

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

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 Follow this format for each person. **DO NOT EXCEED FIVE PAGES.**

NAME: Gerber, Ben S.

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

POSITION TITLE: Professor and Chief, Division of Health Informatics and Implementation Science

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 <i>(if applicable)</i>	Completion Date MM/YYYY	FIELD OF STUDY
University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign	BS	06/1991	Honors Biology
University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine	MD	06/1995	Medicine
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor	Residency	06/1998	Internal Medicine
University of Illinois at Chicago	MPH	06/2005	Public Health Informatics

A. Personal Statement

I am Professor and Chief of Health Informatics and Implementation Science in the Department of Population and Quantitative Health Sciences at UMass Chan Medical School. Prior to March 2021, I was on the faculty at the University of Illinois at Chicago (for 23 years). My research background includes evaluation of community health worker and technology-based (mobile health and telehealth) interventions that promote diabetes self-management and weight management behaviors in low-income, minority populations. I have led multicenter and multidisciplinary trials with funding from AHRQ, NIH, CDC, and private foundations in both clinical and community environments since 1999.

I am passionate about mentoring. I have experience mentoring undergraduate, graduate, medical student, resident, fellow, and junior faculty members. In 2016, I attended a conference held by the National Research Mentoring Network Committee on Institutional Cooperation Academic Network (NRMN-CAN), a three-day Mentor-Training workshop on effective mentoring. Twice a year I facilitated mentorship training for research faculty using the "Entering Mentoring" curriculum (developed at the University of Wisconsin). I routinely adopt these curriculum-based practices in my own approach to mentorship.

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

- R01MH124685 Boudreaux (PI) 01/01/21-12/31/24
 NIH
 Telehealth to Improve Prevention of Suicide (TIPS) in EDs
 The goal it to evaluate the effectiveness and implementation success of a telehealth delivered behavioral health evaluation and intervention for preventing suicide delivered in the emergency department setting.
 Role: Co-Investigator
- R61 MH119237 Ma (PI) 07/01/20-06/30/25
 NIH/NIMH
 Study of a PST-Trained Voice-Enabled Artificial Intelligence Counselor (SPEAC) for Adults with Emotional Distress

To address the unmet need of underdiagnosed and undertreated depression and anxiety, this project will develop a voice-enabled, artificial intelligence (AI) agent named Lumen, trained in Problem Solving Therapy (PST) and accessible on secure study iPads.

Role: Co-Investigator

1838770

Ziebart (PI)

10/01/18-09/30/22

NSF

EAGER: The Virtual Assistant Health Coach: Learning to Autonomously Improve Health Behaviors

The goal of this project is to create an effective virtual health coaching system that will provide health coaching services to a vastly larger population than those currently benefiting from health coaching services.

Role: Co-Investigator

R01 DK108141

Gerber, Sharp (MPI)

07/15/16-06/30/21

NIH/NIDDK

mHealth for Diabetes Adherence Support

This is a randomized, controlled trial to evaluate the effectiveness of a mHealth Diabetes Adherence Support (mDAS) intervention delivered by clinical pharmacists and health coaches.

Role: Co-PI

R21 NR018281

Kitsiou (PI)

08/01/19-06/30/21

NIH/NINR

An innovative mobile health intervention to improve self-care in patients with heart failure

This goal of this pilot study is to evaluate the feasibility, acceptance, and preliminary efficacy of a congestive heart failure mHealth intervention, iCardia4HF.

Role: Co-Investigator

R01EY029782

Reutrakul (PI)

09/01/20–08/31/25

NIH/NEI

Sleep and Circadian Regulation in Diabetic Retinopathy: The Role of Intrinsically Photosensitive Retinal Ganglion Cells and Melatonin Supplementation

The goal is to explore sleep and circadian characteristics, in relationship with Intrinsically Photosensitive Retinal Ganglion Cells.

Role: Co-Investigator

Citations:

1. **Gerber BS**, Brodsky IG, Lawless KA, Smolin LI, Arozullah AM, Smith EV, Berbaum ML, Heckerling PS, and Eiser AR. Implementation and Evaluation of a Low-Literacy Diabetes Education Computer Multimedia Application. *Diabetes Care*, 2005; 28(7):1574-1580. PMID: 15983303. PMCID: N/A.
2. **Gerber BS**, Cano AI, Caceres ML, Smith DE, Wilken LA, Michaud JB, Ruggiero LA, Sharp LK. A pharmacist and health promoter team to improve medication adherence among Latinos with diabetes. *Annals of Pharmacotherapy*, 2010; 44(1):70-9. PMID: 20028957. PMCID: N/A.
3. Amante DJ, Harlan DM, Lemon SC, McManus DD, Olaitan OO, Pagoto SL, **Gerber BS**, Thompson MJ. Evaluation of a Diabetes Remote Monitoring Program Facilitated by Connected Glucose Meters for Patients With Poorly Controlled Type 2 Diabetes: Randomized Crossover Trial. *JMIR Diabetes*. 2021 Mar 11;6(1):e25574. doi: 10.2196/25574. PMID: 33704077; PMCID: PMC7995078.
4. Sharp LK, Tilton JJ, Touchette Dr, Xia Y, Mihailescu D, Berbaum ML, **Gerber BS**. Community Health Workers Supporting Clinical Pharmacists in Diabetes Management: A Randomized Controlled Trial. *Pharmacotherapy*, 2018;38(1):58-68. PMID: 29121408. PMCID: PMC5766435.

