YIJIONG YANG, PHD, MHA

College of Nursing, Florida State University

98 Varsity Way, Tallahassee, FL 32306-4310

Email: yy22f@fsu.edu; yijiongyang@gmail.com

Office: (850) 644-9381; Cell: (832) 986-8242

[Google Scholar](https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=ugDimawAAAAJ&hl=en); [ResearchGate](https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Yijiong-Yang); [ORCID](https://orcid.org/0000-0002-6644-4179)

**RESEARCH INTERESTS**

My research focuses on advancing healthcare outcomes for aging populations and those with chronic conditions, particularly Alzheimer's disease and related dementias (ADRD), diabetes, and fall injuries. I am passionate about leveraging biostatistics, electronic health records (EHR), and claims data to develop predictive models through machine learning and natural language processing. My work integrates public health and nursing perspectives to enhance disease prevention, management strategies, and healthcare delivery systems. With extensive experience in grant development, interdisciplinary collaborations, and data-driven research, I aim to contribute actionable insights that inform public health policies and clinical practices, improving care for vulnerable populations.

**ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS**

***Postdoctoral Fellow****,* College of Nursing, Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL 09/2022 – Present

- Research: Responsible for developing IRB protocols and contributing to various aspects of NIH grant processes, including drafting proposals, preparing budgets and the development of academic publications.

- Teaching: N5846 Biostatistics: Introduction to Basic Descriptive and Inferential Statistics Applications.

 N5930 Essentials of AI in Healthcare.

***Graduate Research Assistant – Doctoral****,* School of Public Health, The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, Houston, TX 01/2022 – 08/2022

- Research: Texas Child Mental Health Care Consortium - Child Psychiatric Access Network (CPAN) and Texas Child Health Access Through Telemedicine (TCHATT). Responsible for the development and implementation of Time-Driven Activity-Based Costing Model (TDABC) to calculate annual patient costs and assess the effectiveness of CPAN and TCHATT program evaluations across University of Texas Health Systems.

***Graduate Research Assistant – Doctoral,***Department of Neurosurgery, The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX 02/2019 – 03/2020

- Research: Used UnitedHealth Group Optum claims data to analyze the impact of provider clinical factors and treatment variations on medical costs and outcomes in therapeutic procedures for glioblastoma (GBM) patients.

***Assistant Instructor / Teaching Assistant,***Cizik School of Nursing, The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, Houston, TX 03/2016 – 12/2021

- Teaching: N7505 Advanced Statistics for Clinical Research I

 N7506 Advanced Statistics for Clinical Research II

 N6806 Research & Epidemiology for Evidence-based Practice for Advanced Practice Nursing

 N6820 Data Analysis and Evaluation

 N7506 Advanced Statistics for Clinical Research II

 N6106 Nursing Research and Epidemiology for Evidence-Based Practice

 N6101 Clinical and Epidemiology Research for Advanced Nursing

 N5506 Statistics in Nursing

 N3521 Gerontologic Nursing

***Data Analyst,*** Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield, Pittsburgh, PA 05/2013– 08/2023

- Research: Collaborated with Clinical Consultants to apply Patient-centered Medical Home Quality Evaluation Program and the Hospital Quality Blue Pay-for-Performance Program, assessing healthcare provider performance and compensation rates.

**EDUCATION**

**The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, Houston, TX, US**  2022

**PHD** in Public Health/Health Economics

**University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA, US** 2014

**MHA** in Public Health

**Yale University, New Haven, CT, US** 2011

Exchange Student in Art and Science

**Fudan University, Shanghai, China**  2012

**BM** in Public Administration

**HONORS, SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS**

Professional Development Award, Florida State University 2024

The Delta Omega Public Health Honorary Society 2022

MPACH Department Scholarship, UT Health School of Public Health 2018 – 2022

Vu Thien Scholarship, UT Health School of Public Health 2016 – 2018

**LICENSURE**

Certified Financial Analyst (CFA) - Level 1 2025– Present

**CERTIFICATES**

ScHARe Think-a-Thon Interactive Webinar 2024 – Present

All of Us Biostats Core Train-the-Trainer 2024 – Present

**GRANTS AND RESEARCH PROJECTS**

DAISY Foundation RF04554 (Song, Wang, **Yang**) 2024 – 2025

*Ecological Momentary Assessment Study to Identify Real-Time Predictors of Physical Activity among Older People Living with HIV*

Role: Co-Investigator

**RESEARCH PUBLICATION**

Santa Maria, D., Padhye, N., **Yang, Y**., Gallardo, K., Santos, G. M., Jung, J., & Businelle, M. (2018). Drug use patterns and predictors among homeless youth: Results of an ecological momentary assessment. The American Journal of Drug and Alcohol Abuse, 44(5), 551-560.

