

Areas of Focus: Community-based long-term care, Person-centered care

The Nursing Home Person-Centered Options Counseling Certification Program in New Hampshire

UNH Lead: Laura Davie, MPH

Purpose: To address the gap in implementing person-centered care in low-resource communities through the Person-Centered Options Counseling Certification program, through developing a mentoring program and competency framework.

Funding: NH DHHS

Areas of Focus: Long-term Care, Dementia Care, Person-Centered Care

Advancing Person-Centered Dementia Care in Low-Resource Contexts

UNH Lead: Kirsten Corazzini, PhD, FGSA

Purpose: Partner with long-term care residents living with dementia, their family members and staff in underserved residential settings to learn their perspectives and design together ways to collect and share information about person-centered dementia care.

Funding: The Alzheimer's Association

Areas of Focus: Person-Centered Dementia Care, Caregiver support, Technology, Cross-cultural

This research program encompasses several key areas aimed at enhancing the well-being of older adults and their caregivers through a person-centered care lens. This includes investigating cultural influences on dementia care, understanding the significance of person-centered care, and exploring the ethical implications of technology adoption in dementia care.

Adaptation of the NYU Caregiver Intervention-Enhanced Support (NYUCI-ES) Program

UNH Lead: Jing Wang, PhD, RN, FAAN

Purpose: Adaptation of the NYUCI-ES to support Chinese and Korean American caregivers of older adults with dementia.

Funding: National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD)

Development of a Family-Centered Supportive Intervention for Chinese Adolescents and Parents with Young-onset Dementia (YOD)

Principal Investigator: Jing Wang, PhD, RN, FAAN

Purpose: To develop a family-centered supportive intervention aimed at improving the well-being and coping strategies of Chinese adolescents and their parents who are living with young-onset dementia.

Funding: Rockefeller Foundation-China Medical Board of United States

Fostering Ethical Adoption of Artificial Intelligence-Enabled Assistive Robots (AIAR) Grounded in Person-Centered Dementia Care.

Principal Investigator: Jing Wang, PhD, RN, FAAN

Purpose: To promote the ethical adoption of AI-enabled assistive robots in dementia care, ensuring that their use aligns with person-centered care principles and enhances the quality of life for individuals with dementia.

Funding: NH-INBRE

Areas of Focus: Global Aging

Cross-national Comparisons: Intergenerational Relationships and Well-being among Older Adults

UNH Lead: BoRin Kim, PhD and Ke Li, PhD

Purpose: This project aims to conduct cross-national comparisons on the patterns of intergenerational relationships and their implications for mental health and psychological well-being among older adults in diverse cultural and social contexts. This project includes multiple subprojects focusing on individual countries such as China, India, Japan, South Korea, and the U.S. This project uses nationally representative and harmonized datasets, which makes cross-national comparisons available.

Funding: UNH CHHS Research Support Initiative

Areas of Focus: Aging and Digital Disparities in Healthcare

Multilevel factors influencing eHealth use among Older Adults

UNH Lead: BoRin Kim, PhD and Chung Hyeon Jeong, PhD

Purpose: Digital disparities have a profound impact on older adults' access to healthcare use, particularly during the pandemic. Based on the quantitative and qualitative data collected from Seacoast NH, multilevel factors influencing eHealth use in general as well as patient portal are investigated.

Funding: UNH CHHS Research Support Initiative

Areas of Focus: The COVID-19 Pandemic and Older Adults

Various Impacts of the Pandemic on Older Adults: Vaccine Hesitancy, Racial/Ethnic Disparities, Social Relationships, ICT use, and eHealth use

UNH Lead: BoRin Kim, PhD, Ke Li, PhD, and Chung Hyeon Jeong, PhD

Purpose: The COVID-19 pandemic has profoundly affected older adults in numerous ways. Based on two nationally representative panel datasets including the Health and Retirement Study (HRS) and the National Health and Aging Trends Study (NHATS), multiple research projects explore diverse impacts of the pandemic on older Americans.

Funding: N/A

Areas of Focus: Social Isolation and Mental Health

Psychosocial Factors Linking Social Isolation to Mental Health Outcomes Among U.S. Older Adults

UNH Lead: Ke Li, PhD and BoRin Kim, PhD

Purpose: Using the Health and Retirement Study (HRS), this project aims to examine the longitudinal effects of social isolation on mental health outcomes through the underlying pathways of psychosocial factors.

Funding: N/A

Using Video Conferencing to Address Social Isolation Among Older Adults

UNH Lead: Jennifer Rabalais, MA and Therese Willkomm, PhD

Purpose: Pilot study to examine the use of IPADS and Amazon Show to create connections between older adults at risk of social isolation and their caregivers through video conferencing.

Funding: NH Partnership for Public Health

Areas of Focus: Older Immigrants

The impacts of Social Environments on Older Immigrants' Health and Quality of Life

UNH Lead: BoRin Kim, PhD, Ke Li, PhD, and Chung Hyeon Jeong, PhD

Purpose: Older immigrants often encounter unique challenges that can complicate their integration and quality of life. Under this theme, three research projects are ongoing: 1) Based on the data collected from low income subsidized senior housing in NH, IL, and MO, Dr. Kim and colleagues investigate if ethnically homogeneous environment matters for self-rated health among low-income immigrants living in senior housing; 2) Using the Population Study of Chinese Elderly (PINE), Dr. Li and colleagues examine a comprehensive list of individual and contextual factors that predict the heterogeneity in the change trajectory of social isolation among older Chinese immigrants; 3) Dr. Jeong and colleagues explore various patterns of social network and their impacts on healthcare access and use among older immigrant Koreans in New England.

Funding: National Institute on Aging (PINE Study)

Areas of Focus: Assistive Technologies

Socially Assistive Robots for Dementia Care

UNH Lead: Sajay Arthanat, Dain LaRoche, John Wilcox, Ferdinand Delgado, Gene Harkless, Esmaeil Bahalkeh, Lou Ann Griswold, Jennifer Rabalais.

Purpose: Socially assistive robots are being developed that utilize AI to: 1) reduce caregiver burden and improve autonomy of older adults living with Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementia; 2) demonstrate and correct therapeutic exercises in remote settings.

Funding: National Institute on Aging, National Science Foundation

Telehealth & Telerehabilitation

UNH Lead: Marguerite Corvini, Sajay Arthanat, John Wilcox, Keri Miloro Ferdinand Delgado

Purpose: To develop, adopt, refine and implement remote technological solutions that preserve physical and cognitive function, support aging-in-place, increase access to care, preserve independence, and contribute to older adults' quality of life. Extended reality, including augmented, virtual and mixed reality, are used for cognitive and physical training of older adults in the community to broaden access to care.

Funding: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Area of Focus: Older Workers

Productive Aging Study

UNH Lead: Karla Armenti

Purpose: Study to learn more about employer policies and practices targeting the promotion of healthy, safe, and more age-friendly workplaces across New Hampshire.

Funding: National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health