

Mary Kristina Wharton, MPA, MPH, PhD(c)

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EDUCATION

Tulane University, School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, Department of Health Policy and Management
Doctor of Philosophy, 2020 (anticipated)

Dissertation: *Analysis of Medicaid Expansion's Impact on Access and Utilization of Special and Vulnerable Populations Served by Federally Qualified Health Centers*

Advisor: Lizheng Shi, MSPHarm, MA, PhD

University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC
Master of Public Health, Maternal & Child Health, 2015

Smith College, Northampton, MA
Bachelor of Arts in Economics, 2009

North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC
Master of Public Administration, 2011

Duke University, Durham, NC
Certificate in Nonprofit Management, 2011

RESEARCH & PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Project Manager

August 2018 – current

Health Outreach Partners

- Provide training and technical assistance that focuses on expanding and improving health outreach programs at community-based health organizations nationwide a national, non-profit organization with a HRSA Bureau of Primary Health Care National Cooperative Agreement (NCA) working to improve the quality of life of underserved populations by addressing issues of health care access, health equity, and social justice.
- Employ mixed methods research skills to conduct program evaluations and needs assessments using sampling and surveying methods, and conducting focus groups, key informant interviews, and facilitate discussions and activities for data collection. Report qualitative and quantitative findings in final publications for client needs assessment reports.
- Serve as Evaluation Lead by utilizing a Salesforce relational database for project data for monitoring and evaluation activities for planning and to meet HRSA NCA reporting deliverables.

Doctoral Research Assistant

August 2016 – current

Tulane University, Department of Global Health Management and Policy

- Support Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI)-funded Louisiana Experiment Assessing Diabetes (LEAD) Project, a collaborative, multi-health system research project evaluating the impact of non-face-to-face care coordination and management for patients with diabetes and other chronic conditions.
- Manage research activities including contracts with vendors, recruitment of participants, budget planning, budget reconciliation, project managing, evaluating, and reporting to and collaborating with the investigators, Steering Committee, and grantors at PCORI.
- Draft, revise and submit IRB protocols and other materials and coordinate multiple institution IRBs.
- Coordinate and conduct semi-structured interviews of patients, providers, and system leaders.
- Analyze and manage quantitative data using STATA and qualitative data using NVivo.
- Collect and manage survey data using REDCap and Qualtrics.
- Prepare conference posters, presentations and manuscripts for review and publication.
- Mentor PhD student on qualitative research methods and manuscript development in Year 3 (2018-19).

Research Manager, Hepatitis C Screening Program
Tulane University, School of Medicine

May 2017 – September 2017

- Support interdisciplinary team of medical and public health student researchers who manage a Gilead-funded Hepatitis C testing program for people experiencing homelessness in collaboration with local nonprofit shelters, primary care, and rehabilitation centers.
- Manage all research projects from idea conception through data collection, analysis, conference and journal identification to presentation and publication.
- Develop and submit IRB applications for new research in collaboration with departments of Medicine, Public Health, Social Work and other health systems.

CDC, CSTE, NACCHO Project SHINE Applied Public Health Informatics Fellow

July 2015 – July 2016

San Francisco Department of Public Health, Population Health Division, Office of Equity and QI

- Assist the Public Health Informatics Officer within the Office of Equity and Quality Improvement with the development and deployment of the SFDPH integrated disease information system, Public Health Network Information eXchange ("PHNIX"), which is an integrated disease information system and Consilience Software's MAVEN product. Assist with implementation of multi-phase integration, including electronic lab reporting, HIV data from eHARS, and STD data from EHR data.
- Assist with development and deployment of the project plan for the release in accordance with an iterative System Development Life Cycle project planning model.
- Prepare charter for and organize a PHNIX Data Governance Committee.

Volunteer Assistant to the Accreditation Coordinator

November 2015 – November 2016

San Francisco Department of Public Health

- Support achievement of SFDPH Population Health Division accreditation (status designated in March 2017).
- Serve as Domain Captain for Domain 7 (Access to Care) and Domain 10 (Evidence-Based Practices).
- Review criteria for PHAB Version 1.5 Standards and Measures and collaborate with stakeholders.
- Prepare for and implement PHAB Site Visit.

