.,** Platt, J., and Wienroth, M. The Learning Health System as a Socio-Technical System of Translation. Annual Meeting of the Society for Social Studies of Science, Sydney, Australia, August 2018. (Podium)

17. **Raj, M.,** Platt, J., Rogers, J. L. Assessing the landscape: Provider and consumer perspectives on improving quality of care in India. International Health Policy Conference, London, UK, February 2017. (Podium)

18. **Raj, M.,** Platt, J., Rogers, J. L. Approaches to leadership for capacity building in hospitals in India. Henry Ford Global Health Symposium, Detroit, MI, October 2016.

19. **Raj, M.,** Platt, J., and Choi, S. W. An Exploration of the Informed Consent Process in Clinical Research and Opportunities for Improvement. Academy Health 2016 Annual Research Meeting, Boston, MA, June 2016.

20. **Raj, M.,** Horgan, C., Riddell, K., and Brand, E. Massachusetts General Hospital Center for Perioperative Care Re-Design. The 27th Annual Institute for Healthcare Improvement National Forum on Quality Improvement in Health Care, Orlando, FL, December 2015.

21. **Raj, M**. Communication in the Operating Room: An Assessment of Clinical Quality of Care. 142nd American Public Health Association Annual Meeting and Exposition, New Orleans, LA, November 2014.

**GRANTS and RESEARCH FUNDING**

**Spring 2022** University of Illinois Urbana Champaign Center for Social and Behavioral Sciences Small Grant Program ($19,994.40)

**2021-2022** Retirement Research Foundation Grant (Co-Principal Investigator)

**Spring 2021** University of Illinois Urbana Champaign Center for Health, Aging and Disability Grant ($30,000)

**Spring 2021** University of Illinois Urbana Champaign Campus Research Board Grant ($28,056)

**Summer 2020** McNerney Award (Co-Investigator, $5000)

**Spring 2020** Avedis Donabedian Memorial Scholarship (funding for final doctoral term)

**2019 – 2021** Co-Investigator, Inter-NIA Center Pilot Proposal on Behavioral Change to Benefit   
Older Adults ($38,575)

**2015 – 2019** Learning Health Fellow (4 years of funding for doctoral studies)

**2018 – 2019** Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Foundation Student Award Program ($3000)

**Summer 2017** Rackham Summer Award ($8000)

**Summer 2016** Rackham Spring/ Summer Grant (.50 GSRA Position)

**Summer 2016** School of Public Health Global Health Pre-Dissertation Travel Award ($5000)

**Summer 2014** Health Behavior and Health Education Field Experience Grant ($3300)

**2012 – 2013** Syracuse University Allport Undergraduate Research Grant ($930)

**TEACHING AND MENTORSHIP EXPERIENCE**

***Assistant Professor***

**Fall 2020 - Present Health Care Systems (CHLH 250, University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign)**

* Introductory course on health care systems (personnel, places, policies)
* Survey of issues and challenges facing the U.S. and global health care systems
* UIUC Teachers Ranked as Excellent (Fall 2020, Spring 2021)

***Graduate Student Instructor***

**Fall 2017, Fall 2019 Introduction to Public Health**

*Professors Al Franzblau and Emily Youatt, University of Michigan*

* Survey course of public health for undergraduate students; responsible for leading weekly discussion sections, grading, and office hours
* Rated above University median in teaching evaluations across all sections
* Selected to develop two new discussion sections for Fall 2019 course

**Spring 2016 - 2018 Managing Healthcare Organizations**

*Professor Juliet Rogers (2016-2017)*

*Professor Jane Banaszak-Holl (2018) University of Michigan*

* Course for over 60 first year students in the Masters of Health Services Administration program in Health Management and Policy
* Responsible for leading selected lectures, grading, and office hours

