

**BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH**

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NAME: Chen-Sankey, Julia C.

eRA COMMONS USER NAME (credential, e.g., agency login): JuliaChen1020

POSITION TITLE: Assistant Professor at Rutgers University

EDUCATION/TRAINING (*Begin with baccalaureate or other initial professional education, such as nursing, include postdoctoral training and residency training if applicable. Add/delete rows as necessary.*)

INSTITUTION AND LOCATION	DEGREE (if applicable)	Completion Date MM/YYYY	FIELD OF STUDY
Huazhong Univ. of Science and Technology	BA	07/2010	Public Affairs Administration
Johns Hopkins University	MPP	05/2012	Public Policy (Health Policy Track)
University of Maryland College Park	PhD	05/2018	Behavioral and Community Health

**A. Personal Statement**

I am a tenure-track Assistant Professor at the Rutgers School of Public Health and a core member of the Rutgers Center for Tobacco Studies. My research broadly focuses on identifying tobacco marketing factors and influence associated with perceptions and patterns of tobacco product use among youth and young adults. My research program integrates methods from behavioral and neurocognitive science, epidemiology, commercial marketing research, and addiction science to generate rigorous evidence that can be used to inform the FDA's tobacco regulations. My current work examines the influence of tobacco (including e-cigarettes and cigars) marketing features (e.g., marketing claims, flavor descriptors, warning labels, and price promotions) on young adults' perceptions and intentions of using tobacco through multiple research methods, including in-person and remote eye-tracking studies, online heatmap experiments, qualitative in-depth interviews, and online randomized exposure experiments. I am also currently leading an in-person eye-tracking pilot study examining young adults' attention to cigarillo packaging features and associated perceptions and intentions to use cigarillo products. I have a track record as an early career public health and tobacco researcher with successful competition of several NIH-funded grants, including a K99 award in Tobacco Regulatory Science Award and the Coleman Minority Health and Health Disparities Innovation Award; a current active R00 grant, and 55 peer-reviewed publications (28 first or senior authored). Many of my publications and conference presentations focus on examining the patterns and risk factors of cigar smoking behavior, especially among Black/African American young adults who have one of the highest cigar smoking prevalence among all population groups. My research and commentaries also been highlighted on prominent media such as CNN and Baltimore.

**Ongoing and recently completed projects I would like to highlight include:**

R00 CA242589 (Former Number: K99 CA242589)

Chen-Sankey (PI)

09/01/20-08/31/24

*Understanding the Influence of E-cigarette Advertisement Features*

U54 CA180905 (Rapid Response Project)

Chen-Sankey (PI)

07/01/20-06/30/21

*Evaluating the Influence of Local Flavored E-cigarette Sales Restrictions in Los Angeles County*

NIMHD Coleman Minority Health and Health Disparities Innovation Award

Chen-Sankey (PI)

09/01/19-08/31/20

*Built and Socio-cultural Environmental Risk Factors for Cigar Smoking Among Black Young Adults*

**Citations:**

- a) **Chen-Sankey J.**, Jeong M., Wackowski O., Unger JB., Niederdeppe J., Bernat E., Bansal-Travers M., Moran MB., Kennedy R., Broun A., Hacker K., Choi K. (2022). Noticing People, Discounts, and Non-Tobacco Flavors in E-cigarette Ads May Increase E-cigarette Product Appeal among Non-Tobacco-Using Young Adults. (2022). *Tobacco Control*. Published Online First. doi: 10.1136/tobaccocontrol-2022-057269.
- b) Phan L, McNeel TS, **Chen-Sankey J**, Niederdeppe J, Tan ASL, Choi K. U.S. Trends in Age of Cigar Smoking Initiation by Race/Ethnicity and Education. *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*. Published Online. doi: 10.1016/j.amepre.2022.04.004.
- c) Gratale SK, Teotia A, **Chen-Sankey J**, Ganz O, Delnevo CD, Strasser AA, Wackowski OA. (2022). Cigar Warning Noticing and Demographic and Usage Correlates: Analysis from the United States Population Assessment of Tobacco and Health Study, Wave 5. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*. 19, 3221. PMID: PMC8952384.
- d) **Chen-Sankey JC**, Mead EL, Le D, Rose S, Quisenberry A, Delnevo C, Choi K. (2020). Cigar Smoking Patterns and Disparities by Product Type and Race/Ethnicity—A Nationally Representative Study Among U.S. Adults. *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*. 60(1):87–94. PMID: PMC7755027.

