

YUAN XIONG

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EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy, Social Work

Expected 2026

Specialization in Women's and Gender Study
Michigan State University

Dissertation: Survey Validation and Family Profile Identification: Understanding Family Dynamics and Their Impact on Chinese Transgender and Gender Diverse Individuals

Committee: Dr. Deirdre Shires (co-chair), Dr. Carla Pfeffer (co-chair), Dr. Hyunkag Cho, Dr. Amy Nuttall

Master of Social Work, Social Work

2017

The Chinese University of Hong Kong, China

Bachelor of Law, Social Work

2016

Chongqing University of Technology, China

AREAS OF INTEREST

LGBTQ+ communities; Health disparities; Mental health; HIV/AIDS; Sexual health; Social determinants of health

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant (PI: Deirdre Shires)

Sept. 2024–present

Michigan Sex Education Survey Project

School of Social Work, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

- Contributed to survey design and development; Supported recruitment and participant outreach

MSU LGBTQ+ Student Experience Study

School of Social Work, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

- Contributed to data analysis and report writing

Research Assistant (PI: Deirdre Shires & Carla Pfeffer)

Jan. 2024–May 2024

LGBTQ+ Health and Healthcare Course Development

Consortium for Sexual and Gender Minority Health, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

- Designed and developed an interdisciplinary course on LGBTQ+ health and healthcare; Collaborated with the advisory committee to refine course objectives, structure, and learning modules; Contributed to syllabus development.

Research Assistant (PI: Carla Pfeffer)

Aug. 2023–May 2024

Transgender, Nonbinary, and Gender Non-Conforming Students' Healthcare Experiences on Campus

School of Social Work, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

- Conducted study interviews.

Research Assistant (PI: Fei Sun)

May 2022–Oct. 2023

Prevention of Financial Abuse Among Older Adults Affected by Cognitive Decline

School of Social Work, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

- Coordinated two study sites to deliver interventions; Conducted regular meetings; Managed and analyzed project data.

Research Assistant (PI: Shuyan Yang)

May 2022–July 2022

Sexual Health of Older Adults in China*Department of Social Work, Hong Kong Baptist University, Hong Kong, China*

- Contributed to project report writing.

Research Assistant & Project Coordinator (PI: Joseph Tucker & Weiming Tang)

Sept. 2018–July 2021

Social Entrepreneurship to Spur Health, SESH*University of North Carolina Project-China, Guangzhou, China*

- Coordinated a pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) demonstration project for at-risk youth in China; Assisted in developing and evaluating an mhealth intervention to increase PrEP uptake among youth; Collaborated with a multidisciplinary team of researchers and community partners.
- Assisted in developing and promoting a crowdsourcing contest aimed at promoting HIV partner notifications; Collaborated with HIV professionals and community members.
- Conducted a study on the use of HIV testing and digital health among men who have sex with men during COVID-19 in China; Designed survey, oversaw data collection, analyzed data, and reported findings.
- Assisted in developing baseline and follow-up surveys for a project aimed at investigating transgender women's mental health in China.
- Collaborated with WHO and developed a Crowdsourcing Clinic to increase HIV testing rates and reducing the cost of sexually transmitted diseases testing.
- Conducted a pilot study to promote hepatitis C testing among general population at the University of Hong Kong-Shenzhen Hospital; Assisted with data collection and protocol writing.
- Coordinated a Gay-friendly Doctor project; Implemented a gay-friendly doctor hackathon, recruited 92 applicants, created eight mhealth prototypes; Translated four learning modules (English to Chinese) with permission from National LGBT Health Education Center for gay-friendly doctor training.

Research Assistant (PI: Minseop Kim)

Apr. 2017–Aug. 2018

Moody's RiseUp*Department of Social Work, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong, China*

- Assisted with the evaluation of Moody's RiseUp Program that aimed at helping ethnic minority youth; Analyzed qualitative and quantitative data and wrote the evaluation report.

