

# Benjamin Wong

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## EDUCATION

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**DALLA LANA SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH, UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO, Toronto, ON** 2017  
**Master of Public Health (MPH), Epidemiology**

**SCHULICH SCHOOL OF MEDICINE & DENTISTRY, WESTERN UNIVERSITY, London, ON** 2015  
**Bachelor of Medical Sciences (BMSc), Honours Specialization in Medical Sciences**

## WORK EXPERIENCE

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**CENTRE FOR GLOBAL HEALTH RESEARCH, St. Michael's Hospital, Toronto, ON**  
**Epidemiologist / Research Coordinator** 2018–Present  
**MPH Practicum Student** Winter 2017

- Generated workflows for data cleaning, record linkage, quality assurance checks, statistical analyses, and interpretation/visualization of results on large datasets (1M+ cases)
- Maintained and optimized data infrastructure for extraction, joining, and processing of data
- Provided technical support for various ongoing projects, including exploratory data analyses, grant proposal writing, workshop material development, literature reviews, and supervision of practicum students
- Conducted statistical analyses assessing trends in cause-specific mortality to strengthen tobacco and alcohol policy in low- and middle-income countries
- Conducted an impact evaluation of mass vaccination campaigns on measles mortality among children in India using nationally representative mortality data
- Implemented multi-group interrupted time-series and multilevel mixed-effects logistic regression and model validation using Stata
- Generated spatial risk maps using linear geospatial models using integrated nested Laplace approximation
- Conducted a literature review on measles vaccine efficacy and effectiveness in low- and middle-income countries

**MAP CENTRE FOR URBAN HEALTH SOLUTIONS, St. Michael's Hospital, Toronto, ON**  
**Epidemiologist / Research Coordinator** 2017–2018  
**Junior Epidemiologist** Fall 2016

- Conducted a systematic review and meta-analysis assessing current progress of the UNAIDS 90-90-90 HIV targets among men who have sex with men in sub-Saharan Africa
- Conducted a systematic review and meta-analysis assessing syphilis re-infection among high- and upper-middle income countries
- Designed survey questionnaires and prepared study documentation including data collection forms and research ethics board applications
- Prepared literature reviews, reports, abstracts, posters, and manuscripts

- Coordinated research activities in collaboration with various international collaborators and partners; organized and chaired internal and external meetings; supervised and mentored undergraduate summer students

#### **SUDBURY & DISTRICT HEALTH UNIT, Sudbury, ON**

##### **MPH Practicum Student**

Summer 2016

- Conducted literature reviews, critical appraisal of epidemiologic studies, ad-hoc data cleaning, and exploratory analyses using various Ontario health data sources (IntelliHealth, CCHS, RRFSS, etc.)
- Analyzed and developed a report on comparative trends in injury-related hospitalizations, deaths, and disability-adjusted life years between the SDHU region and Ontario using administrative data
- Presented and summarized the findings from my report to public health unit team leaders and staff

#### **UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO, Toronto, ON**

##### **Microbiology Research Assistant, Faculty of Dentistry**

2012–2015

- Laboratory of Dr. Anuradha Prakki, DDS, MSc, PhD  
Project: The effect of polyphenols and natural compounds on V-ATPase expression in osteoclast activity and osteocyte inflammatory processes
- Laboratory of Getulio Nogueira, DDS, MDent, PhD  
Project: The necessity of keratinized mucosa and gingival thickness on maintenance of gingival health and prevention of implant detachment in periodontitis
- Performed DNA and protein gel electrophoresis, and purification; supported team research activities through solution and buffer preparation
- Assisted in preparing manuscripts and laboratory reports, conducted literature reviews, and maintained reproducible laboratory protocols and methods

#### **DR. GABRIEL WONG & DR. ALAN HOFFMAN FAMILY CLINIC, Ajax, ON**

##### **Patient Database Manager**

Summer 2011

- Captured and digitized patient health records to an electronic database.
- Updated patient files and office records in order to allow patients more time with the physician and to ensure the efficiency and organization in the office
- Greeted and checked in patients; assisted administrative staff in guiding patients to examination rooms and handling follow-up

## **VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE**

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#### **DISTRESS CENTRES OF GREATER TORONTO, Canadian Suicide Prevention Service, Toronto, ON**

##### **Crisis Line Responder**

2019–Present

- Trained in suicide risk assessment, crisis response, safety planning for suicide prevention, and mentoring/orienting new volunteers
- Provided emotional support to individuals experiencing suicidal ideation or crisis
- Supported callers in managing suicide crises, navigating ongoing mental health concerns, identifying resources for support and care, and developing skills for coping with situational crises

