

HAJIN JANG, MPH

130 N Bellefield Ave, Pittsburgh, PA, United States

Phone: (+1) 412-251-6583 E-mail: haj90@pitt.edu Homepage: <https://hajinjang-epi.github.io/>
Websites: [LinkedIn](#) / [Google Scholar](#) / [GitHub](#)

Research Interests

- Obesity and muscle phenotyping using multimodal body composition evaluation
- Cross-cohort data harmonization and longitudinal analyses
- Risk prediction modeling for aging-related health outcomes

Education and Training

2023 – 2026 (expected)	PhD, Epidemiology	University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA, USA
2020 – 2022	MPH, Epidemiology and Risk Management	Korea University, Seoul, Korea
2015 – 2020	BA, Health Policy and Management BEcon, Statistics (double major)	Korea University, Seoul, Korea

Publications

Published Articles

1. Kim N*, **Jang H***, and Hawkins H. Chrononutrition Patterns in People Who Attempted Weight Loss in the Past Year: A Descriptive Analysis of the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES) 2017-2020 Pre-Pandemic. *Dietetics*. 2025 Jun 3. 4(2):24. *Co-first authors
2. Byun D, Kim Y, **Jang H**, and Oh H. Screen time and obesity prevalence in adolescents: an isotemporal substitution analysis. *BMC Public Health*. 2024 Nov 12. 24(1): 3130
3. **Jang H**, Cho Y, and Oh H. Recreational screen time and obesity risk in Korean children: a 3-year prospective cohort study. *International Journal of Behavioral Nutrition and Physical Activity*. 2024 Sep 30. 21(1): 112
4. Cho Y, **Jang H**, Kwon S, and Oh H. Aerobic, muscle-strengthening, and flexibility physical activity and risks of all-cause and cause-specific mortality: a population-based prospective cohort of Korean adults. *BMC Public Health*. 2023 Jun 14. 23(1): 1148
5. **Jang H**, Kim R, Lee J, Lee D, Giovannucci E, and Oh H. Overall and Abdominal Obesity and Risks of All-Cause and Cause-Specific Mortality in Korean Adults: A Pooled Analysis of Three Population-Based Prospective Cohorts. *International Journal of Epidemiology*. 2023 Aug 2. 52(4): 1060-1073
6. Ryu S, **Jang H**, and Oh H. Smartphone Usage Patterns and Dietary Risk Factors in Adolescents. *The Journal of Nutrition*. 2022 Sep 6. 152(9): 2109-2116
7. Byun D, Hong S, Ryu S, Nam Y, **Jang H**, Cho Y, Keum N, and Oh H. Early-life body mass index and risks of breast, endometrial, and ovarian cancers: a dose-response meta-analysis of prospective studies. *British Journal of Cancer*. 2022 Nov 12. 126(4): 664-672
8. **Jang H** and Oh H. Trends and Inequalities in Overall and Abdominal Obesity by Sociodemographic Factors in Korean Adults, 1998-2018. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*. 2021 Apr 14. 18(8): 4162

Working Papers

1. **Jang H**, Crandall CJ, Gore S, Hu C, LaCroix AZ, LaMonte MJ, Liu L, Freeland KS, Cauley JA, Stefanick ML, Schumacher BT, and Strotmeyer ES. Associations of Obesity Phenotypes with Incident Fall Rates: Results from the Objective Physical Activity and Cardiovascular Health in Older Women (OPACH). 2025. (Submitted to *The Journals of Gerontology Series A: Medical Sciences*)

2. Heilmann NZ, **Jang H**, Caserotti P, Cawthon PM, Weaver AA, Beavers KM, Ruppert KM, Nindl BC, Cauley JA, and Strotmeyer ES. Associations of Muscle Function with Recurrent and Injurious Falls in Older Adults: A Narrative Review. 2026. (Submitted to *Innovation in Aging*)
3. **Jang H***, Song Y*, Kim N*, Strotmeyer ES, and Glynn NW. Association of Actigraphy-Measured Rest-Activity Rhythms with Obesity Phenotypes in the Osteoporotic Fractures in Men (MrOS) Study. 2026.
*Co-first authors

