

Minakshi Raj

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Urbana, IL 61820

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CURRENT AFFILIATION

August 2020 - present **Assistant Professor**
Department of Health and Kinesiology
University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign
Affiliate: Division of Nutritional Sciences
Affiliate: National Center for Supercomputing Applications
Affiliate: Personalized Nutrition Initiative
Director: Aging, Caregiving, and Technology Lab

EDUCATION

2015 – 2020 **University of Michigan School of Public Health, Ann Arbor, MI**
PhD - Health Services Organization 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: Shouu-Yih Daniel Lee, PhD (chair); Jodynn 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. Rubovits, E., Yedavalli, A., Sadruddin, S., Lavari, K., Mudar, R., Leung, V., Cothran, F.A., and **Raj, M.** Engaging Asian American family caregivers in clinical trials: Awareness, preferences, and concerns. *Journal of Applied Gerontology* (in press).
2. Ogunjesa, B.A., Gao, X., and **Raj, M.** (2024). Factors influencing caregivers’ use of respite care services: Secondary analysis of the National Study of Caregiving. *Journal of Applied Gerontology*, 43(8), 1100-1110.
3. **Raj, M.**, Quintero Silva, L. and Khan, N. (2024). Building an inclusive healthcare system for older adults requires offering culturally inclusive foods to serve in healthcare facilities. *Journal of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics*, 124(6), 669-673.

4. Lim, K., Quintero Silva, L., and **Raj, M.** (2024). Family caregivers' role in navigating diet: Perspectives from caregivers of older Asian Americans. *Journal of Applied Gerontology*, 43(6), 775-785.
5. Iott, B. and **Raj, M.** (2024). Patients' comfort with clinicians sharing information about social determinants of health: Findings from the Health Information National Trends Survey. *Journal of General Internal Medicine*, 39(7), 1280-1282.
6. **Raj, M.** and Iott, B. (2024). Characterizing telehealth use in the US: Analysis of the 2022 Health Information National Trends Survey. *American Journal of Managed Care*, 30(1), 50-56.
7. Zhou, S., Ogunjesa, B., and **Raj, M.** (2024). Evaluating mental health outcomes of immigrant and US born caregivers: An analysis of the California Health Interview Survey. *American Journal of Public Health*, 114, 189-199.
8. **Raj, M.** Organizational and policy challenges and priorities for integrating family care partners into the health care team. *Advances in Health Care Management* (in press).
9. Li, J., Jeffers, T., Ogunjesa, B.A., and **Raj, M.** (2023). Hospital discharge planners need more information when referring patients to home health care: Insights from the coronavirus disease 2019 pandemic. *Health Services Insights*, 16.
10. **Raj, M.**, Oleschuk, M., Chapman-Novakofski, K., and Levine, S.K. (2023). Perceived facilitators and barriers to implementing culturally inclusive diets into hospitals and long-term care facilities. *Journal of the American Medical Directors Association*, 24(10), 1503-1507.
11. Miranda, A., Rubovits, E., Mudar, R. and **Raj, M.** (2023). Where are the caregivers in the clinical trial? Evaluation of caregiver responsibilities in Alzheimer's disease and related dementia clinical trials. *Alzheimer's and Dementia*, 19(11), 5316-5322.
12. Platt, J., Nong, P., Merid, B., **Raj, M.**, Cope, E., Kardia, S., Creary, M. (2023). Applying anti-racist approaches to informatics: A new lens on traditional frames. *Journal of the American Medical Informatics Association*, 30(10), 1747-1753.
13. Sullivan, E.E., DePuccio, M.J., Stephenson, A.L., **Raj, M.**, Lai, A., Tietschert, M.V., Fleuren, B., Sriharan, A., Thomas, S.C., and McAlearney, A.S. (2023). Building student competencies to address healthcare's grand challenges: Lessons from an international collaboration. *Journal of Health Administration Education*, 39(4), 615-630.
14. **Raj, M.**, Ryan, K., Amara, P., Nong, P., Calhoun, K., Trinidad, M.G., Thiel, D., Spector-Bagdady, K., De Vries, R., Kardia, S., Platt, J.E. (2023). Policy preferences regarding health data sharing among patients with cancer: Public deliberations. *JMIR Cancer* (9).
15. Rao, R. and **Raj, M.** (2022). Family caregivers in the health care team: Qualitative perspectives from physicians on trust with family caregivers. *Journal of Elder Policy*, 2(2).
16. Hughes, J., Brown, R., Fanning, J., **Raj, M.**, Bisson, A., Ghneim, M., and Kritchevsky, S. (2022). Achieving and sustaining behavior change for older adults: A Research Centers Collaborative Network Workshop report. *The Gerontologist*, 63(8), 1268-1278.