#### **BOPOMA VILLAGES (NPO), Masvingo, Zimbabwe**

##### **Data Science Consultant**

2019–Present

- Designed and implemented a semi-annual and annual surveys evaluating the impact of sanitation, sustainable farming, and orphan care interventions implemented in thirteen villages
- Trained staff members in conducting survey interviews, data collection, and data inputting
- Involving in designing data collection, cleaning, analysis, and quality assurance procedures
- Developed tools in collaboration with local staff to optimize daily operations, grant proposal conceptualization and writing

**DALLA LANA SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH, University of Toronto, Toronto, ON**

**Founding Member, Students for Indigenous Health Equity**

2016–2017

- Led the ratification of a graduate student network alongside a team of graduate students in public health devoted to addressing indigenous health equity in collaboration with indigenous communities and leaders within the University of Toronto
- Engaged in the process of meeting the formal requirements for ratification of the group as part of the University of Toronto
- Contributed to drafting the group's constitution and standard operating protocols, chaired executive committee meetings, organized and facilitated general meetings, presided over general elections and transition of the executive team

**UNIVERSITIES ALLIED FOR ESSENTIAL MEDICINES, Toronto, ON**

**Volunteer**

2015–2017

- Contributed to data collection and synthesis for the Canadian University Report Card, an evaluation of Canadian universities' contributions to global health research and efforts to improve global access to treatments
- Drafted a policy brief advocating for the Canadian government's adoption of UAEM's Global Campaign for Alternative Biomedical R&D Agreement at the 2017 World Health Assembly.
- Coordinated initiatives at local university chapters (Western University and University of Toronto) with UAEM's national and international campaigns

**WESTERN UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH JOURNAL, Western University, London, ON**

**Editor-in-Chief**

2014–2015

- Managed the journal's day-to-day operations, supervising a team of reviewers in peer review, copy-editing, manuscript publication
- Oversaw editorial direction, outreach initiatives, and online publication of journal issues.
- Organized seminars to orient students toward finding research experiences and connecting with interested principal investigators
- Collaborated with the Western Scholar's Research Community to connect undergraduate students with a community of researchers
- Implemented a two-year plan to improve student engagement in research, connect principal investigators with interested students, and create opportunities for students to participate in the peer review process
- Led a new initiative to introduce faculty profiles in future journal issues which aim to highlight various researchers and fields of inquiry in the Faculty of Science

**BAPTIST MEDICAL AND DENTAL MISSION INTERNATIONAL, Guaimaca, Honduras**

**Medical Volunteer**

Summer 2011

- Assisted a mobile clinic team in providing medical treatment to patients

- Conducted patient interviews, obtained medical histories and blood pressure measurements, maintained patient registry
- Interacted with and listened to patients' needs and concerns in the waiting area; provided assistance and reassurance to patients when needed
- Observed minor surgical procedures and clinical interactions

**NORTH YORK GENERAL HOSPITAL, North York, ON**

**Day Surgery Volunteer**

Summer 2011

- Volunteered in the outpatient surgery unit interacting with patients and nursing staff to provide outpatient services prior to discharge
- Escorted visitors to patient beds and located family and friends throughout the waiting area
- Transported patients to and from the hospital entrance, changed bed linens, and restocked supplies

## **TEACHING & OUTREACH EXPERIENCE**

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**ST. MICHAEL'S HOSPITAL, Toronto, ON**

**Workshop Facilitator, R Workshop Series**

2019

- Organized and led hospital-wide seminars on Introduction to Data Manipulation and Analysis Using R, R in the Life of a Researcher, Using R for Statistical Analysis

**ST. MICHAEL'S HOSPITAL, Toronto, ON**

**Workshop Facilitator, Data Analytic Methods Seminars**

2017

- Organized and led summer workshops for a group of 10-15 undergraduate and medical students on Introduction to Data Analysis using R, Introduction to Systematic Reviews and Meta-analysis, Introduction to Epidemiologic Study Designs, Introduction to GIS using R

**DALLA LANA SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH, University of Toronto, Toronto, ON**

**Graduate Teaching Assistant**

2017

- Prepared a graduate course curriculum for "CHL7001H S6 International Health Development" taught by Professor Shafi U. Bhuiyan
- Presented on health systems performance and current progress in achieving Sustainable Development Goals among low- and middle-income countries

**WESTERN STUDENT RESEARCH CONFERENCE, Western University, London, ON**

**Coordinator**

2014–2015

- Organized an undergraduate science conference as part of a planning committee
- Developed conference programming while managing time and budget constraints, and facilitated workshops and ensuring smooth and timely transition through activities
- Coordinated logistics, including call for abstracts, procuring and scheduling keynote speakers and panelists,
- Assisted in organizing event outreach, promotions, event site booking, food and drinks