Santa Maria, D., Padhye, N., **Yang, Y.**, Gallardo, K., & Businelle, M. (2018). Predicting sexual behaviors among homeless young adults: ecological momentary assessment study. JMIR public health and surveillance, 4(2), e9020.

Santa Maria, D., Padhye, N., **Yang, Y.**, Gallardo, K., & Businelle, M. (2018). Correction: Predicting Sexual Behaviors Among Homeless Young Adults: Ecological Momentary Assessment Study. JMIR Public Health and Surveillance, 4(2), e10806–e10806. https://doi.org/10.2196/10806

Drake, S. A., Holcomb, J. B., **Yang, Y.**, Thetford, C., Myers, L., Brock, M., ... & Wade, C. E. (2020). Establishing a regional trauma preventable/potentially preventable death rate. Annals of surgery, 271(2), 375-382.

Drake, S. A., Wolf, D. A., **Yang, Y.**, Harper, S., Ross, J., Reynolds, T., & Giardino, E. R. (2019). A descriptive and geospatial analysis of environmental factors attributing to sudden unexpected infant death. The American Journal of Forensic Medicine and Pathology, 40(2), 108-116.

Drake SA, **Yang Y**, Wolf DA, Reynolds T, Harper S, et al. (2019) Individual and community characteristics associated with premature natural and drug-related deaths in 25–59 year old decedents. PLOS ONE 14(2): e0212026. https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0212026

Kalkwarf, K. J., Drake, S. A., **Yang, Y.**, Thetford, C., Myers, L., Brock, M., ... & Holcomb, J. B. (2020). Bleeding to death in a big city: an analysis of all trauma deaths from hemorrhage in a metropolitan area during 1 year. Journal of trauma and acute care surgery, 89(4), 716-722.

Drake SA, Holcomb JB, **Yang Y**, Thetford C, Myers L, Brock M, Wolf DA, Persse D, NaikMathuria BJ, Wade CE, Harting MT. Establishing a regional pediatric trauma preventable/potentially preventable death rate. Pediatr Surg Int. 2020 Feb; 36(2):179-189. doi: 10.1007/s00383-019-04597-9. Epub 2019 Nov 7. PMID: 31701301.

DeMello, A. S., **Yang, Y.**, Schulte, J., Wolf, D. A., Holcomb, J. B., Bless, B., ... & Drake, S. A. (2022). Learning from suicide deaths in Harris County, Texas. Death studies, 46(3), 745-755.

Levine, N., Drake, S. A., Reynolds, T. F., **Yang, Y.**, Wolf, D. A., Persse, D., ... & Holcomb, J. B. (2021). Spatial correlates of gun deaths in Harris County, Texas. Homicide studies, 25(1), 37-60.

Suchting, R.; Businelle, M.S.; Hwang, S.W.; Padhye, N.S.; **Yang, Y.**; Santa Maria, D.M. Predicting Daily Sheltering Arrangements among Youth Experiencing Homelessness Using Diary Measurements Collected by Ecological Momentary Assessment. Int. J. Environ. Res. Public Health 2020, 17, 6873.

Santa Maria, D., Padhye N, Businelle M, **Yang Y**, Jones J, Sims A, Lightfoot M. Efficacy of a Just- in- Time Adaptive Intervention to Promote HIV Risk Reduction Behaviors Among Young Adults Experiencing Homelessness: Pilot Randomized Controlled Trial. J Med Internet Res. 2021 Jul 6;23(7):e26704. doi: 10.2196/26704. PMID: 34255679.

Crane, S., Nosich, R., **Yang, Y.**, & Pawelek, E. (2021). Challenges in the implementation of electronic systems for patient report of symptoms in oncology: a scoping review.

Revere L, Langland-Orban B, Large J, **Yang Y.** Evaluating the robustness of the CMS Hospital Value-Based Purchasing measurement system. Health Serv Res. 2021 Jun;56(3):464-473. doi: 10.1111/1475-6773.13608. Epub 2021 Jan 4. PMID: 33393668; PMCID: PMC8143689.

Drake SA, Conway SH, **Yang Y**, Cheatham LS, Wolf DA, Adams SD, Wade CE, Holcomb JB. When falls become fatal-Clinical care sequence. PLoS One. 2021 Jan 6;16(1):e0244862. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0244862. PMID: 33406164; PMCID: PMC7787527.