***Mentor to Current and Previous Undergraduate Research Assistants***

*University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign*

Ruchira Rao, Junior, Community Health

Eve Rubovits, Sophomore, Community Health

Katherine Lim (Graduated), Community Health

**PREVIOUS RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

***Graduate Student Research Assistant***

**2015 – 2020 Department of Learning Health Sciences**

*University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI*

* Fellow and Graduate Student Research Assistant
* Research on healthcare quality, including trust, informed consent, health information technology, patient decision-making
* Examining the ethical, social, and legal implications (ELSI) of the learning health system; planning committee for annual ELSI-LHS Symposium (Ann Arbor, MI)

***Undergraduate Research Assistant***

**2011 – 2013 Project Heart Lab**

*Dr. Craig Ewart, Syracuse University Dr. Sheila Fitzgerald, Bloomberg School of Public Health, Johns Hopkins University*

* Explored Social Action Theory with the concepts of agonistic, transcendence, and dissipated striving among adolescent students and adults in the Syracuse and Baltimore areas; responsibilities included interviewing participants, interview coding, data entry, and data analysis; presented in psychology department’s annual poster presentation day, Spring 2011.
* Designed and conducted a study for Honors Capstone thesis, titled “Investigating the Relationship Between Goal- Oriented Striving and Motives for Engaging in Physical Activity”; findings included identifying increased motivation to exercise as a result of family history of diabetes.
* *Honors Capstone Thesis: Investigating the Relationship between Goal- Oriented Striving and Motives for Engaging in Physical Activity*

**RESEARCH, TEACHING, AND PROFESSIONAL TRAINING**

**May 2019 Center for Research on Learning and Teaching (CRLT) Race and Ethnicity Learning Community**

* Nominated and selected to participate with stipend in a learning community on improving pedagogies for race and ethnicity courses

**December 2018 National Institute on Aging Research Centers Collaborative Network Workshop on Achieving and Sustaining Behavior Change in Older Adults, Bethesda, MD**

* Selected to participate with funding

**July 2018 Rand Summer Institute, Santa Monica, CA**

* Selected to participate with funding in Mini-Medical School for Social Scientists and Demography, Economics, and Epidemiology of Aging Workshops

**September 2018 Stanford Center on Longevity, Forming Science-Industry Research Collaborations, Stanford, CA**

* Selected to participate with funding

**October 2015 Six Sigma Green Belt Certificate, University of Michigan**

**AWARDS AND HONORS**

**October 2021** American Public Health Association Health Administration Research to Practice Award (runner up)

**January 2021** University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign List of Teachers Ranked as Excellent (Fall 2020, Spring 2021)

**May 2020** University of Michigan School of Public Health Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor Award

**Spring 2020** Avedis Donabedian Memorial Scholarship (tuition, stipend, and insurance)

**2019** American Geriatrics Society Scientist-In-Training Award

**2013 – 2015** University of Michigan School of Public Health Dean’s Scholarship

**2009 – 2013** Syracuse University Renee Crown Honors Program and Distinction

**2009 – 2013** Syracuse University Dean’s List

**Spring 2013** Psychology Departmental Award for Outstanding Research

**Spring 2013** Allport Scholar Award

**2012 – 2013** English and Textual Studies Distinction Program

* *Distinction Thesis: Resisting 19th Century Discourses on Sexuality in Herculine Barbin*

**Spring 2012** English and Textual Studies Nu Sigma Nu Essay Contest Winner

**2009**  Syracuse University Dean’s Merit Scholarship

**RESEARCH, STATISTICAL AND TECHNICAL SKILLS**

* MAXQDA, SPSS, Excel, Stata, PowerPoint, VistA EMR System
* Designing and conducting studies, analyzing and interpreting data
* Qualitative research
* Health communication via blogging (<http://www.mindthesciencegap.org/author/miraj/)>

**OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

**Summer 2015 Quality and Safety Intern**

Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, MA

* Designed and developed a successful pilot for the Center for Perioperative Care (CPC) intended to reduce process time for first-case patients undergoing procedures in the operating room
* Reduced processing time by an average of ten minutes on busy days of the week; pilot was subsequently implemented

**2014 – 2015 Clinical Care Quality Assurance**

University of Michigan Health System, Ann Arbor, MI

* Evaluate the quality of perioperative care given to adult and pediatric patients for a variety of procedures such as plastic surgery, gynecologic, surgical oncology, neurosurgery, cardiac surgery, and transplant.
* Analyze quality metrics such as patient safety, protocol compliance, and communication between providers in the operating room.
* Presented in poster session at American Public Health Association Annual Meeting in November 2014, titled “Communication in the Operating Room: An Assessment of Clinical Quality of Care”.