GRANT AWARDS

Seed Grant Awards, Adaptation of the family acceptance and rejection measures for Chinese transgender and gender diverse population. (\$3,000)

Fall 2024

*Consortium for Sexual and Gender Minority Health, Michigan State University***Seed Grant Awards**, Minority stress, social support, and HIV-related outcomes among young men who have sex with men in Chicago. (\$2,500)

Fall 2023

*Consortium for Sexual and Gender Minority Health, Michigan State University***Seed Grant Awards**, A qualitative study of social determinants of health among transgender and gender nonconforming people in China. (\$2,500)

Spring 2023

*Consortium for Sexual and Gender Minority Health, Michigan State University***PUBLICATIONS**

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

1. **Xiong Y**, Xia Q, Sun F, Hoang VTH, Le GM, Dang HT, Nguyen KD, Chung SS, Nguyen K. (2025). Aging associated challenges to persons living with HIV/AIDS in Vietnam: Integrated perspectives from multi-stakeholders. *AIDS Care*, 1-14. doi: 10.1080/09540121.2025.2452517

2. Prieto LR, Shires DA, **Xiong Y.** (2024). Sex-seeking behavior and frequency of sexual activity among single and non-monogamous older gay men. *Journal of Aging Studies*. doi: 10.1016/j.jaging.2024.101268
3. Prieto LR, Shires DA, **Xiong Y.** (2024). Factors associated with erectile dysfunction among older gay men. *Archives of Sexual Behavior*. 1–14. doi: 10.1007/s10508-024-02908-3
4. Prieto LR, Shires DA, **Xiong Y.** (2024). Social and mental factors associated with sexual satisfaction among older gay men. *Journal of Homosexuality*. 1–18. doi: 10.1080/00918369.2024.2353054
5. Jing F, Ye Y, Zhou Y, Ni Y, Yan X, Lu Y, Ong J, Tucker JD, Wu D, **Xiong Y,** Xu C, He X, Huang S, Li X, Jiang H, Wang C, Dai W, Huang L, Mei W, Cheng W, Zhang Q, Tang W. (2023). Identification of key influencers for secondary distribution of HIV self-testing kits among Chinese men who have sex with men: Development of an ensemble machine learning approach. *Journal of Medical Internet Research*. 25:e37719. doi: 10.2196/37719
6. Li C, **Xiong Y,** Maman S, Matthews D, Fisher E, Tang W, Huang H, Mu T, Tong X, Yu J, Yang Z, Sherer R, Hazra A, Lio J, Li L, Tucker JD, Muessig K. (2023). An instant messaging mobile phone application for promoting HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis uptake among Chinese gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men: A mixed methods feasibility and piloting randomized controlled trial study. *PLOS One*. 18(11), e0285036. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0285036
7. Li C, **Xiong Y,** Liu H, Luo D, Tucker JD, Maman S, Matthews D, Fisher E, Tang W, Muessig K. (2023). Multifaceted barriers to rapid roll-out of HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis in China: A qualitative study among men who have sex with men. *International Journal of Behavioral Medicine*. doi: 10.1007/s12529-023-10177-y
8. Sha Y, Li C, **Xiong Y,** Hazra A, Lio J, Jiang I, Huang H, Kerman J, Molina J, Li L, Gong D, Li Q, Wu S, Sherer R, Tucker J, Tang W. (2022). Co-creation using crowdsourcing to promote PrEP adherence in China: Study protocol for a stepped-wedge randomized controlled trial. *BMC Public Health*. 22, 1697. doi: 10.1186/s12889-022-14117-5
9. Li C, **Xiong Y,** Muessig K, Tang W, Huang H, Mu T, Tong X, Yu J, Yang Z, Sherer R, Hazra A, Lio J, Matthews D, Fisher E, Li L, Tucker J. (2022). Community-engaged mHealth intervention to increase uptake of HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) among gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men in China: Study protocol for a pilot randomised controlled trial. *BMJ Open*. 12(5), e055899. doi: 10.1136/bmjopen-2021-055899
10. Sha Y, **Xiong Y,** Ong J, Wang Y, Cheng M, Ni Y, Lu Y, Tucker JD, Tang W. (2022). Comparing the effectiveness of secondary distribution of HIV/syphilis dual self-testing to testing card referral in promoting HIV testing among gay, bisexual, and other men who have sex with men in Guangzhou, China: A quasi-experimental study. *Sexual Health*. doi: 10.1071/SH21176
11. Sha Y, He X, Lu Y, Yang F, Tucker JD, Wu D, Day S, **Xiong Y,** Zhou Y, Li X, Huang S, Tang W. (2022). “Just felt so convenient and warm by the non-profit help”. Optimizing HIV self-test secondary distribution among men who have sex with men in China. *AIDS Care*. 14:1-6. doi: 10.1080/09540121.2022.2050885
12. Zhou Y, Lu Y, Ni Y, Wu D, He X, Ong J, Tucker JD, Sylvia S, Jing F, Li X, Huang S, Shen G, Xu C, **Xiong Y,** Sha Y, Cheng M, Xu J, Jiang H, Dai W, Huang L, Zou F, Wang C, Yang B, Mei W, Tang W. (2022). Monetary incentives and peer referral in promoting secondary distribution of HIV self-testing among men who have sex with men in China: A randomized controlled trial. *PLOS Medicine*. 19(2):e1003928. doi: 10.1371/journal.pmed.1003928

