Mengyi Li

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EDUCATION

Graduate School of Public Health, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA
Epidemiology Predoctoral Student, August 2021-Current

Rollins School of Public Health, Emory University, Atlanta, GA   May 2018
Master of Public Health, Epidemiology

University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI   December 2013
Bachelor of Science, Nutrition
Honors: Graduation with Distinction, Dean's List (Fall 2010-2011, Fall 2011-2012, Spring 2011-2012, Fall 2013-2014)

RESEARCH/WORK EXPERIENCE

Bureau of Epidemiology and Public Health Informatics, Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Topeka, KS

Chronic Disease Epidemiologist   August 2018-October 2020
Advanced Epidemiologist   October 2020-July 2021

- Provide epidemiologic support for the Community Clinical Linkages and Health Systems Sections of the Bureau of Health Promotion. This includes conducting literature reviews, identifying and analyzing existing data sources, planning and implementing new data collection strategies, and analyzing and interpreting these data to measure the burden of chronic diseases such as heart disease, stroke, hypertension, diabetes and arthritis in Kansas.
- Analyze KS BRFSS, hospital discharge, and mortality data and disseminate results and interpretations through the development of reports, maps, fact sheets, news releases, articles, material for the KDHE web site, abstracts for presentations and posters at public health and scientific meetings, manuscripts for peer-reviewed publications, and other media
- Track progress toward meeting program objectives and monitor heart disease, stroke, hypertension, diabetes, and arthritis trends in Kansas, including health status trends in disparate Kansas populations.
- Assist with the management of three federal funded chronic disease grants and preparation of grant-related reports, including reporting of program objectives, epidemiology, and evaluation sections
- Perform other duties as assigned including serving as a member of the KDHE Disaster Response Team (COVID-19 response: COVID-19 hotline, data entry, etc.)

Rollins School of Public Health, Emory University, Atlanta, GA
Independent Researcher   July 2017-May 2018

- Review literature (~50 articles) and propose study to understand the role of diet on renal health
- Investigate association of dietary flavonoid intakes with end stage renal disease and kidney function decline in the REasons for Geographic and Racial Differences in Stroke (REGARDS)
- Collaborate with other researchers to develop analysis plan and compose manuscript
- Build Cox proportional hazard and unconditional logistic regression models in SAS to analyze data (~22000 observations)

American Cancer Society, Atlanta, GA
Research Intern   September 2017-May 2018

- Correct (~25000) write-in codes reported on food frequency questionnaires (FFQ) administered in Cancer Prevention Study II (CPS-II) to improve the accuracy of dietary database on whole grain and added sugar intake from cold cereals
- Propose, design, and conduct validation study of meal timing and frequency questions on FFQ to ensure the validity of FFQ for examining the association between circadian timing and health outcomes
- Conduct sensitivity analysis (weighted Kappa, Spearman correlation, and Bland Altman tests) for meal timing and frequency questions from FFQ using 24-hour recall data

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR), Department of Health and Human Services, Center for Global Health, Global Immunization Division, Polio Eradication Branch, Nigeria Team, Atlanta, GA
Regular Fellow   October 2017-April 2018

- Construct analytic plans to evaluate the performance of a dashboard tool (developed to monitor supplementary immunization activities used in Nigeria since 2012) on improving polio immunization activities in 19 northern provinces of Nigeria
- Create dashboard database
- Analyze the polio supplementary immunization activities between 2014 and 2017 in Nigeria based on pre-campaign, intra-campaign, and quality assessment data using SAS and R
- Documents methods, results, and presents findings to key stakeholders

Dept. of Pediatrics, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI
Associate Research Specialist   July 2014-June 2016
- Investigated host immune mechanisms directed against pathogenic fungi
- Worked with other lab members to design and conduct experiment to elucidate the roles of pathogen recognition receptors and fungal metabolites as ligands, and their signaling pathways that drive differentiation of anti-fungal Th17 cells
- Performed multi-color FACS analysis, tissue culture assays, vaccination and infection of mice, ELISA, and realtime RT-PCR, maintained and phenotyped a transgenic mouse colony
- Analyzed and graphed flow cytometry data with FlowJo and GraphPad Prism
- Reported findings during weekly lab meetings

Dept. of Psychology, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI
Research Assistant   February 2014-May 2014
- Assisted in research to understand the correlation of threat-induced fear and anxiety with electroencephalogram measurement
- Explained experiment setting and delivered consent forms to the subjects
- Oversaw tests and collected electroencephalogram data

Dept. of Entomology, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI
Research Support   January 2010-July 2013
- Prepared and served food for all stages of mosquitos for experiments to study vector-pathogen interactions and how these may be disrupted, separated different stages of the insect
- Assisted Madison Dane County Public Health Department in summer surveillance of West Nile Virus by categorizing mosquito samples collected from different region of Madison and detecting RNA level of WNV (Summer 2013)

SKILLS
- Language: English (fluent), Mandarin (fluent)
- Computer: Proficient in Microsoft Word, Excel, and PowerPoint; Literature Search with ProQuest, & PubMed; Endnote; Adobe Illustrator SAS (SAS Base Certified; SAS SQL); R; STATA; ArcGIS; Tableau

PUBLICATIONS
1. Wüthrich M, Wang H, **Li M**, Lerksuthrat T, Hardison SE, Brown GD, Klein B (2015) F. pedrosoi-induced Th17 cell differentiation in mice is fostered by Dectin-2 and suppressed by Mincle recognition. Eur J Immunol. 45(9):2542-52.
2. Wüthrich M, Brandhorst TT, Sullivan TD, Filutowicz H, Sterkel A, Stewart D, **Li M**, Lerksuthrat T, LeBert V, Shen ZT, Ostroff G, Deepe GS, Hung CY, Cole G, Walter J, Jenkins MK, Klein BS (2015) Calnexin Induces Expansion of Antigen-Specific CD4+ T Cells that Confer Immunity to Fungal Ascomycetes via Conserved Epitopes. Cell Host Microbe. 17(4):452-65.
3. Wang H, **Li M**, Lerksuthrat T, Klein B, Wüthrich M (2016) The C-type lectin receptor MCL mediates vaccine-induced immunity against infection with Blastomyces dermatitidis. Infect Immun. 84(3):635-42.
4. Wang H, LeBert V, **Li M**, Lerksuthrat T, Galles K, Klein B, Wüthrich M (2016) Mannose Receptor Is Required for Optimal Induction of Vaccine-Induced T-Helper Type 17 Cells and Resistance to Blastomyces dermatitidis Infection. J Infect Dis. 213(11):1762-6.
5. Wang H, **Li M**, Hung CY, Sinha M, Lee L, Wiesner D, LeBert V, Lerksuthrat T, Galles K, Suresh M, DeFranco A, Lowell C, Klein B, Wüthrich M (2016) MyD88 shapes vaccine immunity by extrinsically regulating survival of CD4+ T cells during the contraction phase. PLOS Pathogen. 12(8): e1005787.
6. **Li M** (2019) Diabetes Mortality in Kansas, 2017. Kansas Health Statistic Report. Nov 2019 (82):16-20. https://www.kdheks.gov/phi/khsnews/khsr82.pdf