Published Abstracts

1. **Jang H**, Freeland KS, Heilmann NZ, Nye L, Roberts J, Ensrud KE, LaCroix AZ, Leslie WD, Newman AB, Cauley JA, and Strotmeyer ES. Associations of Obesity Phenotypes with Incident and Recurrent Falls in Older Adults: A Cross-Cohort Analysis. *ASBMR 2025 Annual Meeting*. 2025 Sep 6.
2. Strotmeyer ES, **Jang H**, Freeland KS, Heilmann NZ, Nye L, Roberts J, Ensrud KE, LaCroix AZ, Leslie WD, Newman AB, and Cauley JA. Age and Sex Associations for Incident and Recurrent Falls from 1992-2016: A Cross-Cohort Analysis in Older Adults. *ASBMR 2025 Annual Meeting*. 2025 Sep 7.
3. **Jang H**, Crandall CJ, Gore S, Hu C, LaCroix AZ, LaMonte MJ, Liu L, Freeland KS, Cauley JA, Stefanick ML, Schumacher BT, and Strotmeyer ES. Associations of Obesity Phenotypes with Incident Fall Rates: Results from the Objective Physical Activity and Cardiovascular Health in Older Women (OPACH). *ASBMR 2024 Annual Meeting*. 2024 Sep 27.
4. Cho Y, Oh H, and **Jang H**. Television, Computer, Smartphone Use, and Obesity Risk: A 3-Year Follow-Up Study. *Current Developments in Nutrition*. 2023 Jul 1. 7
5. Cho Y, **Jang H**, and Oh H. Screen Time and Obesity in Adolescents: An Isotemporal Substitution Analysis. *Current Developments in Nutrition*. 2023 Jul 1. 7
6. **Jang H**, Kim R, Lee DH, Lee JT, Giovannucci E, Oh H. Obesity and Mortality in a Pooled Analysis of Three Prospective Cohorts of Korean Adults: Is Obesity Paradox the BMI Paradox? *Current Developments in Nutrition*. 2022 Jun 1. 6: 1062
7. **Jang H** and Oh H. Obesity Transition and Inequalities by Sociodemographic Factors in Korean Adults, 1998–2018. *Current Developments in Nutrition*. 2021 Jun 1. 5: 1219

Oral Presentations

1. **Jang H**, Freeland KS, Heilmann NZ, Langer LR, Roberts JE, Ensrud KE, LaCroix AZ, Schousboe JT, Newman AB, Cauley JA, and Strotmeyer ES. Associations of Obesity Phenotypes with Incident and Recurrent Falls in Older Adults: A Cross-Cohort Analysis. *ASBMR 2025 Annual Meeting*. American Society of Bone and Mineral Research. Seattle, WA, USA. 2025 Sep 5-8.
2. **Jang H**, Kim R, Lee JT, Lee DH, Giovannucci E, and Oh H. Obesity and Mortality in a Pooled Analysis of Three Prospective Cohorts of Korean Adults: Is Obesity Paradox the BMI Paradox? *NUTRITION 2022 LIVE ONLINE*, American Society for Nutrition, Rockville, MD, USA (virtual). 2022 Jun 14.
3. **Jang H** and Oh H. Obesity Transition and Inequalities by Sociodemographic Factors in Korean Adults, 1998–2018. *NUTRITION 2021 LIVE ONLINE*, American Society for Nutrition, Rockville, MD, USA (virtual). 2021 Jun 7.

Poster Presentations

1. **Jang H**, Freeland KS, Heilmann NZ, Langer LR, Roberts JE, Ensrud KE, LaCroix AZ, Schousboe JT, Newman AB, Cauley JA, and Strotmeyer ES. Associations of Obesity Phenotypes with Incident and Recurrent Falls in Older Adults: A Cross-Cohort Analysis. *Aging Research Day (institutional research symposium)*. Aging Institute, University of Pittsburgh. Pittsburgh, PA, USA. 2025 Nov 5.
2. **Jang H**, Crandall CJ, Gore S, Hu C, LaCroix AZ, LaMonte MJ, Liu L, Freeland KS, Cauley JA, Stefanick ML, Schumacher BT, and Strotmeyer ES. Associations of Obesity Phenotypes with Incident Fall Rates: Results from the Objective Physical Activity and Cardiovascular Health in Older Women (OPACH). *ASBMR 2024 Annual Meeting*. American Society of Bone and Mineral Research. Toronto, ON, Canada, 2024 Sep 27.
3. **Jang H** and Oh H. The Joint Effects of Obesity and Physical Activity on All-cause and Cardiovascular Mortality among Korean Adults: Evaluation of the ‘Fat but Fit’ Hypothesis. *The 5th Asia-Pacific*

Cardiometabolic Syndrome Congress (APCMS). Korean Society of Cardiometabolic Syndrome, Seoul, Korea. 2022 Apr 29.