B. Positions, Scientific Appointments, and Honors

Positions and Scientific Appointments

2021 - Present Division Chief, Health Informatics and Implementation Science
 Professor, Department of Population and Quantitative Health Sciences and

2015 - 2021	Medicine, UMass Chan Medical School Professor of Medicine, Division of Academic Internal Medicine and Geriatrics, University of Illinois at Chicago
2015 - 2021	Associate Chief for Scholarly Activities and Education, Division of Academic Internal Medicine and Geriatrics, Department of Medicine, University of Illinois at Chicago
2009 - 2021	Senior Faculty, Center for Management of Complex Chronic Care (CMC3) and Center of Innovation for Complex Chronic Healthcare (CINCCH), Jesse Brown VA Medical Center
2008 - 2015	Associate Professor of Medicine, Sections of General Internal Medicine and Health Promotion Research, University of Illinois at Chicago
2004 - 2008	Assistant Professor of Medicine, Sections of General Internal Medicine and Health Promotion Research, University of Illinois at Chicago
1999 - 2021	Volunteer Physician, Community Health and New Life Volunteering Society
1998 - 2000	Clinical Instructor of Medicine, University of Illinois at Chicago

Awards and Honors

2021	UI Health CARE Award 2021
2018	Association for Information Systems Special Interest Group on Health Award
2013	Association of Academic Physiatrists Excellence in Research Writing Award
2013	Faulkner Award, Diabetes Action Research and Education Foundation
2011	Hispanic Center of Excellence Research Mentor of the Year
2010	Institute for Health Research and Policy Fellow
2010	Alpha Omega Alpha Faculty Teaching Award
2002	National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities Health Disparities Scholar
1998	American Board of Internal Medicine Certification (Recertification in 2008 and 2018)
1998	University of Michigan Internal Medicine Senior Research Project Award
1995	Catherine Dobson Prize for Clinical Research Presentation
1993	American Medical Informatics Association Student Competition, Finalist

C. Contributions to Science

1. Our research group developed “Living Well with Diabetes,” a bilingual computer multimedia diabetes education program targeting African-American and Latinx populations. We conducted two randomized controlled trials using the program and found improvement in diabetes self-efficacy and perceived susceptibility to complications. The program has received recognition in various forms, including Canadian Diabetes Association Best Practices in Diabetes Education and the Discovery Health Channel.
 - a. **Gerber BS**, Brodsky IG, Lawless KA, Smolin LI, Arozullah AM, Smith EV, Berbaum ML, Heckerling PS, and Eiser AR. Implementation and evaluation of a low-literacy Diabetes Education Computer Multimedia Application. *Diabetes Care*, 2005; 28(7):1574-1580. PMID: 15983303. PMCID: N/A.
 - b. Lawless K, Smolin L, **Gerber B**, Brodsky I, Girotti M, Pelaez L, and Eiser A. Diabetes and Your Eyes: A pilot study on multimedia education for underserved populations. *International Journal of Instructional Media*, 2005; 32(1):17-26. PMID: N/A. PMCID: N/A.
 - c. Khan MA, Shah, S, Grudzien A, Onyejekwe N, Banskota P, Karim S, Jin J, Kim Y, and **Gerber BS**. A diabetes education multimedia program in the waiting room setting. *Diabetes Therapy*, 2011; 2(3):178-188. PMID: 22127826. PMCID: PMC3173596.
 - d. Living Well with Diabetes (Available in iTunes) in
 - i. English: <https://itunes.apple.com/us/book/living-well-with-diabetes/id867048383?mt=11>
 - ii. Spanish: <https://itunes.apple.com/us/book/viviendo-bien-con-la-diabetes/id937465187?mt=11>
2. Our research group has extensive experience in using technology-based strategies to promote health behaviors among overweight and obese people. We have studied text messaging, telephone coaching, and video conferencing in weight management among overweight and obese African-American women.