Project Coordinator

January 2012 – June 2015

Advance Community Health Center: Raleigh, NC

- Achieve NCQA Patient-Centered Medical Home (PCMH) Recognition for 5 primary care practices.
- Manage NCQA Patient-Centered Medical Home transformation and applications at five FQHC sites.
- Manage CMS Advanced Primary Care Practice Demonstration grant for NCQA 2011 PCMH recognition.
- Member of Electronic Health Record Core Team, requiring collaboration with clinicians to address new EHR content (document customization, creation of training materials, provide training)
- Create workflows and policies to promote EHR use optimization to fulfill Meaningful Use (MU) attestations and PCMH documentation requirements.
- Qualitative and quantitative data collection, organization and management for various research and reports (patient satisfaction surveys, pro formas for new practice sites, PDSAs, QI reports).
- Management of various projects including: emergency preparedness, provider productivity analysis and improvement, cultural competency assessment, coordination of outreach events.
- Design, coordinate and maintain monthly organizational and site scorecards.
- Grant management: research, proposal writing and reporting (including PHS Section 330 grants).
- Managing ARRA Capital Improvement Plan funding including a dental practice renovation and AEDs.

Graduate & Professional Student Programs Coordinator
University of North Carolina LGBTQ Center

August 2014 – May 2015

- Coordinate LGBTQ Center educational programming for graduate and professional students, conduct Safe Zone, provide program evaluation for LGBTQ Center trainings utilizing Qualtrics surveys.
- Build partnerships with LGBT-focused community-based organizations serving graduate students state-wide.

Strategic Services Associate, Accreditation & Regulatory Affairs

August 2011 – December 2011

Duke University Health System (Duke Temporary Services: Temporary Position)

- Assist the Director of Hospital Accreditation and Regulatory Affairs with hospital audits for patient safety and QI/QA, and in preparedness for The Joint Commission continual readiness.

City of Durham, NC: Human Resources Department

February 2010 – July 2011

Planning & Systems Intern

- Coordinate Employee Benefits Open Enrollment and research HR policies to meet PPACA specifications.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Graduate Teaching Assistant

February 2010 – July 2011

Tulane University, Department of Health Policy and Management

- GHSD 6030, Intro to Health Systems Management & Policy (Spring 2017, Sum. 2017, Fall 2017, Spring 2018)
- GHSD 6450, Health Economics (Fall, 2018)
- GHSD 6540, Managerial Accounting for Health Care Managers (Spring 2017, Spring 2018)
- GHSD 7660, Health Policy Analysis (Fall 2016, Fall 2017)
- SPHU 3010, Foundations of Healthcare Systems (Spring 2017, Fall 2017, Spring 2018)

LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE

- Member and Abstract Reviewer, APHA Community Health Planning & Policy Development, 2018 - current
- Member and Abstract Reviewer, APHA LGBTQ Caucus, 2018 - current
- Peer Reviewer, *LGBT Health*, 2017 – current
- Peer Reviewer, *Tropical Health and Medicine*, 2018 – current
- Planning Committee Member: North Carolina Community Health Center Association East Coast Migrant Stream Forum: 2019, 2020
- Planning Committee Member: National Health Care for the Homeless Council Policy Symposium: 2019
- Reviewer: American Public Health Association (APHA) Global Public Health Film Festival 2019
- Volunteer Moderator: Louisiana Primary Care Association (LPCA) Annual Conference, Lake Charles, LA, 2017
- Public Health Doctoral Chair, Tulane University Student Government Association (SGA), 2016-2017
- Member, Tulane University GAPSA Social Issues Committee, 2016-2018
- Executive Committee, Tulane Society for Sexuality, Health and Gender, 2016-2018
- Member and Outreach Volunteer: Carolina PRIDE Alum Network, 2015 - current
- Senator of MCH Department, UNC Graduate and Professional School Federation (GPSF), 2014-2015
- President, UNC GPSF LGBTQ Campus Advocacy Committee, 2014-2015
- Member of 2014 UNC GPSF Diversity Summit Planning Committee, 2014-2015
- Copresident of UNC LGBTQ Health Sciences Alliance (student organization), 2014-2015
- Organizer: UNC Health Sciences Alliance LGBT Journal Club, 2013-2015
- Organizer of the LGBTQ Health Sciences Journal Club, 2013-2015
- Volunteer Field Epidemiologist (CHNAs, Emergency Preparedness), UNC Team Epi Aid, 2013-2015
- Alumnae Admissions Chair (AAC) for the Greater New Orleans Area Chapter of the Smith College Alumnae Association (previously AAC at the Triangle Chapter and the East Bay Chapter), 2012-2018