Drake SA, **Yang Y**, Gao S, Mora S, Garza R, Moore L, Todd SR, Wilson C, Wolf DA. Fatal and Nonfatal Injury Patterns of Stranded Motorists. J Forensic Nurs. 2021 Apr 29. doi: 10.1097/JFN.0000000000000329. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 33929400.

Drake, S. A., Akande, A., Kelly, P. A., **Yang, Y.**, & Wolf, D. A. (2021). Identifying gaps and improving investigation of fatal elder abuse and/or neglect. Journal of forensic sciences, 66(6), 2274- 2282.

Klutts, Kalkwarf, K., Meyer, D., **Yang, Y.**, Wolf, D. A., Bhavaraju, A., Margolick, J., Marino, K., Robertson, R., & Drake, S. A. (2022). An Analysis of Traumatic and Non-Traumatic Hemopericardium Using Autopsy Data From a County Medical Examiner. The American Surgeon,2022-04-17 https://doi.org/10.1177/00031348221086805

Lemke, Akinlotan, M., **Yang, Y.**, & Drake, S. A. (2022). Rural-urban, age, and gender disparities and trends in suicide and homicide: Multistate evidence across 12 years. The Journal of Rural Health. https://doi.org/10.1111/jrh.12670

Drake, S.A., Lemke, M., **Yang, Y.** (2022). Exploring the complexity of firearm homicides in Harris County, Texas, from 2009 to 2021: Implications for theory and prevention. Social Science & Medicine. DOI: 10.1016/j.socscimed.2022.115048

Dror, I. E., Wolf, D. A., Phillips, G., Gao, S., **Yang, Y.**, & Drake, S. A. (2022). Contextual information in medicolegal death investigation decision-making: manner of death determination for cases of a single gunshot wound. Forensic science international: synergy, 5, 100285.

Klutts GN, Kalkwarf KJ, **Yang Y**, et al. Geospatial Analysis of Prehospital Triage and Early Potential Preventable Traumatic Deaths. The American Surgeon TM. 2023; 0(0). doi:10.1177/00031348231157910

Kalkwarf, K. J., **Yang, Y.**, Mora, S., Wolf, D. A., Robertson, R. D., Holcomb, J. B., & Drake, S. A. (2023). The silent killer: previously undetected pulmonary emboli that result in death after discharge. Injury, 54(11), 111016.

**Yang Y**, Drake SA, Wang J, et al. Comparing survival rates and mortality in operative versus nonoperative treatment for femoral neck fractures among Alzheimer's disease patients: A retrospective cohort study. Aging Med. 2023; 00:1-8. doi:10.1002/agm2.12279

**Yang Y**, Park HJ, Li C, et al. Comparing COVID-19 vaccination coverage, adverse reactions and impact of social determinants of health on vaccine hesitancy in ADRD/MCI and non-ADRD/MCI population: protocol for a retrospective cross-sectional study. BMJ Open 2024;0:e082988. doi:10.1136/bmjopen-2023-082988

**Yang, Y.**, Drake, S. A., Wang, J., Shen, G. C., Miao, H., Morgan, R. O., Du, X. L., & Lairson, D. R. (2024). Comparing total medical costs of surgical treatment versus nonoperative care for femoral neck fractures among Alzheimer's disease patients: A retrospective cohort study. *Geriatric nursing (New York, N.Y.)*, *61*, 499–505. Advance online publication. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.gerinurse.2024.12.023

**CONFERENCE & SEMINAR PRESENTATION**

**Yang, Y.**, & Lairson, D. R. Comparison of Mortality and Readmission Rate of Operative Surgery versus Non-Operative Treatment for Femoral Neck Fractures among Medicare Beneficiaries with Alzheimer’s Disease. In APHA's 2019 Annual Meeting and Expo (Nov. 2-Nov. 6). APHA 2019. [Poster Presentation]

KJ Kalkwarf, SA Drake, **Y Yang**, C Thetford, L Myers, M Brock, DA Wolf, D Persse, CE Wade, JB Holcomb. Bleeding To Death In A Big City: An Analysis of All Trauma Deaths From Hemorrhage in a Metropolitan Area Over One Year. 78th Annual Meeting of the American Association for the Surgery of Trauma, Sept. 18, 2019 at: Dallas, Texas. [Poster Presentation]

Lemke M.; Wolf D.; Drake S.; **Yang Y.**; Hege A. How do truck drivers die at work? a review of medical examiner cases from Harris county, Texas, 2016-2020. APHA 2021, PS1039.0, Occupational Health and Safety Program. https://apha.confex.com/apha/2021/meetingapp.cgi/Paper/496424 [Oral Presentation]

