

YE SHEN

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EDUCATION

Harvard University

Ph.D., Health Policy (Decision Sciences)

Cambridge, MA

Expected May 2026

- Affiliations:
Interfaculty Initiative in Health Policy, Harvard University
Center for Health Decision Science, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health
Department of Population Medicine, Harvard Medical School & Harvard Pilgrim Health Care Institute
- Dissertation Title:
Insights into the Fragmented U.S. Health System through Simulation Modeling: Childhood Insurance, Care Utilization, and Outcomes
- Committee:
Nicolas A. Menzies (Chair), Ankur Pandya, Laura A. Hatfield, and Catherine Hayes

Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

M.S.P.H., International Health (Human Nutrition) + Certificate in Public Health Economics

Baltimore, MD

May 2016

Tufts University

B.A., International Relations (Global Health, Nutrition, and Environment)

Medford, MA

May 2014

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Methods: Decision analytic methods; Simulation modeling; Empirical health services and outcomes research methods (including quasi-experimental causal inference)

Domains: Insurance coverage and gaps; Health care delivery (primary care, dental care, pediatrics); Child and adolescent health; Nutrition and food policy; Health disparities

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

1. **Shen Y**, Sommers BD, Hatfield LA, Hayes C, Pandya A, Menzies NA. Insurance dynamics during childhood in the fragmented U.S. health system. *JAMA*. 2025; Published online September 24, 2025. doi:[10.1001/jama.2025.15488](https://doi.org/10.1001/jama.2025.15488) [Job Market Paper]
2. Choi SE, **Shen Y**, Wright DR. Cost-effectiveness of dental workforce expansion through the National Health Service Corps and its association with oral health outcomes among US children. *JAMA Health Forum*. 2023; 4(3), e230128. doi:[10.1001/jamahealthforum.2023.0128](https://doi.org/10.1001/jamahealthforum.2023.0128)
3. Kenney EL, Walkinshaw LP, **Shen Y**, Fleischhacker SE, Jones-Smith J, Bleich SN, Krieger JW. Costs, reach, and benefits of COVID-19 pandemic electronic benefit transfer and grab-and-go school meals for ensuring youths' access to food during school closures. *JAMA Network Open*. 2022; 5(8), 2229514. doi:[10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2022.29514](https://doi.org/10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2022.29514)
4. Kenney EL, Dunn CG, Mozaffarian RS, Dai J, Wilson K, West J, **Shen Y**, Fleischhacker S, Bleich SN. Feeding children and maintaining food service operations during COVID-19: a mixed methods investigation of implementation and financial challenges. *Nutrients*. 2021; 13, 2691. doi:[10.3390/nu13082691](https://doi.org/10.3390/nu13082691)
5. Griswold SP, Langlois BK, **Shen Y**, Cliffer IR, Suri DJ, Walton S, Chui K, Rosenberg IH, Koroma AS, Wegner D, Hassan A, Manary MJ, Vosti SA, Webb P, Rogers BL. Effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of 4 supplementary foods for treating moderate acute malnutrition: Results from a cluster-randomized intervention trial in Sierra Leone. *American Journal of Clinical Nutrition*. 2021; 114(3), 973–985. doi:[10.1093/ajcn/nqab140](https://doi.org/10.1093/ajcn/nqab140)