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

- Patient Access Network (PAN) Foundation Research Challenge 1st Place Winner: 2017-18
- Tulane University Department of Health Policy and Management Doctoral Scholarship: 2016-2018
- CDC, CSTE, NACCHO Project SHINE Applied Public Health Informatics Fellowship: 2015-2016
- Poster Finalist, Council for State and Territorial Epidemiologists (CSTE), Annual Conference, 2016
- The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill LGBTIQA Advocacy Award: 2015
- UNC Office of Scholarships and Student Aid Graduate Scholarship: 2013-2015
- Advance Community Health Employee of the Year: 2013
- Advance Community Health Employee of the Month: December 2012

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

1. Yeager, V. A., **Wharton, M. K.**, Monnette, A., Price-Haywood, E. G., Nauman, E., Angove, R. S. M., & Shi, L. (2018). Non-Face-to-Face Chronic Care Management: A Qualitative Study Assessing the Implementation of a New CMS Reimbursement Strategy. *Popul Health Manag*, 21(6), 454-461. doi:10.1089/pop.2017.0196
2. Shi, L., **Wharton, M. K.**, & Monnette, A. (2018). Ensuring access to prescription medications in the post-ACA healthcare access landscape: the essential role of FQHCs in the safety net for the underinsured. *Am J Manag Care*, 24(5 Suppl), S67-s73.
3. Bazzano, A. N., **Wharton, M. K.**, Monnette, A., Nauman, E., Price-Haywood, E., Glover, C., . . . Shi, L. (2018). Barriers and Facilitators in Implementing Non-Face-to-Face Chronic Care Management in an Elderly Population with Diabetes: A Qualitative Study of Physician and Health System Perspectives. *J Clin Med*, 7(11). doi:10.3390/jcm7110451
4. Monnette, A. M., **Wharton, M. K.**, Zhao, Y., Fonseca, V. A., & Shi, L. (2019). Post-ACA Racial Disparity of Eye Examinations Among the U.S. Noninstitutionalized Population With Diabetes: 2014-2015. *Diabetes Care*, 42(5), e70-e72. doi:10.2337/dc18-1991
5. Bazzano, A. N., Monnette, A. M., **Wharton, M. K.**, Price-Haywood, E. G., Nauman, E., Dominick, P., . . . Shi, L. (2019). Older patients' preferences and views related to non-face-to-face diabetes chronic care management: a qualitative study from southeast Louisiana. *Patient Prefer Adherence*, 13, 901-911. doi:10.2147/ppa.S201072
6. Yeager, V. A., **Wharton, M. K.**, & Beitsch, L. M. (2020). Maintaining a Competent Public Health Workforce: Lessons Learned From Experiences With Public Health Accreditation Domain 8 Standards and Measures. *J Public Health Manag Pract*, 26(1), 57-66. doi:10.1097/phh.0000000000000750

Publications Currently in Review:

1. **Wharton MK**, Eragoda S, Monnette AM, Shi L... Bazzano AB (2020). *Qualitative Analysis of Health System Reimbursement Strategies Utilizing Non-Face-To-Face Chronic Care Management for Medicare-Insured Patients with Diabetes.*

APPLIED RESEARCH & CONTRACTED PUBLICATIONS

1. North Carolina Community Health Center Association (NCCHCA) *East Coast Migrant Stream Forum Impact Assessment* (Project lead and lead author: Health Outreach Partners, 2019)
2. *UnidosUS Affiliate Organization Social Determinants of Health Capacity Assessment* (Project lead and lead author: Health Outreach Partners, 2019)

3. *UnidosUS: Dialogue on Latino Children's Social and Emotional Well-Being Assessment* (Project lead and lead author: Health Outreach Partners, 2020)
4. *National Health Center T/TA Needs Assessment Data Analysis of Farmworker Health Network Report* (Health Outreach Partners, 2019)
5. *Episcopal Health Foundation Service Area Needs Assessment* (Project co-lead and contributing author: Health Outreach Partners, 2018)

