

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

NAME	POSITION TITLE	INSTITUTION
Kexin Yu kexin@usc.edu	Ph.D. Candidate	University of Southern California Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work

EDUCATION/TRAINING

INSTITUTION AND LOCATION	DEGREE	YEAR	FIELD OF STUDY
University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA	Ph.D.	In-Progress	Social Work
University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA	M.S.W.	2018	Social Work
Zhejiang University, Hangzhou, China	B.S.	2016	Psychology

Professional and Research Interests: Social isolation, loneliness, cognitive health, aging and technology, ecological perspective of aging, environmental justice, intervention study, behavioral health, chronic health conditions, caregiving.

Professional Experience:

08/16 – present	Research Assistant, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA
10/21 – present	Social Work Volunteer, Sourcewise, Santa Clara, CA
05/20 – 08/20	Social Work Volunteer, Age-Friendly Student Senior Connection Program, Los Angeles, CA
05/17 – 08/17	Social Work Intern, Edward R. Roybal Institute on Aging, Los Angeles, CA
09/16 – 04/17	Social Work Intern, ABC Adult Day Health Care Center, Los Angeles, CA
02/15 – 06/15	Social Work Intern, Lenjoy Community & Charity Service, Hangzhou, China

Honors and Other Activities:

Saks Scholar, University of Southern California
Alzheimer's Association International Conference Best Student Poster
Michigan Center for Urban African American Aging Research Summer Mentoring Workshop for Advanced Doctoral Students Award
GSA Junior Investigator Career Development Diversity Fellow Award
Stanford Longevity Center: Forming Science-Industry Research Collaboration Workshop Award
Nobuo Maeda International Research Award, American Public Health Association
Morningside Scholar, Zhejiang University

Academic Teaching Experience:

01/21 – 05/21	Instructor, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA
03/21	Guest lecturer, University of Washington Tacoma, Tacoma, WA
01/20 – 05/20	Co-Instructor, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA
09/18 – 12/18	Teaching Assistant, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA
10/18	Guest lecturer, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA

Research Experience:

2021-present	Principal Investigator	Examining the Longitudinal Influence of the Physical and Social Environments on Social Isolation and Cognitive Health: contextualizing the role of technology. National Institute on Aging F99AG068492 (\$41,136)
2021-present	Principal Investigator	Social Network and Wellbeing of Chinese Older Immigrants in Affordable Senior Housing: a mixed-methods comparison before and after the Covid-19 pandemic. USC Center for the Changing Family (\$3,000)
2019	Co-Investigator	Intergenerational mHealth Program for Affordable Housing Communities (ImPAHC) Feasibility Study. USC Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work (SDPSSW) Adult Mental Health and Wellness (AMHW) Department Pilot Award. (\$15,000)
2018-2019	Co-Investigator	Co-Designing a Mobile App with Chinese Immigrant Caregivers for Self-Management of Their Health. Southern California Clinical and Translational Science Institute (CTSI) pilot funding and AMHW Department Pilot Award. (\$55,000)

2017-2018 Principal Investigator Intergenerational Mobile Technology Opportunities Program (IMTOP) Pilot Study. USC Hamovitch Research Center Research Award. (\$8,500)

Publication:

Yu, K., Wild, K., Potempa, K., Hampstead, B. M., Lichtenberg, P. A., Struble, L. M., Pruitt, P., Alfaro, E. L., Lindsley, J., MacDonald, M., Kaye, J. A., Silbert, L. C., & Dodge, H. H. (2021). The Internet-Based Conversational Engagement Clinical Trial (I-CONNECT) in Socially Isolated Adults 75+ Years Old: Randomized Controlled Trial Protocol and COVID-19 Related Study Modifications. *Frontiers in Digital Health*, 3, 714813. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fdgth.2021.714813>

Yu, K., Wu, S., Liu, R., & Chi, I. (2021). Harnessing mobile technology to support type 2 diabetes self-management among Chinese and Hispanic immigrants: A mixed-methods acceptability study. *Journal of Ethnic & Cultural Diversity in Social Work*, 0(0), 1–14. <https://doi.org/10.1080/15313204.2021.1949775>

Yu, K., Wu, S., Jang, Y., Chou, C., Wilber, K., Aranda, M. & Chi, I. (2021). Longitudinal assessment of the relationships between geriatric conditions and loneliness. *JAMDA*, 22 (5), 1107-1113.e1. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jamda.2020.09.002>

Yu K., Wu S., Chi I. (2021). Internet Use and Loneliness of Older Adults Over Time: The Mediating Effect of Social Contact. *J Gerontol B Psychol Sci Soc Sci*, 76(3):541-550. doi: 10.1093/geronb/gbaa004. PMID: 31942629.

