

### SUMMARY

Serena Phillips is health researcher whose interests center upon social determinants of health and barriers to care among diverse populations living with cancer. She has a broad range of skills including quantitative and qualitative analysis, data management, project management, research coordination, program evaluation, teaching, and patient care.

### EDUCATION

#### **The George Washington University Milken Institute School of Public Health**

*DrPH, Department of Population and Community Health, Health Behavior, May 2019*

Dissertation Title: "A Mixed-Methods Investigation of Housing Issues Among Oncology Patients and Survivors in New York City"

Cumulative GPA: 3.95, Student-Staff GEM Award

#### **Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health**

*MPH, Department of Sociomedical Sciences, Social Science Research in Public Health, May 2012*

Cumulative GPA: 4.0, Department of Sociomedical Sciences Merit Scholar; Co-founder and President, Advocates for Asian American Health

#### **New York University**

*BSN, Nursing, May 2007*

Cumulative GPA: 3.96, Dean's List, Lewis Rudin Scholar, Harriet Heilbrunn Scholar

### WORK EXPERIENCE

**UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI**, Columbia, MO

Aug. 2023-Present

*Senior Data Scientist, Department of Economics*

- Lead the Public Health core of the [Social Impact Lab](#), in curating and managing datasets for use by the health policy lab and contribute to research outputs at all stages of the grant lifecycle.
- Supported projects: Evaluating the Effect of E-cigarette Policies on Youth Tobacco Use (National Institute on Drug Abuse, PI: Michael Pesko, 2022-2027); Effect of Hearing Aid Insurance Coverage Requirements for Adults on Utilization (National Institutes of Health, PI: Michael Pesko, 2022-2026); Effects of Mandates Eliminating Cost-Sharing: Evidence from Anthem Claims (American Cancer Society, PI: Michael Pesko, 2023-2026); Cannabis Legalization's Effects on Youth and Adult Nicotine and Tobacco Use (Yale University, PI: Abigail Friedman, 2023-2028); Center for the Assessment of Tobacco Regulations (CAsToR) TCORS 3.0 (National Cancer Institute, PI: David Mendez, 2023-2028); Paid Sick Leave Mandates and Cancer Prevention (National Cancer Institute; PI: Kevin Callison, 2019-2023); The Impacts of Vaping Regulations on Perceptions, Access, Prices, and Tobacco Use (National Institute of Drug Abuse, PI: Michael Pesko, 2018-2021).
- Administered the [Tobacco Online Policy Seminar \(TOPS\)](#) series, a webinar series funded by the Food and Drug Administration showcasing methodologically rigorous tobacco control research.

**RHIZOME, LLC**, Washington, DC

**Research & Evaluation Consultant**

July 2022-Present

- Synthesize academic research and epidemiological data, provide program evaluation support, and develop implementation tools for strategic use by cancer-oriented non-profit and community organizations.
  - Work examples: [Lung Cancer Screening Implementation Change Package](#), [Lung Cancer Screening Resource Map](#)

**GEORGIA STATE UNIVERSITY**, Atlanta, GA

**Data Scientist**, Department of Economics

July 2019-July 2023

- Prepared and manage data for a portfolio of health policy research projects led by Dr. Michael Pesko.
- Contributed to quantitative data analysis, manuscript development, and research proposals.
- Administered the Tobacco Online Policy Seminar (TOPS) series, a webinar series showcasing methodologically rigorous tobacco control research.

**THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY CANCER CENTER**, Washington, D.C.

**Research Associate**, Institute for Patient-Centered Initiatives and Health Equity

Sept. 2016-May 2019

- Contributed to data analysis and development of manuscripts reporting GW Cancer Center's research and program evaluation findings.
- Supported GW Cancer Center's internal assessment of geographic patient catchment area.
- Supervised and fostered professional development of two staff members and ad hoc student interns.

*Project: TEAM Training Study*

- Managed research activities for the TEAM Training Study, a 2-year \$1 million grant from Pfizer Foundation to develop training materials for oncology providers and patients around cultural sensitivity and communication. Maintained research documentation and compliance with Institutional Review Board protocols; led development of survey, interview, and focus group data collection materials; coordinated data collection logistics; conducted quantitative and qualitative analysis; and developed academic manuscripts for publication.

**Project Manager**, Institute for Patient-Centered Initiatives and Health Equity

June 2014-Sept. 2016

*Project: Patient Navigation Value Study*

- Managed all research activities for the Patient Navigation Value Study, a 1-year \$97,000 grant from Genentech to create evaluation tools to enhance the sustainability of patient navigation programs. Maintained research documentation and compliance with Institutional Review Board protocols; collected data from interviews, focus groups, and a national survey with oncology patient navigation staff to better understand current data practices and needs; and conducted quantitative and qualitative analysis.
- Led the design, development, programming, and pilot-testing of the [Patient Navigation Barriers and Outcomes Tool \(PN-BOT\)](#) and creation of all user support materials. PN-BOT, an Excel-based data management and reporting tool for patient navigation programs, has been downloaded over 1,000 times in the first 9 months since release.