17. **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*, 80(2).
18. **Raj, M.**, Ryan, K., Nong, P., Calhoun, K., Trinidad, M.G., De Vries, R., Creary, M., Spector-Bagdady, K., Kardia, S., and Platt, J.E. (2022). Public deliberation on patient perspectives of health information sharing: Process and evaluation. *JMIR Cancer*, 8(3).
19. **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*, 15(4).
20. Amara, P.S., Platt, J.E., **Raj, M.**, and Nong, P. (2022). Learning about COVID-19: Sources of information, public trust, and contact tracing during the pandemic. *BMC Public Health*, 22 (1348).
21. **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.
*Co-first author
22. 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. *JAMA*, 328(5), 474-476.
23. **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*, 35(4), 814-820.
24. 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*, 1-19.
25. 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).
26. **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.
27. 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).
28. 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.
29. **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.
30. **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).

31. 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.
32. **Raj, M.** and Singer, P.M. (2021). Redefining caregiving as an imperative for supporting caregivers: Challenges and opportunities. *Journal of General Internal Medicine*. 36(12), 3844-3846.
33. **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
34. **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.
35. Greer, S.L., Jarman, H., Falkenbach, M., Massard, E., **Raj, M.**, and King, E.J. (2021). Social policy as an integral component of pandemic response: Learning from COVID-19 in Brazil, Germany, India and the United States. *Global Public Health*, 16(8-9).
36. 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).
37. 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.
38. Gupta, V. *, **Raj, M.***, Hoodin, F., Braun, T., and Choi, S.W. (2021). Family caregivers of patients undergoing hematopoietic cell transplantation: Characteristics, coping, and use of the patient portal. *Journal of Medical Internet Research -Cancer*, 7(1).
- *Co first author
39. **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).
40. **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).
41. 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).
42. 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*, 4(31).
43. **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).

44. 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*, 36(10), 3267-3269.
45. **Raj, M.** and Banaszak-Holl, J. (2020) Consumer engagement with information on performance: A narrative review. *Quality Management in Health Care*, 30(3).
46. 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).
47. 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).
48. **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.
49. **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).
50. 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.
51. 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.
52. **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.
53. **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.
54. 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*.

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

Brown, D., Strasser, S., Vahora, M., and **Raj, M.** Workforce development for direct care workers could help stabilize the long-term care industry. *Health Affairs Forefront*.

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

Future of health care teams: Involving the caregiver. Future of Work Symposium, Center for Social and Behavioral Health Sciences, University of Illinois Urbana Champaign, October 2022.

"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 as 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. **Raj, M.**, Chen, T., Iott, B., and Anthony, D. Changes in caregivers' access of the online medical record: Health Information National Trends Survey, 2018-2022. 3rd Conference on Caregiving Research 2024. Pittsburgh, PA (Poster).

2. **Raj, M.** and Quintero Silva, L. Asian American family caregivers' role in language translation in the healthcare system. 3rd Conference on Caregiving Research 2024. Pittsburgh, PA (Poster).

3. **Raj, M.**, Brown, D., Vahora, M., and Strasser, S. Workplace stressors and organizational benefits for direct care workers: Findings from a mixed methods study. Organizational Behavior in Health Care Conference 2024. Oslo, Norway. (Podium).