Liu, M., Jiang, T., **Yu, K.,** Wu, S., Jordan-Marsh, M. & Chi, I. (2020). Care Me Too: A mobile app for engaging Chinese immigrant caregivers in self-care and its user experience testing. *JMIR Formative Research*, 4(12), e20325–e20325. <https://doi.org/10.2196/20325>.

Yu, K., Wu, S., Lee, P., Wu, D., Hsiao, H., Tseng, Y., Wang, Y., Cheng, C., Wang, Y., Lee, S., Chi, I. (2020) Longitudinal effects of an intergenerational mHealth program for older Type 2 Diabetes patients in a rural area. *The Science of Diabetes Self-Management and Care*, 46(2), 206–216. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0145721720907301>.

Sengupta, S., **Yu, K.,** & Zahiri, B. (2018). Know-Stress. In M Tambe & E Rice (Eds). *Artificial Intelligence and Social Work*, (pp. 153-168). Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press.

Hoben, M., Clarke, A., Huynh, K. T., Kobagi, N., Kent, A., Hu, H., Pereira, R.A., Xiong, T., **Yu, K.,** Xiang, H. and Yoon, M.N., (2017). Barriers and facilitators in providing oral care to nursing home residents, from the perspective of care aides: A systematic review and meta-analysis. *International Journal of Nursing Studies*, 73, 34-51. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijnurstu.2017.05.003>.

Du, N., **Yu, K.,** Ye, Y., & Chen, S. (2016). Validity study of Patient Health Questionnaire-9 items for internet screening in depression among Chinese university students. *Asia-Pacific Psychiatry*. <https://doi-org.libproxy2.usc.edu/10.1111/appy.12266>.

Conference Presentation:

Yu, K., Ng, K. (Abstract accepted) Biological Pathways Underlying the Longitudinal Association Between Loneliness and Cognitive Decline [Paper presentation]. Gerontological Society of America Annual Scientific Meeting, Phoenix, AZ., and Online.

Yu, K., Wild, K., Silbert., L., Kaye, J., Dodge, H. (Abstract accepted) Comparing the Emotion Status of Individuals With MCI to Their Cognitively Normal Counterparts: I-CONNECT Project. [Paper presentation]. Gerontological Society of America Annual Scientific Meeting, Phoenix, AZ., and Online.

Yu, K. (Abstract accepted) Examining Social Isolation as a Mediator for the Environmental Influence on Cognitive Functioning. [Paper presentation]. Gerontological Society of America Annual Scientific Meeting, Phoenix, AZ., and Online.

Yu, K., Fausto, B., (Abstract accepted) Loneliness, Sleep Quality and Cognitive Function in Community-Dwelling Older Adults. [Paper presentation]. Gerontological Society of America Annual Scientific Meeting, Phoenix, AZ., and Online.

Yu, K., Wild, K., Silbert., L., Kaye, J., Dodge, H. (2021) Emotion Characteristics of Older Adults with MCI among a Socially Isolated Cohort Using NIH Toolbox: I-CONNECT study [Poster presentation]. Alzheimer's Association International Conference, Denver, CO. and online.

Fausto, B., **Yu, K.,** (2021) Neighborhood Environment and Cognition in Older Adults: Exploring the Mediating Effect of Physical Activity [Poster presentation]. Alzheimer's Association International Conference, Denver, CO. and online.

Yu, K., Aranda, M., Wu, S., Chi, I. (2021). Big-5 Personality and Loneliness in Older Adults: A Growth Curve Model for Two Parallel Processes [Paper presentation]. Society for Social Work and Research Annual Conference, Online.

Yu, K., Taylor, H., (2021) Conceptualization and Measurements of Social Isolation and Loneliness [Paper presentation]. American Geriatric Society Virtual Annual Scientific Meeting, Online.