6. Singh A, Potani I, Griswold SP, Suri DJ, Langlois BK, **Shen Y**, Walton S, Chui K, Manary MJ, Webb P, Rogers BL, Rosenberg IH. Host fecal mRNAs predicted environmental enteric dysfunction among children with moderate acute malnutrition in Sierra Leone. *The American Journal of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene*. 2021; 105(5), 1376–1382. doi:[10.4269/ajtmh.21-0348](https://doi.org/10.4269/ajtmh.21-0348)
7. Suri DJ, Potani I, Singh A, Griswold S, Wong WW, Langlois B, **Shen Y**, Chui K, Rosenberg IH, Webb P, Rogers BL. Body composition changes in children during treatment for moderate acute malnutrition: findings from a 4-arm cluster-randomized trial in Sierra Leone. *The Journal of Nutrition*. 2021; 151(7), 2043–2050. doi:[10.1093/jn/nxab080](https://doi.org/10.1093/jn/nxab080)
8. **Shen Y**, Cliffer IR, Suri DJ, Langlois BK, Vosti SA, Webb P, Rogers BL. Impact of stakeholder perspectives on cost-effectiveness estimates of four specialized nutritious foods for preventing stunting and wasting in children 6-23 months in Burkina Faso. *Nutrition Journal*. 2020; 19(1), 20. doi:[10.1186/s12937-020-00535-x](https://doi.org/10.1186/s12937-020-00535-x)
9. Langlois BK, Cliffer IR, Nikiema L, Suri DJ, Garanet F, **Shen Y**, Zeba AN, Walton S, Lanou HB, Webb P, Rogers BL. Factors that may influence the effectiveness of 4 specialized nutritious foods in the prevention of stunting and wasting in children aged 6–23 months in Burkina Faso. *Current Developments in Nutrition*. 2020; 4(2), nzaa002. doi:[10.1093/cdn/nzaa002](https://doi.org/10.1093/cdn/nzaa002)
10. Cliffer IR, Nikiema L, Langlois BK, Zeba AN, **Shen Y**, Lanou HB, Suri DJ, Garanet F, Chui K, Vosti SA, Walton S, Rosenberg IH, Webb P, Rogers BL. Cost-effectiveness of 4 specialized nutritious foods in the prevention of stunting and wasting in children aged 6-23 months in Burkina Faso: a geographically randomized trial. *Current Developments in Nutrition*. 2020; 4(2), nzaa006. doi:[10.1093/cdn/nzaa006](https://doi.org/10.1093/cdn/nzaa006)
11. Chodur GM*, **Shen Y***, Kodish S, Oddo VM, Antiporta DA, Jock B, Jones-Smith J, 2016. Food environments around American Indian reservations: a mixed methods study. *PLoS One*. 2016; 11(8), e0161132. doi:[10.1371/journal.pone.0161132](https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0161132)

*Contributed equally to this work

MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVISION (R&R)

1. **Shen Y**, Simon L, Yu H. Effects of the National Health Service Corps expansion on dental utilization in underserved areas.
2. **Shen Y**, Beccia AL, Menzies NA, Gao C, Austin SB, Raffoul A. Development of disordered weight control behaviors and its progression to eating disorders in Canada: a nationally representative microsimulation.

FUNDED FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AND AWARDS

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|---|------------------------|
| Dissertation Completion Fellowship, Harvard University | Fall 2025- Spring 2026 |
| Social Equity and Health Equity Dissertation Grant/Award, Harvard Kennedy School Malcolm Wiener Center | March 2025 |
| Dissertation Grant, Harvard School of Dental Medicine Initiative to Integrate Oral Health & Medicine | Spring 2025 |
| Merit Term-Time Dissertation Fellowship, Harvard Graduate School of Arts and Sciences | Fall 2024 |
| Fellowship in Health Policy and Insurance Research, Harvard Medical School | Fall 2023- Spring 2024 |
| Summer Predissertation Fellowship, Harvard Graduate Society | Summer 2022 |
| Delta Omega Honor Society, Alpha Chapter, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health | May 2016 |
| International Relations Summer Scholar, Tufts University | Summer 2013 |

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

Invited Talks and Seminars

1. Cumulative Childhood Insurance Experience in the Fragmented US Health System. Harvard Medical School Department of Population Medicine Health Policy and Insurance Research Seminar Series. March 2025.
2. The Insurance Odyssey in Fragmented US Health Systems: Cumulative Experience of Health & Dental Coverage over Childhood. Decision Sciences for Child Health Collaborative (SMDM DSSCo) Show & Tell, Society of Medical Decision Making. Virtual. Nov 2024.
3. Supporting SNF Product Decisions via Food Assistance Cost- Effectiveness Tool (FACET), Next Generation of Specialized Nutritious Food Products for the Management of Acute Malnutrition Meeting, USAID, Washington D.C.. March 2019.
4. Past Assessments of the Code violations in 11 Countries, Second Meeting of NetCode at World Health Organization, Virtual. June 2016.