**Summer 2014 Quality Improvement**

Crouse Hospital, Syracuse, NY

* Abstracted, analyzed, and evaluated data on compliance with sepsis protocol and associated outcomes; areas recommended for improvement included adequate fluid resuscitation in the emergency department, improving consistency of documentation of sepsis, and testing lactic acid levels
* Findings and recommendations were presented to hospital leadership, leading to the development of a sepsis oversight team to report weekly.
* Designed and conducted a retrospective study on outcomes of hysterectomies for patients with endometrial cancer and the decision-making process of physicians with regard to surgery type (robotic, laparoscopy, or laparotomy)
* Findings revealed longer length of stay, procedure length, higher estimated blood loss, and greater number of previous abdominal surgeries for laparotomy cases, while robotic procedures had the highest percentage of patients with a lower ASA Category.

**Summer 2014 Bureau of Health Promotion and Disease Prevention**

Onondaga County Health Department, Syracuse, NY

* Wrote federal and state grants for the expansion and promotion of the Farm Fresh Mobile Market, which provides fresh and affordable produce to low-income residents in Syracuse, NY.
* Assessed improvements and identified ways to retain customers and promote the Onondaga County Health Department’s Cancer Services Program, which offers breast, colorectal, and cervical cancer screening services to uninsured residents of Onondaga County; presented recommendations to Cancer Services Program staff, who will implement interventions in 2015.
* Analyzed grocery purchasing trends for Nojaim Brothers Supermarket, located in a low-income neighborhood, to develop a rewards system for consumers purchasing healthier alternatives

**2011 – 2013 Syracuse University Graduate School**

Syracuse, NY

* Selected to work as a teaching assistant and “conversation partner” to help International Teaching Assistants with English skills and settle into a new environment.

**SERVICE**

***Professional and Institutional***

**Present** Ad hoc Reviewer – American Journal of Managed Care, Medical Care, Medicolegal and Bioethics, Medical Care Research and Review, INQUIRY, Journal of Health Organization and Management, Health and Human Rights Journal, Journal of Medical Internet Research, Communication Studies, Journal of Primary Care and Community Health, The Joint Commission Journal on Quality and Patient Safety

**Present** University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign MSHA Admissions Committee

*Role: Faculty Reviewer*

Department of Kinesiology and Community Health Restructuring Taskforce

Department of Kinesiology and Community Health Honors and Awards

Department of Kinesiology and Community Health Search Committee for Community Health Specialized Faculty

**2019 – 2020** Interdisciplinary Collaborative for Aging Research and Engagement (I-CARE)

University of Michigan School of Public Health

*Role: Co-founder of student organization*

**2019 – 2020** Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Committee

Department of Health Management and Policy, University of Michigan

*Role: Student Representative*

**2018** National Institute on Aging Research Centers Collaborative Network

Workshop on Achieving and Sustaining Behavior Change in Older Adults

Bethesda, MD

*Role: Planning Committee*

**2017 – 2019** SPH Undergraduate-Graduate Mentorship Program

University of Michigan

*Role: Mentor*

**2017 – 2019** Ethical, Legal and Social Implications of Learning Health Systems Symposium

University of Michigan

*Role: Planning Committee*

**2016 – 2018** DoctoralWorkshop on Interdisciplinary Topics in Health doctoral seminar

Department of Health Management and Policy, University of Michigan

*Role: Co- Coordinator*

**2016 – 2017** Organizational Studies Faculty Search

Department of Health Management and Policy, University of Michigan

*Role: Student Representative*

**PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

Academy of Management, American Geriatrics Society, Academy Health, Institute for Healthcare

Improvement, American Public Health Association

**PERSONAL**

U.S. Citizen; Fluent in spoken Tamil