Yu, K., Jiang, H., Liu, M., Wu, S., Jordan-Marsh, M., Chi, I. (2020). Discerning unmet self-care need and co-design of a mobile app with Chinese immigrant caregivers to promote self-care [Paper presentation]. Gerontological Society of America Annual Scientific Meeting, Online.

Yu, K., Wu, S., Liu, R., Chi, I. (2020), Mobile technology adoption for Type 2 Diabetes management among Chinese and Hispanic immigrants: A qualitative pilot study [Paper presentation]. American Public Health Association Annual Meeting, Online.

Liu, R., Wu, S., **Yu, K.,** Chi, I. (2020). Self-Care experience among middle-aged to older Chinese and Hispanic immigrants with Type 2 Diabetes in Los Angeles [Paper presentation]. American Public Health Association Annual Meeting, Online.

Yu, K., Wu, S., Chi, I. (2020). How does the environments in affordable senior housing influencing Type 2 Diabetes management? Perspectives from stakeholders [Paper presentation]. American Public Health Association Annual Meeting, Online.

Wu, S., **Yu, K.,** Chi, I. (2020). Assessing feasibility of implementing a Type 2 Diabetes mHealth program in affordable senior housing [Paper presentation]. American Public Health Association Annual Meeting, Online.

Yu, K., Wu, S., Chi, I. (2020). Longitudinal assessment of geriatric conditions and loneliness [Poster presentation]. American Public Health Association Annual Meeting, Online.

Yu, K., Wu, S., Chi, I. (2019). Internet use and loneliness of older adults over time: The mediation effect of social contact [Paper presentation]. Gerontological Society of America Annual Scientific Meeting, Austin, TX.

Yu, K., Wu, S., Liu, M., Jiang, H., Chi, I. (2019). Reflective thinking of the CSMP app co-design and alpha-testing process [Paper presentation]. Gerontological Society of America Annual Scientific Meeting, Austin, TX.

Wu, S., **Yu, K.,** Liu, M., Jiang H., Chi, I. (2019). Beta-testing of a CSMP app: An assessment of usability, utilities, and challenges [Paper presentation]. Gerontological Society of America Annual Scientific Meeting, Austin, TX.

Yu, K., Wu, S., Chi, I. (2019). A scoping review of risk and protective factors of social isolation and loneliness among older adults [Poster presentation]. Society for Social Work and Research Annual Conference, San Francisco, CA.

Yu, K., Wu, S., Chi, I. (2018). Feasibility and acceptance of IMTOP intervention with Chinese recent immigrants: A mixed-method pilot study [Paper presentation]. Gerontological Society of America Annual Scientific Meeting, Boston, MA.

Yu, K., Chi, I., (2018). Intergenerational relationships and social isolation of older adults in rural China [Paper presentation]. Gerontological Society of America Annual Scientific Meeting, Boston, MA.

Yu, K., Wu, S., Lee, P., Hsiao, H., Chi, I.(2018). Effects of a mHealth intervention for older adults with diabetes in a rural area in Taiwan: Difference in differences comparisons [Poster presentation]. American Public Health Association Annual Meeting, San Deigo, CA.

Yu, K., Wu, S., Lee, P., Hsiao, H., Chi, I. (2018). Longitudinal effects of a mHealth program for older adults with diabetes in a rural area in Taiwan [Poster presentation]. American Public Health Association Annual Meeting, San Deigo, CA.

Yu, K., Wu, S., Chi, I., Hsiao, H., Lee, P., & Lin, J. (2018). The effects of family support on the technology usage among older adults with Type-2 Diabetes [Paper presentation]. Society for Social Work and Research Annual Conference, District of Columbia, DC.

Yu, K., Wu, S., Chi, I., Hsiao, H., Lee, P., & Lin, J. (2018). The impacts of diabetes self-management mobile technology application usage on self-care behaviors among older adults [Paper presentation]. Society for Social Work and Research Annual Conference, District of Columbia, DC.

Yu, K., Wu, S., Chi, I., Hsiao, H., Lee, P. (2017). Longitudinal effects of an intergenerational mobile technology program on older diabetes patients [Poster presentation]. 21st IAGG World Congress of Gerontology and Geriatrics, San Francisco, CA.

Professional Memberships/Certifications:

Association for Gerontology Education in Social Work
National Association of Social Workers
Council on Social Work Education
American Public Health Association
The Gerontological Society of America
Society for Social Work and Research
USC Edward R. Roybal Institute on Aging