4. **Jang H**, Shin M, and Oh H. Alcohol Drinking and Cardiovascular Risk Factors in Korean Adults: Age-Period-Cohort and Association Analyses. *The 4th Asia-Pacific Cardiometabolic Syndrome Congress (APCMS)*. Korean Society of Cardiometabolic Syndrome, Seoul, Korea. 2021 Apr 23.

Appointments and Positions

Center for Aging and Population Health (CAPH), University of Pittsburgh 2023 – Present
Graduate Student Researcher

- Led cross-cohort harmonization of longitudinal data spanning 25 years across four major U.S. aging cohorts (Health, Aging and Body Composition Study [Health ABC]; Osteoporotic Fractures in Men Study [MrOS]; Cardiovascular Health Study [CHS]; and Women's Health Initiative [WHI]) and developed standardized analytic datasets for reproducible epidemiologic analyses.
 - Conducted generalized estimating equation (GEE) analyses to evaluate associations of adiposity measures (BMI, waist circumference, waist-to-hip ratio, metabolic syndrome, CT-based android and gynoid fat) and muscle measures (grip strength, D3-creatine-derived muscle mass, MRI-based muscle fat infiltration) with incident, recurrent, and number of falls using Health ABC and the Study of Muscle, Mobility and Aging (SOMMA) data.
 - Analyzed associations between circadian behavioral patterns (chrononutrition timing and actigraphy-measured rest-activity rhythms) and obesity phenotypes using data from MrOS and the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES).
 - Contributed to the development of an NIH R01 grant proposal examining longitudinal changes in muscle function before and after fall or fracture events using change-point analysis in harmonized cohort data.

Chronic Disease Epidemiology Lab, Korea University 2019 – 2022
Research Assistant

- Developed and validated prediction models for fat mass index (FMI), fat-free mass index (FFMI), and sarcopenic obesity using nationally representative DXA-derived data, and conducted Cox proportional hazards regression and restricted cubic spline analyses to examine associations of BMI, waist circumference, predicted FMI, and FFMI with all-cause, cancer, and cardiovascular mortality in pooled Korean Genome and Epidemiology Study (KoGES) cohorts.
 - Conducted isotemporal substitution analyses using longitudinal panel data to quantify trade-offs between behavioral risk factors in relation to obesity outcomes.
 - Executed systematic literature review and data extraction for a dose-response meta-analysis examining prospective associations of early-life BMI and breast, endometrial, and ovarian cancers.
 - Performed hierarchical age-period-cohort cross-classified random effects analyses (HAPC-CCREM) to support the development of National Fact Sheets published by the Korea Disease Control and Prevention Agency (KDCA) using 1998–2018 Korea National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (K-NHANES) data.

Environmental Epidemiology Lab, Korea University 2016 – 2017
Undergraduate Research Assistant

- Conducted a literature review for a proposal submitted to the Ministry of Food and Drug Safety focused on the development of a novel food safety policy evaluation index.
 - Performed segmented regression time-series analyses of the K-NHANES food safety surveillance data to support the development of a food safety index.

Honors

2024	Plenary Poster (Invited) American Society of Bone and Mineral Research
2024	Young Investigator Travel Grant American Society of Bone and Mineral Research
2022	Outstanding Dissertation Award (Master's Thesis) Korea University, Brain Korea 21
2022	Outstanding Abstract Award Winner Korean Society of Cardiometabolic Syndrome
2021	Brain Korea 21 Research Grant Contest Winner Korea University, Brain Korea 21
2021	Outstanding Abstract Award Winner Korean Society of Cardiometabolic Syndrome

Teaching Experience

Teaching Assistant

2025	Principles of Epidemiology (Graduate) University of Pittsburgh (Instructor: Thomas J Songer)
2025	Advanced Epidemiology of Aging (Graduate) University of Pittsburgh (Instructor: Jane A Cauley)
2021	Principles of Epidemiology (English/Graduate) Korea University (Instructor: Hannah Oh)
2020	Case Studies in Epidemiology (English/Graduate) Korea University (Instructor: Hannah Oh)
2020	Foundations and Principles of Health Promotion (English/Undergraduate) Korea University (Instructor: Hannah Oh)

Programming Languages

R, SAS
Python (working proficiency)

References

Elsa S. Strotmeyer, PhD, MPH
Professor of Epidemiology and Executive Vice Chair, University of Pittsburgh
strotmeyere@edc.pitt.edu

Kerri S. Freeland, MS
Data Scientist, University of Pittsburgh
ksf28@pitt.edu

Samaneh Farsijani, PhD, RD
Assistant Professor of Epidemiology, University of Pittsburgh
samaneh.farsijani@pitt.edu