

Weekly Newsletter September 18-22, 2023

## PQHS NEWS

### UPCOMING EVENT

**Wednesday, September 20– 10:00 – 11:00 AM**

**Research Meeting – Presenters:** William Jesdale, PhD, Assistant Professor, PQHS, UMass Chan Medical School

**Title:** Missing Data on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity in the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System

**Brief Description:** The Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) is an invaluable resource for public health analyses. This annual cross-sectional survey of roughly 400,000 adult respondents per year covers a broad range of health topics, and sociodemographics. BRFSS has been the premier source for information on sexual and gender minorities in the US since the launch of a "SOGI" (Sexual Orientation / Gender Identity) module in 2014. However, over half of the respondents have not been asked this module, and the reasons for not asking are diverse, representing quite distinct selection biases, often at odds with one another. In this talk, I'll be describing the sources of missing information on sexual orientation and gender identity in BRFSS, and implications for research using this dataset. The smallest of these sources is the one researchers are most familiar with: item nonresponse. The largest is the elective nature of the SOGI module; and in between are survey termination (incomplete interview), and the exclusion of out-of-state cellphone respondents. The same complex missingness affects many other variables in BRFSS; the talk should be applicable to anyone using BRFSS data for any research question.

Click [here](#) to join or call 646 876 9923 Meeting ID: 937 1668 5400 password: 492717

### PQHS HIGHLIGHTS



Visiting scholars Lan Hieu Nguyen, MD, (fifth from left), and Quoc Hung Doan, MD, (fourth from right); meet with Chancellor Michael F. Collins, Congressman Jim McGovern and UMass Chan faculty and staff.

**UMass Chan Hosts research faculty, students from Hanoi Medical University** - Faculty, graduate students and postdoctoral fellows from Hanoi Medical University and Hanoi Medical University Hospital are at UMass Chan this month as part of an ongoing research collaboration to curb the rising burden of noncommunicable diseases in Vietnam. Click [here](#) to view full article.



[Arlene Ash, PhD](#) and Meagan Sabatino, BA, MSL attended the PC4You Testimony at the State House on Tuesday, September 12<sup>th</sup>. Click this [link](#) to view the entire meeting of the Joint Committee on Health Care Financing. Arlene was asked to talk about her wealth of experience with risk stratification to achieve equity for patients and fairness for clinicians.

Arlene's 2-person panel was called up to testify at 2:57. Her testimony (+ a brief post-presentation exchange with the committee chairs) occurs between 3:01 and 3:05.

#### PQHS FAREWELL



After many years of dedicated service to PQHS, Marilyn Rosenberg is setting her sights on a well-deserved retirement. Please join us in wishing Marilyn all the best in her retirement. Her last day of work will be September 29.

#### PQHS SHOUT OUT



*“Congratulations* to our PhD students who entered candidacy and were celebrated during convocation week”.

Pictured from Left to Right: Atinuke Oyinbo, Clevanne Julce, Lael Ngangmeni, Meagan Sabatino

Not in attendance: Syed Naqvi

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS



**Thursday, September 28, 2023, 11:30AM-1:30PM** in the lobby of the Medical School **Faculty Affairs Hosting Faculty Resource Fair:** For an old-fashioned, in-person resource fair! Access essential information and make in-person contacts with offices that help support faculty endeavors and faculty advancement.



**Tuesday, October 10, 2023, 10:00-11:30AM** in UMass Chan Medical School Faculty Conference Room **Equity in Caregiving Community Convening**

#### Event Highlights

- Keynote address - AARP Massachusetts “AARP and The CARE Act”
- Caregiver Panel - “Real World Experiences and Stories of Caregiver Engagement in the Hospital”
- Clinician Panel - “Bearing Witness, Connecting and Caring for the Caregiver”
- Opportunity for Networking

For more information to register click [here](#) or scan the QR code.





**Wednesday, October 18, 2023, 10:00-11:30AM**  
***Leveraging Community Engagement To Address Behavioral Health Disparities In The Deaf Community***

Featured Speakers – [Melissa Anderson, PhD, MSCI](#) and [Alexander Wilkins, PhD](#)  
 Click [here](#) to register.



**CENTER FOR CLINICAL AND  
 TRANSLATIONAL SCIENCE**



**Monday, October 23, 2023, 12:00-1:00PM**  
***Realizing the Promise of HPV Vaccination: Using Implementation Science to Prevent Cancer***

Featured Speakers – Heather Brandy, PhD from St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital  
 Director, HPV Cancer Prevention Program, Co-associate Director for Outreach, St. Jude Comprehensive  
 Cancer Center, Member, Department of Epidemiology and Cancer Control  
 Click [here](#) to join.

**MASS CHAN REMINDER**

**GRANT  
 OPPORTUNITIES**



NIDDK has issued two RFAs seeking to solicit projects that will form a consortium aimed at using diverse data types to improve subclassification of T2D. These RFAs solicit projects that will make use of large and diverse U.S.-based cohorts with large number of individuals with T2D. More information can be found in the published RFAs here:

RFA-DK-23-019: Integration of Novel Measures for Improved Classification of Type 2 Diabetes

<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-DK-23-019.html>

RFA-DK-23-020: Integration of Novel Measures for Improved Classification of Type 2 Diabetes – Biostatistics Research Center

<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-DK-23-020.html>

The receipt date for these will be October 26, 2023.



UMass Chan Medical School’s [Office of Communications](#) is initiating regularly scheduled opportunities where faculty, staff, and students can have a professional headshot taken. Photos are taken every other Wednesday from 9 AM to 3 PM on the fifth floor of the Sherman Center by the elevators. Each session caps at 50 people. Anyone at UMass Chan can sign up using this document found on the SharePoint site. See updated link for new options: [Photo Sign-Ups \(office365.com\)](#)

*PQHS Weekly will be sent to all members of PQHS on Monday mornings. The intent is to provide a snapshot of what is going on that week in PQHS and to share our faculty and staff activities with the department. We depend on you to provide the items we need to share. Please send suggestions of events, faculty invited seminars & talks, honors, student thesis presentations, and news – new babies born! – to Kellie ([kellie.armstrong@umassmed.edu](mailto:kellie.armstrong@umassmed.edu)) & Sarah ([sarah.yeboah@umassmed.edu](mailto:sarah.yeboah@umassmed.edu)) by Friday each week.*