4. Mois, G., Lydon, E., Jones, S., Rao, R., Rogers, W., Mudar, R., and **Raj, M.** Leveraging video technology to deliver social engagement opportunities for care partners of persons with dementia. Gerontological Society of America Annual Meeting 2023 (Podium).
5. **Raj, M.**, Ogunjesa, B., and Zhou, S. Evaluating mental health outcomes of immigrant and US born caregivers: An analysis of the 2019 California Health Interview Survey. American Public Health Association Annual Meeting 2023 (Poster).
6. **Raj, M.**, Oleschuk, M., Quintero Silva, L., Levine, S., and Chapman-Novakofski, K. Defining “culturally inclusive diets” in hospitals and long-term care: Insights from a nationwide survey of registered dietitians and food service directors. American Public Health Association Annual Meeting 2023 (Roundtable).
7. Ogunjesa, B., Gao, X., and **Raj, M.** Factors influencing informal caregivers’ use of respite care services. American Public Health Association Annual Meeting 2023 (Poster).
8. Quintero Silva, L., Schwingel, A., Bobitt, J., and **Raj, M.** Delivering palliative care during pandemic times: Clinicians’ experiences working with diverse populations. American Public Health Association Annual Meeting 2023 (Poster).
9. Ashrafi, S.A., Alam, R., Ninomiya, A.L.S., Oloo, A., Quintero Silva, L., Hopkins, K., **Raj, M.**, and Schwingel, A. Advancing kidney health among African Americans and Latinx through community health workers. American Public Health Association Annual Meeting 2023 (Roundtable).
10. **Raj, M.**, Pascual-Abreu, M., and Khan, N. Opportunities for integrating Hispanic and Latino foods into hospitals and long-term care menus. American Society for Nutrition Annual Meeting (Podium).
11. Panelist with Pongan, L., Darby, N., Cothran, F., Lapahie, D., and Epps, F. Filling research to policy gaps with the inclusion of diverse caregivers. On Aging: American Society on Aging 2023.
12. 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.
13. **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).
14. Rao, R. and **Raj, M.** Physician trust with family caregivers. University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign Undergraduate Research Symposium. Virtual.
15. 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.
16. 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).

17. **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).
18. 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).
19. **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
20. 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)
21. **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.
22. **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)
23. **Raj, M.**, Platt, J., Anthony, D., Lee, S-Y. D., and Fitzgerald, 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.
24. **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)
25. 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)
26. **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)
27. **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)
28. **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)
29. **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.
30. **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.

31. **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.
32. **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

Fall 2024	McCormick Science Institute Seed Grant (PI: \$100,800)
Summer 2024	University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Community Engaged Scholars (PI: \$4000)
Spring 2024	University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Chancellor's Call to Action Program (PI: \$68,210)
Fall 2023	McCormick Science Institute Seed Grant (PI: \$94,000)
Spring 2022	National Kidney Foundation of Illinois (Co-I)
Spring 2022	University of Illinois Urbana Champaign Center for Social and Behavioral Sciences Small Grant Program (PI: \$19,994.40)
2021-2022	RRF Foundation for Aging Grant (Co-I)
Spring 2021	University of Illinois Urbana Champaign Center for Health, Aging and Disability Grant (PI: \$30,000)
Spring 2021	University of Illinois Urbana Champaign Campus Research Board Grant (PI: \$28,056)
Summer 2020	McNerney Award (Co-I: 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	<p>Health Care Systems (CHLH 250, University of Illinois Urbana Champaign)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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, Spring 2023)
Spring 2022- Present	<p>US Health Policy (CHLH 550, University of Illinois Urbana Champaign)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Master's level course on health policy in the US • Covers the policy process from problem identification and definition through policy implementation and evaluation

- Features guest speakers comprising various political actors (e.g., advocacy, analysis, administrators, policymakers)
- UIUC Teachers Ranked as Excellent (Spring 2023)

Development of online courses

Health Care Systems (CHLH 250, University of Illinois Urbana Champaign)

- Offered Spring 2024-present

US Health Policy (CHLH 550, University of Illinois Urbana Champaign)

- To be offered Fall 2025

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

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 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selected to participate with funding
July 2018	Rand Summer Institute, Santa Monica, CA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selected to participate with funding
October 2015	Six Sigma Green Belt Certificate, University of Michigan

AWARDS AND HONORS

July 2023	American Society for Nutrition, Nutrition Translation Award (Finalist)
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

Spring 2012
2009

- *Distinction Thesis: Resisting 19th Century Discourses on Sexuality in Herculine Barbin*
- English and Textual Studies Nu Sigma Nu Essay Contest Winner
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

2024-Present	Editorial Board Member – Journal of Applied Gerontology, Medical Care Research and Review
Present	Ad hoc Reviewer – American Journal of Managed Care, Medical Care, Medical 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	American Public Health Association Communications Committee University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign MHA Admissions Committee 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
Spring 2023	Department of Kinesiology and Community Health Search Committee for MHA Director
2019 – 2020	Interdisciplinary Collaborative for Aging Research and Engagement (I-CARE) University of Michigan School of Public Health <i>Role: Co-founder of student organization</i>

- 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** Doctoral Workshop 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