**B. Positions, Scientific Appointments, and Honors**

**Positions and Employment**

- 2021 - Assistant Professor, Department of Health Behavior, Society and Policy, Center for Tobacco Studies, Rutgers School of Public Health, New Brunswick, NJ
- 2018 - 2021 Post-doctoral Fellow, National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities, NIH
- 2017 - 2018 Pre-doctoral Fellow, National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities, NIH
- 2013 - 2016 Graduate Research and Teaching Assistant, University of Maryland School of Public Health
- 2012 - 2013 Research Analyst, Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities, Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
- 2011 - 2012 Graduate Research Assistant, Bloomberg School of Public Health, Johns Hopkins University
- 2011 - 2012 Data Manager, Behavioral Health Leadership Institute

**Other Experience and Professional Memberships**

- 2022 Consultant, Health Effects and Patterns of Use of Premium Cigar Report, The National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine
- 2021 - Co-lead, CASEL PATH Study Marketing Influence Writing Group
- 2021 Planning Committee Member, NIH/FDA Tobacco Regulatory Science Meeting
- 2018 - 2019 University of Maryland School of Public Health, guest lecturer for multiple courses
- 2018 - 2019 NIH, Office of Intramural Training and Education Internship Program, mentor and supervisor
- 2018 - 2019 NIH, Division of Intramural Research, Journal Club and Behavioral Health Course instructor
- 2014 - Society for Research on Nicotine and Tobacco (SRNT), Adolescent Network and Health Equity Network Advisory Committee Member
- 2013 - 2014 University of Maryland School of Public Health, Dean's Student Advisory Committee

**Honors and Awards**

- 2021 The Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey, New Investigator Award
- 2021 SRNT New Investigator Travel Award
- 2020 NIH Research Diversity Fellow Highlight
- 2020 NIH OBSSR Matilda White Riley Behavioral and Social Sciences Honor Early Stage Investigator Award (Award Topic: E-cigarette Marketing and Youth Experimentation)
- 2020 NIH NIMHD Coleman Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Innovation Award
- 2020 Society for Research on Nicotine and Tobacco (SRNT) Health Disparities Travel Scholarship
- 2019, 2020 NIH Summer Research Mentor Award (received twice)
- 2019 Delta Omega Honorary Society in Public Health
- 2016 The University of Maryland, Graduate Research Appreciation Day Presentation 2nd Place

- 2015 The University of Maryland, Goldhaber Travel Grant  
 2014 - 2017 The University of Maryland, School of Public Health, Department of Behavioral and Community Health, Department Travel Award  
 2010 - 2012 Johns Hopkins University, Institute for Health and Social Policy, Academic Scholarship  
 2009 The Ministry of Education of the People's Republic of China, National Scholarship

## C. Contributions to Science

**1. Influence of Tobacco Marketing Features.** My current research program also focuses on understanding the influence of tobacco marketing features (e.g., flavor descriptors, price promotions, marketing claims, human models, warning labels) among youth, young adults, and other priority populations. Specifically, I used the data from online heatmap and random exposure experiments and nationally representative longitudinal cohort studies (e.g., the PATH study) to examine whether and how exposure to tobacco marketing features and marketing in general may alter the perceptions and behavior of tobacco use among priority populations. Additionally, I use in-person and remote eye-tracking technologies to examine the influence of e-cigarette marketing features among youth and young adults. I am currently drafting two manuscripts based on the results from using the remote eye-tracking technology to examine young adult cigarette smokers' attention to e-cigarette marketing features from social media posts.