- a. **Gerber BS**, Solomon MC, Shaffer TL, Quinn MT, and Lipton RB. Evaluation of an internet diabetes self-management training program for adolescents and young adults. *Diabetes Technology and Therapeutics*, 2007; 9(1): 60-67. PMID: 17316099. PMCID: N/A.
 - b. **Gerber BS**, Stolley MR, Thompson AL, Sharp LK, and Fitzgibbon ML. Mobile phone text messaging to promote healthy behaviors and weight loss maintenance: A feasibility study. *Health Informatics Journal*, 2009; 15(1): 17-25. PMID: 19218309. PMCID: PMC2730665.
 - c. **Gerber BS**, Schiffer L, Brown AA, Berbaum ML, Rimmer JH, Braunschweig CL, and Fitzgibbon ML. Video telehealth for weight maintenance of African-American women. *Journal of Telemedicine and Telecare*, 2013; 19(5):266-72. PMID: 24163236. PMCID: PMC3811021.
 - d. Rimmer JH, Wang E, Pellegrini CA, Lullo C, and **Gerber BS**. Telehealth Weight Management Intervention for Adults with Physical Disabilities: A Randomized Controlled Trial. *American Journal of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation*, 2013; 92(12):1084-1094. PMID: 24257266. PMCID: N/A.
3. I have experience conducting research involving health coaches and clinical pharmacists to support patients in diabetes self-management. This research includes a novel model of chronic disease care that focuses on medication adherence and intensification. I conducted a randomized, controlled trial (RCT) to evaluate this model in a population of 244 low-income, African-American and Latinx people in Chicago (a second RCT including mHealth tools with this model is ongoing).
- a. **Gerber BS**, Cano AI, Caceres ML, Smith DE, Wilken LA, Michaud JB, Ruggiero LA, and Sharp LK. A pharmacist and health promoter team to improve medication adherence among Latinos with diabetes. *Annals of Pharmacotherapy*, 2010; 44(1):70-9. PMID: 20028957. PMCID: N/A.
 - b. **Gerber BS**, Rapacki L, Castillo A, Tilton J, Touchette DR, Mihailescu D, Berbaum ML, and Sharp LK. Design of a trial to evaluate the impact of clinical pharmacists and community health promoters working with African-Americans and Latinos with Diabetes. *BMC Public Health*, 2012;12(1):891. PMID: 23088168. PMCID: PMC3571948.
 - c. Ruggiero L, Riley BB, Hernandez R, Quinn LT, **Gerber BS**, Castillo A, Day J, Ingram D, Wang Y, and Butler P. Medical assistant coaching to support diabetes self-care among low-income racial/ethnic minority populations: randomized controlled trial. *West J Nurs Res*, 2014;36(9):1052-73. PMID: 24569698. PMCID: PMC4215797.
 - d. Sharp LK, Tilton JJ, Touchette Dr, Xia Y, Mihailescu D, Berbaum ML, **Gerber BS**. Community Health Workers Supporting Clinical Pharmacists in Diabetes Management: A Randomized Controlled Trial. *Pharmacotherapy*, 2018;38(1):58-68. PMID: 29121408. PMCID: PMC5766435.
4. Our research team identified differences in medication adherence by racial and ethnic groups. We obtained and analyzed medication refill data for public aid enrollees in Illinois as well as surveyed Medicare recipients on medication use. Our findings demonstrated lower adherence of ACEI and ARB use by African-American and Latinx public aid enrollees with diabetes in Illinois.
- a. **Gerber BS**, Cho YI, Arozullah AM, and Lee SD. Racial differences in medication adherence: a cross-sectional study of Medicare enrollees. *American Journal of Geriatric Pharmacotherapy*, 2010; 8(2):136-145. PMID: 20439063. PMCID: PMC3740123.
 - b. Lora CM, Sokolovsky AW, Touchette DR, Jin J, Hu X, Gao W, and **Gerber BS**. ACE Inhibitor and ARB Medication use among Medicaid Enrollees with Diabetes. *Ethnicity and Disease*, 2013; 23(2):189-95. PMID: 23530300. PMCID: PMC3711220.
 - c. Syed ST, **Gerber BS**, Sharp LK. Traveling Towards Disease: Transportation Barriers to Health Care Access. *Journal of Community Health*, 2013;38(5):976-93. PMID: 23543372. PMCID: PMC4265215.
 - d. Syed ST, Sharp L, Yoonsang K, Jentleson A, Lora C, Touchette D, Berbaum M, Suda K, **Gerber BS**. Relationship between Patient Medication Adherence and Distance to their Pharmacies and Prescribers. *Pharmacotherapy*, 2016; 36(6):590-7. PMID: 27087250. PMCID: PMC4919160.

Complete List of Published Work in MyBibliography:

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