**DIVISION OF HOUSING & ANCILLARY SERVICES, Western University, London, ON**

**Residence Orientation Leader**

2012–2013

- Assisted new students in residence transitioning to university; promoted student engagement and provided mentorship, peer support, and academic planning sessions

- Led the publication of a student life magazine Head Commissioner of Delaware Hall Residence Council

## PUBLICATIONS, ABSTRACTS, AND REPORTS

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**Wong BKC**, Fadel SA, Awasthi S, Khera A, Kumar R, Menon G, Jha P. **2019**. The impact of measles immunization campaigns in India using a nationally representative sample of 27,000 child deaths. *eLife* 8:e43290. <https://doi.org/10.7554/eLife.43290>

King M, **Wong BKC**, Malaviarachchi D, Palangio A, Dowdall-Smith S, Lefebvre M. Sudbury & District Health Unit. **2018**. SDHU Population Health Profile: Injuries and poisonings. Sudbury, ON.  
<https://www.phsd.ca/resources/research-statistics/health-statistics/public-health-sudbury-districts-population-health-profile/injuries-and-poisonings>

Shakeri A\*, **Wong B\***, Burchell A, Tan DHS, Al-Salman A, Gesink D, Allen V, Aral S, Mishra S. **2017**. Syphilis re-infection amid a global resurgence: a systematic review and meta-analysis. *AMMI Canada – CACMID Annual Conference* (p. 51). Toronto: Journal of the Association of Medical Microbiology and Infectious Disease Canada. <https://doi.org/10.3138/jammi.2.suppl-1.1>

Brito C, Tenenbaum HC, **Wong BKC**, Schmitt C, Nogueira-Filho G. **2014**. Is keratinized mucosa indispensable to maintain peri-implant health? A systematic review of the literature. *J Biomed Mater Res Part B* 102B:643–650. <https://doi.org/10.1002/jbm.b.33042>

## POSTERS AND PRESENTATIONS

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Zahid S, **Wong B**, Srivastav S, Lightfoot D, Ziegler C, Mishra S. 2017. The HIV care continuum among men who have sex with men in Sub-Saharan Africa: a systematic review and meta-analysis. St. Michael's Hospital Research Day: Toronto, ON. Poster.

Sutherland SC, **Wong B**, Ma J, Bhuiyan SU. 2016. Maternal & Child Health Handbook: Reducing Mortality and Improving Health System Efficacy in Guatemala. 10th Annual MCH Handbook Conference. Tokyo, Japan. Poster.

"Trends in Tobacco- and Alcohol-attributable Mortality in India". Clinical and Population Research Rounds at St. Michael's Hospital on April 11, 2019. Presentation.

"Impact of measles immunization campaigns on 1-to-59-month measles mortality in India". St. Michael's Hospital on April 24, 2017. Presentation.

"Trends and prevalence of injuries and poisonings in the SDHU area". Sudbury & District Health Unit on August 11, 2016. Presentation.

"Cytotoxicity Assays and Assessment Methodology". Biological Basis Seminar Series, University of Toronto on July 17, 2013. Presentation.

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

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**Peer Review:** International Journal of Indigenous Health (2019), BMC Infectious Diseases (2017)  
**Hiring Committees:** Centre for Global Health Research (2018), MAP Centre for Urban Health Solutions (2017)  
**Memberships:** Society for Epidemiologic Research (2019), Canadian Coalition for Global Health Research (2016), Canadian Public Health Association (2016)

## HONOURS & AWARDS

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<b>Robert Remis Award</b> , Dalla Lana School of Public Health, University of Toronto	2019
<b>LEP Certificate in Individual &amp; Group Leadership</b> , Western University	2013
<b>Platinum Award for Excellence in Leadership</b> , Western University	2012

## ADDITIONAL TRAINING

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**SciNet UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO**, Toronto, ON

<b>Certificate in Data Science</b>	2018
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Completed coursework in: Introduction to Computational Biostatistics with R, Introduction to Programming with Python, Neural Network Programming, Introduction to Linux Shell, Advanced Shell Programming, Relational Database Basics

**PROVINCIAL HEALTH SERVICES AUTHORITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA**

<b>San'ya Indigenous Cultural Safety Training Certification</b>	2018
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**CITI PROGRAM**

<b>CITI-GCP (Good Clinical Practice) Bioethics Training Certification</b>	2017
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**GOVERNMENT OF CANADA PANEL ON RESEARCH ETHICS**

<b>Tri-Council Policy Statement Course on Research Ethics (TCPS2 CORE) Certification</b>	2017
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## TECHNICAL SKILLS & INTERESTS

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- Languages: English (native), Cantonese (conversational)
- Statistical Programming: R, Stata, Python (intermediate), SQL/PostgreSQL, QGIS, Git (Bash)
- Markup: Markdown, LaTeX