13. Han L, Tang W, Ritchwood T, Day S, Wei S, Bao H, John R, Kpokiri E, Mathanga D, Awor P, Juban N, Castro-Arroyave D, Ambil V, **Xiong Y**, Oppong E, Tucker JD. (2021). Joint international consensus statement on crowdsourcing challenge contests in health and medicine: Results of a modified Delphi process. *BMJ Open*. 11(11):e048699. doi: 10.1136/bmjopen-2021-048699
14. Jiang H, Xie Y, **Xiong Y**, Zhou Y, Lin K, Yan Y, Tucker JD, Ong J, Wu D, Yang F, Tang W. (2021). HIV self-testing partially filled the HIV testing gap among men who have sex with men in China during the COVID-19 pandemic: Results from an online survey. *Journal of the International AIDS Society*. 22:e25737. doi:10.1002/jia2.25737
15. Wu D, Cheng WB, **Xiong Y**, Lu Y, Ni YX, Tang W. (2021). Changing trends of HIV testing and HIV self-testing in men who have sex with men on a gay social networking app. *Chinese Journal of Epidemiology*. 42(2):269-272. 10.3760/cma.j.cn112338-20200624-00882 [In Chinese]
16. Bao H, **Xiong Y**, Marley M, Tang W. (2021). Current status of HIV self-testing application. *Chinese Journal of Epidemiology*. 42(2):258-262. doi:10.3760/cma.j.cn112338-20200624-00881 [In Chinese]
17. Wong C, Yang N, Li J, Li H, Wan Y, Fitzpatrick T, **Xiong Y**, Seto W, Chan P, Liu R, Tang W, Tucker JD. (2020). Crowdsourcing to promote hepatitis C testing and linkage-to-care in China: A randomized controlled trial protocol. *BMC Public Health*. 20(1):1048. doi:10.1186/s12889-020-09152-z
18. Li C*, **Xiong Y***, Sit H, Tang W, Hall B, Muessig K, Wei C, Bao H, Wei S, Zhang D, Mi G, Yu F, Tucker JD. (2020). A men who have sex with men-friendly doctor finder hackathon in Guangzhou, China: Development of a mobile health intervention to enhance healthcare utilization. *JMIR Mhealth Uhealth*. 8(2):e16030. doi:10.2196/16030

* indicates equal contribution of authors

Commentaries

19. Bao H, Cao B, **Xiong Y**, Tang W. (2020). Digital media's role in COVID-19 pandemic. *JMIR Mhealth Uhealth*. 8(9):e20156. doi: 10.2196/20156

Manuscripts Under Review

1. Wang X, Fei S, Kim HN, Tucker B, **Xiong Y**, Zhang Z, Graves C. (Under review). Financial abuse and fraud prevention and intervention programs for older adults with dementia: An integrative review.