- a) **Chen-Sankey J., Jeong M., Wackowski O., Unger JB., Niederdeppe J., Bernat E., Bansal-Travers M., Moran MB., Kennedy R., \*Broun A., Hacker K., Choi K.** Noticing People, Discounts, and Non-Tobacco Flavors in E-cigarette Ads May Increase E-cigarette Product Appeal among Non-Tobacco-Using Young Adults. (2022). *Tobacco Control*. Published Online First. doi: 10.1136/tobaccocontrol-2022-057269.
- b) **Chen-Sankey J, Ganz O, Seidenberg A, Choi K.** (2021). Effect of a "tobacco-free nicotine" claim on intentions and perceptions of Puff Bar e-cigarette use among non-tobacco-using young adults. *Tobacco Control*. Published Online. doi: 10.1136/tobaccocontrol-2021-056957. PMID: PMC9035474.
- c) **Chen-Sankey J, Kechter A, Barrington-Trimis JL, McConnell R, Unger J, Leventhal AM.** (2021). Effect of a hypothetical modified risk tobacco product claim on heated tobacco product use intention and perceptions in young adults. *Tobacco Control*. Published Online. doi: 10.1136/tobaccocontrol-2021-056479. PMID: PMC8630081.
- d) **Chen-Sankey J, Unger JB, Bernat E, Niederdeppe J, Bansal-Travers M, Choi K.** (2021). Price promotion receipt and use progression of any tobacco, cigarettes, e-cigarettes and cigars among US youth between 2016 and 2018. *Tobacco Control*. Published Online. doi: 10.1136/tobaccocontrol-2021-056667. PMID: PMC8782922.

**2. Cigar Smoking Behavior, Risk Factors, and Disparities.** I am interested in investigating cigar smoking patterns and the sociocultural and physical environmental risk factors (including cigar product marketing and packaging) of cigar smoking among young adults, especially those from racial/ethnic minority backgrounds. Specifically, I previously examined cigar smoking patterns by race/ethnicity and flavored cigar smoking behaviors among Black young adults using survey research and ecological momentary assessment. Recently, I also led an in-depth interview study to investigate the influence of sociocultural and physical environmental risk factors of cigar smoking among Black young adults as well as their perceived cigar addiction and cigar cessation experience and interest. Additionally, I am currently leading a pilot-scale in-person eye-tracking study to examine young adults' attention to cigarillo packaging features and its associated perceptions and intentions of using cigarillo products.

- a) Mead EL, **Chen JC**, Kirchner T, Butler J, Feldman R. (2018). An Ecological Momentary Assessment Cigarette and Cigar Dual Use among African American Young Adults. *Nicotine and Tobacco Research*. 20 (suppl\_1), 14; S12–S21. PMID: PMC6093372.
- b) **Chen-Sankey JC**, Choi K, Kirchner T, Butler J, Feldman R, Mead EL. (2019). Flavored Cigar Smoking Among African American Young Adult Dual Users: An Ecological Momentary Assessment. *Drug and Alcohol Dependence*. 196: 79–85. PMID: PMC6377319.
- c) **Chen-Sankey JC**, Mead EL, Le D, Rose S, Quisenberry A, *Delnevo C*, Choi K. (2020). Cigar Smoking Patterns and Disparities by Product Type and Race/Ethnicity—A Nationally Representative Study Among U.S. Adults. *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*. 60(1):87–94. PMID: PMC7755027.

- d) Broun A, Phan L, Duarte DA, Ajith A, Jewett B, Mead-Morse EL, Choi K, **Chen-Sankey J.** (2022). Physical and Sociocultural Community-level Influences on Cigar Smoking Among Black Young Adults: An In-depth Interview Investigation. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*. 19(8), 4430. PMID: PMC9025611.