Conference Presentations

1. Childhood Insurance Dynamics in the United States with State-level Heterogeneity. Society of Medical Decision Making (SMDM) 47th Annual Meeting, Ann Arbor, MI. June 2025. (Poster)
2. The Insurance Odyssey in Fragmented US Health Systems: Cumulative Experience of Health & Dental Coverage over Childhood. International Conference on Health Policy Statistics, San Diego, CA. Jan 2025. (Oral)
3. Projecting Childhood Health & Dental Insurance Trajectories in the United States. Society of Medical Decision Making (SMDM) 46th Annual Meeting, Boston, MA. Oct 2024. (Poster)
4. Food Assistance Cost-Effectiveness Tool for Specialized Nutritious Foods (FACET4SNF), Evidence for Nutrition Summit 2.0, Virtual. Oct 2020. (Oral)
5. A Decision Support Tool Integrating Evidence into More Cost- Effective Humanitarian & Development Food Assistance, Global Evidence and Implementation Summit (GEIS), Melbourne, Australia. Oct 2018. (Oral)
6. FAQR Decision Support Tool: Supporting Evidence-based Decision-making for More Cost-Effective Specialized Nutritious Food Aid Programming, CORE Group Global Health Practitioner Conference, Bethesda, MD. June 2018. (Oral)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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| Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health | Boston, MA |
| Decision Analysis for Health and Medical Practices (Professor: Ankur Pandya) <i>Head Teaching Fellow (2023), Teaching Fellow (2022)</i> | Fall 2022-2023 |
| Methods for Decision Making in Medicine (Professor: Myriam Hunink) <i>Teaching Fellow</i> | Summer 2023 |
| Decision Analysis Methods in Public Health and Medicine (Professor: Nicolas Menzies) <i>Teaching Fellow</i> | Spring 2023 |
| Decision Analysis in Clinical Research (Professor: Uwe Siebert) <i>Teaching Fellow</i> | Summer 2022 |

SELECTED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Harvard Medical School & Harvard Pilgrim Health Care Institute Boston, MA

Research Fellow, Department of Population Medicine 2023 - present

- Conducted an empirical evaluation of the National Health Service Corp dental workforce expansion on dental utilization using difference-in-differences, a quasi-experimental causal inference design
- Completed data request proposal, obtained NHANES restricted access, and assessed data suitability for county-level analyses of dental utilization and outcomes

Tufts Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy Boston, MA

Data Analyst/ Cost Specialist (Cost-effectiveness Work Stream Lead), Food Aid Quality Review (FAQR) Project 2016 - 2021

- Supervised 3 research assistants
- Contributed to two nutrition trials in Sierra Leone and in Burkina Faso, including: study design, instrument development, field data collection, data management and analysis, and research dissemination
- Led the development and roll-out of an interactive cost-effectiveness decision aid for USAID and its partners, including: conceptual framework development, interface and back-end programming (R Shiny), evidence synthesis, user manual development, stakeholder/user engagement, and trainings

World Health Organization (W.H.O.) Geneva, Switzerland

Intern (M.S.P.H. Practicum), Department of Nutrition and Food Safety 2015

- Developed country-wide monitoring and assessment protocols for the Network for Global Monitoring and Support for Implementation of the International Code of Marketing of Breast-milk Substitutes and Subsequent Relevant World Health Assembly Resolutions (NetCode) project
- Reviewed past assessments and presented findings at a W.H.O. all-stakeholder meeting

SKILLS AND CERTIFICATIONS

Programming: R, High Performance Computing (HPC), Stata, Julia, Python

Application: TreeAge, Amua, ArcGIS

Data Access: Special Sworn Status (SSS) by the U.S. Census Bureau

SERVICE

Peer Mentor in the Harvard Health Policy PhD Peer Mentorship program, Cambridge MA 2022 - present

Organizer of the Decision Science Journal Club and Research in Progress Seminar, Center for Health Decision Science, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, Boston MA 2024

Member of the Technical Review Panel, Cost-Efficiency and Cost-Effectiveness in Humanitarian Assistance (CE2HA), United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the International Rescue Committee (IRC), virtual 2019

Organizer of the Food Assistance for Nutrition Evidence Summit, Washington D.C. 2018

WORK AUTHORIZATION

Permanent Resident of United States