CONFERENCE POSTERS & PRESENTATIONS

- **Wharton MK, Spurgeon L.** *Dialogue on Latino Children's Social and Emotional Wellbeing.* UnidosUS ¡Adelante: Moving Us Forward! Convening, Fort Lauderdale, FL. 2019 (facilitated discussion).
- Lieu D, **Wharton MK.** *Structural Competency: A Framework to Analyze and Address Social Determinants of Health and Health Disparities.* South Carolina Primary Health Care Association 2019 SEA Retreat Conference, Myrtle Beach, SC (workshop).
- **Wharton MK.** *Self-Care: Taking Care of Ourselves to Sustain the Health of Our Communities.* Midwest Migrant Stream Forum 2019. Denver, CO (workshop).
- Lee S, **Wharton MK.** *Structural Competency: Understanding How Structures Impact the Health of Patients.* 2019 National Health Care for the Homeless Policy Symposium, Washington, DC (presentation).
- **Wharton, MK.** *Impact of Medicaid Expansion on Federally Qualified Health Centers: An Exploration of Access to Care Using Differences-in-Differences Models.* 2018 APHA Annual Conference, San Diego, CA (presentation).
- **Wharton, MK.** *Impact of Patient-Centered Medical Home Transformation and the CMMI Advanced Primary Care Practice Demonstration on Federally Qualified Health Centers: Difference-in-Differences Analyses on Measures of Access, Cost, and Quality.* 2018 APHA Annual Conference, San Diego, CA (presentation).
- **Wharton, MK.** *Characteristics of LGBT Patients of Federally Qualified Health Centers: An Exploration of the First Year of HRSA Uniform Data System Reporting on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity.* 2018 APHA Annual Conference, San Diego, CA (poster).
- Bazzano AB, **Wharton MK,** Monnette AM. *"My health is number one": a qualitative study of older patients' views on non-face-to-face diabetes chronic care management in Louisiana.* PCORI Annual Meeting 2018, Washington, DC (presentation).
- Monnette, AM; **Wharton, MK.** *Post-ACA Racial Disparity of Eye Exams in US Populations with Diabetes.* 2018 AcademyHealth, Seattle, WA (poster).
- **Wharton, MK.** *The Impact of Medicaid Expansion on Access to FQHCs: A Differences-in-Differences Analysis.* 2018 Delta Omega Poster Competition. Tulane University SPHTM Eta Chapter, New Orleans, LA (poster).
- **Wharton, MK.** *Ensuring Access to Prescription Medications in the Post-ACA Healthcare Access Landscape: The Essential Role of FQHCs in the Safety Net for the Underinsured.* 2018 PAN Foundation Roundtable, Washington, DC (presentation).
- Yeager, VA; **Wharton, MK.** *Maintaining a Competent Public Health Workforce: Lessons Learned from Experiences with Public Health Accreditation Domain 8 Standards and Measures.* 2017 APHA Annual Conference, Atlanta, GA (presentation).
- Yeager VA, **Wharton MK,** Monnette A, Price-Haywood EG, Nauman E, Angove R, Shi L. *Non-Face-to-Face Chronic Care Management: A Qualitative Study Assessing the Implementation of a New CMS Reimbursement Strategy in Louisiana.* 2017 AcademyHealth Annual Research Conference, New Orleans, LA (poster).
- Yeager VA, Shi L, **Wharton MK,** Monnette AM, Nauman E. *Louisiana Experiment Assessing Diabetes Outcomes Study (LEAD Study).* PCORI Annual Meeting 2016.
- **Wharton, MK.** *Data Governance Structures in Local Health Departments.* 2016 CSTE Annual Conference, Anchorage, AK (poster).

- **Wharton, MK.** *Data Governance Structures and Health Equity.* 2016 NACCHO Annual Conference, Phoenix, AZ (poster).
- **Wharton, MK.** *Sexual Orientation/Gender Identity (SO/GI) Demographic Data Collection: Past & Present.* 2015 Southeastern Unity Conference, Chapel Hill, NC (presentation).
- **Wharton, MK.** *What are LGBTQ Health Disparities?* 2014 Southeastern Unity Conference, Chapel Hill, NC (presentation).

CERTIFICATIONS, SKILLS, & PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

Current Certifications

ITIL® Information Technology Service Management Foundations

Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI) Human Subjects Research Training (Biomedical Sciences, Social and Behavioral Sciences), 2014-current

Skills & Systems Knowledge

- Statistical software: STATA (preferred), SAS, SPSS
- Qualitative software: NVivo, AtlasTI
- Survey software experience: Qualtrics, REDcap
- Electronic health records and practice management systems (Epic, GE Centricity, AllScripts)
- Disease information and surveillance systems: Consilience MAVEN, CDC eHARS, CDC Evaluation Web
- Basic knowledge of ICD9 and ICD-10 codes, CPT codes, and HL7
- Other software and systems: Salesforce, DonorPerfect, Constant Contact

Associations & Professional Organizations

American Public Health Association (APHA), National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC), AcademyHealth, American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), the University of North Carolina Alumni Association, Carolina PRIDE Alum Network, Smith College Alumnae Association

AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

- References
- Writing samples
- Teaching philosophy