**3. Predictors and Influence of Flavored Tobacco Use.** I am also interested in examining the predictors and impact of e-cigarette flavors on youth and young adults' perceptions and behavior related to tobacco products. Specifically, I used data from nationally representative longitudinal cohort studies and cross-sectional studies to examine the role of flavored e-cigarettes in cigarette smoking susceptibility and e-cigarette use progression among youth never-tobacco users, as well as the role of flavored e-cigarettes in cigarette reduction and cessation among young adult smokers. These studies demonstrate the significant roles that e-cigarette flavors play on tobacco use-related perceptions and behavior.

- a) **Chen JC,** Das B, Mead EL, Borzekowski DLG. (2017). Flavored E-cigarette Use and Cigarette Smoking Susceptibility Among Youth. *Tobacco Regulatory Science*, 3(1), 68-80. PMID: PMC6355139.
- b) **Chen JC.** (2018). Flavored E-cigarette Use and Cigarette Smoking Reduction and Cessation—A Large National Study Among Young Adult Smokers. *Substance Use and Misuse*. Apr 6:1-15. PMID: 29624135.
- c) **Chen JC,** Green KM, Arria AM, Borzekowski DLG. (2018). Prospective Predictors of Flavored E-cigarette Use: A One-Year Longitudinal Study of Young Adults in the U.S. *Drug and Alcohol Dependence*. 191: 279-285. PMID: PMC6141325.
- d) **Chen-Sankey JC,** Kong G, Choi K. (2019). Perceived Ease of Flavored E-cigarette Use and E-cigarette Use Progression Among Youth Never Tobacco Users. *PLoS ONE*. 14(2): e0212353. PMID: PMC6392261.

**4. Flavored Tobacco Sales Restrictions and Their Impact.** I also investigate the policymaking process and the potential impact of flavored tobacco sales restrictions using a wide range of research methodologies (e.g., cohort study, in-depth interviews, policy document coding, social media data analysis). Specifically, I examined young adult cigarette smokers' attitudes and beliefs towards using flavored e-cigarettes given an e-cigarette flavor sales restriction; and e-cigarette use behavior change among young adults who live in localities with flavor sales restrictions versus those without. I was also involved in other studies investigating the population coverage and disparities of current local flavored tobacco sales restrictions.

- a) **Chen JC,** Green KM, Chen J, Hoke K., Borzekowski DLG. (2018). Restricting the Sale of Flavored E-cigarettes in the U.S.—An Examination of Local Regulations. *Tobacco Regulatory Science*; 4(4):32-40.
- b) **Chen JC,** Green KM, Fryer CS, Borzekowski DLG. (2018). Perceptions about E-cigarette Flavors—A Qualitative Investigation of Young Adult Cigarette Smokers Who Also Used E-cigarettes. *Addiction Research and Theory*. 27 (5) 420-428.
- c) Rose S, Amato MS, Anesetti-Rothermel A, Emelle B, Safi A, Benson A, Simpson R, Zhou T, Akbar M, Gagosian S, **Chen-Sankey JC,** Schillo B. (2020). Characteristics and Reach Equity of Policies Restricting Flavored Tobacco Product Sales in the United States. *Health Promotion Practice*. Vol. 21, Suppl 1 44S–53S. PMID: PMC6988448.
- d) Kirkpatrick M, Dormanesh A, Rivera V, Majnumdar A, Soto D, **Chen-Sankey JC,** Cruz T, Unger J, Allem J. (2021). #FlavorsSaveLives: An Analysis of Twitter Posts Opposing Flavored E-cigarette Bans. *Nicotine & Tobacco Research*, 23(8), 1431-1435. PMID: PMC8517966.

**For a Complete List of Peer-Reviewed Publications visit:**

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/myncbi/1PoDt37rXHF1vD/bibliography/public/>