Manuscripts in Preparation

1. **Xiong Y**, Shen GQ, Shires DA, Pfeffer C. (In progress). Social determinants of health among transgender and gender non-conforming people in China.
2. **Xiong Y**, Hong SY, Shires DA, Bentley S, Renn K, Rosati C. (In progress). The relationship between healthcare avoidance and micro-aggression experiences among transgender and non-binary college students.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATION

1. **Xiong Y**, Liu XY. (2026). Sexual and dating violence and mental health among LGB youth: Findings from the 2023 Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System. Poster presentation at the Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR) 30th Annual Conference. Washington DC.

2. Bentley S, Shires DA, **Xiong Y**, Hirsch J, Gal T, Klein S. (2025). Community-academic partnership to assess support for a state-level bill to update sex education in public schools. Poster presentation at the Society for Community Research and Action (SCRA) 20th Biennial Conference. East Lansing, Michigan.
3. **Xiong Y**, Shires DA. (2025). A qualitative study of social determinants of health among transgender and gender non-conforming people in China. Oral presentation at the Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR) 29th Annual Conference. Seattle, Washington.
4. Prieto LR, Shires DA, **Xiong Y**. (2024). Factors associated with sexual satisfaction among older gay men. Poster presentation at the Gerontological Society of America (GSA) Annual Scientific Meeting. Seattle, Washington.
5. **Xiong Y**. (2024). Minority stress, social support, and HIV testing behavior among young men who have sex with men. Poster presentation at the National LGBTQ Health Conference. Atlanta, Georgia.
6. Xia Q, **Xiong Y**, Sun F, Le G, Hoang V, Nguyen K, Dang H, Liu E. (2023). Age-associated challenges among HIV population in Vietnam: Perspectives from multiple stakeholders. Oral presentation at the Gerontological Society of America (GSA) Annual Scientific Meeting. Tampa, Florida.
7. Sun F, Zhang Z, Kim HN, Zhang X, **Xiong Y**, Yang H, Wang X. (2023). Enhancing capacity of service professionals to prevent financial exploitation in rural older adults with dementia. Poster presentation at the Gerontological Society of America (GSA) Annual Scientific Meeting. Tampa, Florida.
8. Wang X, Sun F, Zhang Z, Kim HN, Tucker B, **Xiong Y**, Craves C, Conyers C. (2022). Addressing financial fraud and abuse among elders with dementia: An integrative review. The Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology. Atlanta, Georgia.
9. Li C, **Xiong Y**, Tang W, Huang H, Sherer R, Hazra A, Lio J, Matthews D, Fisher E, Li L, Li Q, Tucker JD, Muessig K. (2021). Limited HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis uptake among Chinese men who have sex with men: qualitative analysis and potential for an app. Oral presentation at the STI & HIV 2021 World Congress (STIHIV2021: Virtual).
10. **Xiong Y**, Xie Y, Jiang H, Tucker JD, Tang W. (2020). Digital health services during COVID-19: A cross-sectional study of Chinese MSM. Poster presentation at the Asia Pacific AIDS & Co-infections Conference (APACC 2020: Virtual).
11. **Xiong Y**, Xiao Y, Lu H, Shen G, Wei L, Zhao J, Tang W. (2020). Changes of HIV testing and sexual behavior among different groups of men who have sex with men in Shenzhen, China, 2014-2018. Poster presentation at the Asia Pacific AIDS & Co-infections Conference (APACC 2020: Virtual).
12. Jiang H, Xie Y, **Xiong Y**, Lin K, Yan Y, Zhou Y, Wu D, Yang F, Tucker JD, Tang W. (2020). Are HIV self-testing a critical method to filling the HIV testing gap among men who have sex with men in China during COVID-19 pandemic? Results from a nationwide survey. Poster presentation at the Asia Pacific AIDS & Co-infections Conference (APACC 2020: Virtual).
13. Sha Y, Jiang H, Zhou Y, Wu D, HeX, Huang S, Li X, Dai W, Jiang X, **Xiong Y**, Tucker JD, Huang L, Tang W. (2020). Comparison of digital and facility-based HIV/syphilis self-testing secondary distribution modes among men who have sex with men in China. Oral presentation at the Asia Pacific AIDS & Co-infections Conference (APACC 2020: Virtual).
14. Shen G, Lu H, **Xiong Y**, Zhao J, Tang W. (2020). Preference for pre-exposure prophylaxis and use of post-exposure prophylaxis among MSM in Shenzhen, China. Poster presentation at the 23rd International AIDS Conference (AIDS 2020: Virtual).