**Yang Y**, Drake SA, Wang J, et al. Comparing survival rates and mortality in operative versus nonoperative treatment for femoral neck fractures among Alzheimer's disease patients: A retrospective cohort study. The Academy of Science Engineering and Medicine of Florida (ASEMFL), Nov. 2023, Orlando, Florida. [Poster Presentation]

**Yang Y**, Park H, Wang J. A Comparative Analysis of Daily Living Activities Dependency Among Nursing Home Residents and Home- & Community-Based Services Beneficiaries. Southeast Regional Clinical & Translational Science Conference, Feb. 2024, Pine Mountain, GA. [Poster Presentation]

**Yang Y**, Drake SA, Wang J, et al. Survival and Mortality in Operative vs. Nonoperative Treatment for Femoral Neck Fractures in Alzheimer's: A Retrospective Cohort Study. The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston School of Public Health Epidemiology Seminar, Feb. 2024, Houston, TX. [Seminar Presentation]

**Yang Y**, Drake SA, Wang J, et al. Comparing overall medical costs of operative versus nonoperative treatment for femoral neck fractures among Alzheimer's disease patients: a retrospective cohort study. Alzheimer's Association International Conference (AAIC), July. 2024, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. [Poster Presentation]

**Yang Y**, COVID-19 Vaccination Coverage, Adverse Reactions, and Hesitancy in the ADRD Population: A Retrospective Study. The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston School of Public Health Epidemiology Seminar, Sept. 2024, Houston, TX. [Seminar Presentation]

**Yang Y**. Addressing ADRD and COVID-19 Vaccination Hesitancy: Strategies for Enhancing Health Outcomes. Florida State University 5MR Research Presentation, Fall 2024, Tallahassee, Florida. [Oral Presentation]

**Yang Y**, Park H, Li C, Song D, Wang J. Comparing COVID-19 vaccination coverage, adverse reactions, and impact of social determinants of health on vaccine hesitancy in ADRD/MCI and non- ADRD/MCI populations: A retrospective cross-sectional study. Oct. 2024, APHA, Minneapolis, Minnesota. [Oral Presentation]

**Yang Y,** Survival Rates, Mortality, and Medical Cost Comparison of Surgical vs. Nonoperative Care for Femoral Neck Fractures in Alzheimer's Patients: A Retrospective Cohort Study. The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston School of Public Health Epidemiology Seminar, Feb. 2025, Houston, TX. [Seminar Presentation]

**Yang, Y.**, Lane, B., Ravndal, D., & Sorkpor, S. (2025, April 4). *Educational attainment and ADRD risk among Black adults: A comparative analysis of US-born and non-US-born populations*. 2025 SGS Annual Meeting & Conference, Birmingham, AL. [Professional paper presentation]

Sorkpor, S., **Yang, Y.**, Tefera, G., Miao, H., & Wang, J. (2025, April 4). *Alzheimer's disease and related dementias in Black adults: A comparison based on nativity status*. 2025 SGS Annual Meeting & Conference, Birmingham, AL. [Poster presentation]

Sorkpor, S. K., **Yang, Y.**, Lane, B., Miao, H., & Wang, J. (2025, November). *Alzheimer's disease and related dementia among Black adults stratified by nativity*. 48th Biennial Convention of Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing, Indianapolis, IN, USA. [Oral presentation]

**MENTORING EXPERIENCE**

**Karina Thiyagarajan,** Florida State University Undergraduate Researcher

**Anastasia Milliman,** Florida State University Undergraduate Researcher

**Sanjana Joseph,** Florida State University Undergraduate Researcher

**Tiana Baker,** Florida State University Undergraduate Researcher

**Shaniya Destiny Raphael,** Florida State University Undergraduate Researcher

**Natalie Holliday,** Florida State University Undergraduate Researcher

**Gianella Cruz,** Florida State University Undergraduate Researcher

**ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES**

**Professional Membership & Services**

Member, The Royal Society of Medicine

Member, American Public Health Association (APHA)

Member, Alzheimer's Association International Society to Advance Alzheimer's Research and Treatment (ISTAART)

**Journal Reviewer**

Journal of Medical Internet Research (JMIR) 2021 – Present

JMIR mHealth and uHealth 2021 – Present

JMIR Research Protocols 2021 – Present

JMIR Medical Informatics 2021 – Present

JMIR Formative Research 2021 – Present

BMJ Open 2024 – Present

Interactive Journal of Medical Research 2024 – Present

Scientific Reports 2025 – Present

**HANDS-ON SKILLS**

Programming Languages: Python, R, SQL

Statistical Tools: SPSS, SAS, STATA, JMP

Additional Software: Tableau, ArcGIS