15. **Xiong Y.** (2019). A MSM-friendly Doctor finder hackathon in Guangzhou, China: Development of an mHealth intervention to enhance healthcare utilization. Oral presentation at the International Union Against Sexually Transmitted Infections (IUSTI) Asia-Pacific Conference. Shanghai, China.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor of Record

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer (LGBTQ) and Sexuality Studies (WS 304) Summer 2025
Woman's Studies, Michigan State University

Teaching Assistant

Research Methods in Social Work II (SW 431) Spring 2025
School of Social Work, Michigan State University

Guest Lecture

Survey Design Spring 2026
 Research Methods in Social Work II (SW 431)
School of Social Work, Michigan State University

Family Environment, Mental Health, and Gender-Affirming Care Fall 2025
 Social Work in Health Care (SW 472)
School of Social Work, Michigan State University

Social Determinants of Health Among Sexual and Gender Minority People Spring 2025
 Social Work Perspectives in Human Development (SW 811)
School of Social Work, Michigan State University

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

Women's and Gender Studies Dissertation Writing Fellowship (\$8,000) Spring 2026
Center for Gender in Global Context, Michigan State University

Graduate Student Dissemination Award (\$1,000) Spring 2026
Consortium for Sexual and Gender Minority Health, Michigan State University

Graduate Office Fellowship (\$750) Spring 2026
The Graduate School, Michigan State University

Research Travel Award (\$600) Fall 2025
The Graduate School, Michigan State University

Graduate Office Fellowship (\$1,200) Fall 2025
The Graduate School, Michigan State University

Women's and Gender Studies Dissertation Research Fellowship (\$10,000) Spring 2025
Center for Gender in Global Context, Michigan State University

Global Queer Joy Initiative Fellowship (\$1,000) Spring 2025
Center for Gender in Global Context, Michigan State University

Graduate Office Fellowship (\$1,200) Spring 2025
The Graduate School, Michigan State University

Graduate School Travel Fellowship (\$427) Fall 2024
The Graduate School, Michigan State University

Graduate Office Fellowship (\$1,200) <i>The Graduate School, Michigan State University</i>	Fall 2024
Graduate Office Fellowship (\$1,200) <i>The Graduate School, Michigan State University</i>	Spring 2024
Summer Intensive Program in Intersectional BIPOC SGM-Focused HIV Science (\$600) <i>Institute for Sexual and Gender Minority Health and Wellbeing, Northwestern University</i>	Summer 2022

PRACTICE EXPERIENCE

Volunteer <i>Trans Well-Being Team, Guangzhou, China</i>	May 2020–present
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Serve in the News and Education Group; Collect and compile monthly global transgender news for social media dissemination • Assisted with organizing trans-friendly activities and fundraising events 	
Volunteer <i>258 Rainbow Workgroup, Shenzhen, China</i>	Sept. 2018–Mar. 2019
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assisted with sexual health counseling for local gay men 	
Intern <i>Longmenhao Community-based Social Work Agency, Chongqing, China</i>	Apr. 2015–Sept. 2015
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conducted home visits to assess and approve financial assistance for older adults • Provided tutoring services for left-behind children in the local community • Organized ten workshop sessions and enhanced health-related knowledge among fifteen older adults 	
Intern <i>Leyi Ronghe Kindergarten, Chongqing, China</i>	Oct. 2012–Dec. 2012
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assisted with psychological counseling for two children on autism spectrum 	

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AND MEMBERSHIP

Ad Hoc Reviewer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AIDS Research and Therapy • BMC Public Health • Bulletin of Applied Transgender Studies • JMIR Formative Research • LGBT Health • Sexual Health • Sexually Transmitted Diseases • Sexually Transmitted Infections • Social Science & Medicine • Telematics and Informatics
Advisory Committee Member	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Graduate Student Representative (2025–26) <i>Center for Gender in Global Context, Michigan State University</i>
Memberships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Society for Social Work and Research • American Psychological Association
Computing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R, SPSS, Mplus, NVivo, Qualtrics, Canva