*Project: Comprehensive Cancer Control Technical Assistance*

- Tracked activities and ensured accountability of deliverables for a 5-year \$2.1 million cooperative agreement with the Center for Disease Control and Prevention to provide technical assistance to 65 National Comprehensive Cancer Control Program grantees.

- Oversaw and contributed to multiple technical assistance products for professionals working in comprehensive cancer control, including webinars, “Ask the Expert” virtual discussion forums, newsletters, communication planning tools, and web-based tools for strategic planning.
- Developed and coordinated a mentorship program to increase capacity in core public health competencies and aid completion of evidence-based communications projects in cancer control.
- Facilitated communication internally among the project team and externally with the project Steering Committee, the Comprehensive Cancer Control National Partnership, and others.
- Designed and implemented a mixed-methods evaluation plan of project activities.

**GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY, Washington, D.C.**

**Teaching Assistant, School of Nursing and Health Studies**

Jan. 2018-May 2018

- Led lab sessions demonstrating Stata software and practical research skills, developed practical exercises, and graded student work for undergraduate course *GLOH 303 Research Methods in Global Health* taught by Dr. Jennifer Bouey.

**THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH, Washington, D.C.**

**Teaching Assistant**

Sept. 2017-Dec. 2017

- Graded assignments, responded to inquiries, and facilitated discussion sessions for master’s-level students enrolled in *PubH 6501 Evaluation of Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Programs*, taught by Dr. Karen McDonnell.

**Teaching Assistant**

Sept. 2015-Dec. 2015

- Supervised lab sessions and graded work of master’s-level students enrolled in *PubH 6501 Evaluation of Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Programs*, taught by Dr. Rajiv Rimal.

**QUEENS COMPREHENSIVE PERINATAL COUNCIL, Jamaica, NY**

**Data Consultant/ Administrator, Jamaica-Southeast Queens Healthy Start**

Mar. 2015-Oct. 2016

- Coordinated with database developers to design systems meeting data entry needs of case managers and reporting needs of Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA).
- Provided technical assistance and trainings to case managers on managing prenatal, parenting, and pediatric client records using the project database interface.

**MEMORIAL SLOAN KETTERING CANCER CENTER, New York, NY**

**Community Outreach Assistant II, Immigrant Health and Cancer Disparities**

May 2013-July 2014

- Coordinated the Food to Overcome Outcome Disparities (FOOD) project, a multi-center hospital-based pantry program designed to address food insecurity among cancer patients. Managed operations, logistics, and community partnerships for all sites; directly provided pantry services at Brooklyn Hospital and Ralph Lauren Center for Cancer Care and Prevention; ensured data quality and generated reports; and supervised interns and other outreach staff.
- Provided multilingual patient navigation services to patients enrolled in the Integrated Cancer Care Access Network (ICCAN) program, which aims to improve cancer treatment adherence by addressing critical non-medical needs.
- Conducted cholesterol, glucose, and blood pressure screenings for the Mexican Consulate-based Ventanillas de Salud program, and health fairs for the South Asian Health Initiative, Arab Health Initiative, and Taxi Driver Network programs.

**COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY MAILMAN SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH, New York, NY**

**Data Assistant, Downstate New York Healthy Start Project**

June 2011-Jan. 2013

- Managed a database of perinatal and pediatric client information for the HRSA-funded Downstate New York Healthy Start project, a community-based participatory research initiative to improve birth and early childhood outcomes.
- Led the development of a web-based inter-agency data collection system for case management and reporting purposes by soliciting input and achieving consensus across partner organizations.
- Coordinated across community partner agencies to maintain data quality, monitor ongoing project performance, and generate required performance metrics for HRSA progress reports.
- Provided data and evaluation-related training to staff at community partner agencies.

**NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE, Long Island City, NY**

**Epidemiology College Aide, Bureau of Epidemiology Services**

Mar. 2012-Sept. 2012

- Mapped New York City birth record with Early Intervention program auto-eligibility variables.
- Conducted factor analysis and developed a model predicting Early Intervention need.
- Conducted key informant interviews to explore causes of Early Intervention underutilization by Asian populations in New York City.

**CUNY QUEENS COLLEGE ASIAN/AMERICAN CENTER, Flushing, NY**

**Special Projects Consultant**

Mar. 2014-June 2014

- Created a series of fact sheets on the history and experiences of Asian American communities.

**Program Assistant**

Jan. 2009-Jan. 2010

- Assisted with development of a new Asian American Community Studies minor at Queens College.
- Synthesized demographic data of Asian American communities in Queens for working papers.
- Supervised undergraduate student interns in multiple projects and campus outreach.

**NYU CENTER FOR IMMIGRANT HEALTH, New York, NY**

**Access Facilitator, Immigrant Cancer Portal Project**

Sept. 2009-Jan. 2010

**Intern, Immigrant Cancer Portal Project**

May 2009-Aug. 2009

- Identified barriers to care and provided patient navigation services to Chinese-speaking immigrant cancer patients.

**NYU LANGONE MEDICAL CENTER, New York, NY**

**Per Diem Registered Nurse, Intensive Care Unit**

Nov. 2008-Jan. 2011

**Senior Staff Nurse, Intensive Care Unit**

Sept. 2008-Nov. 2008

**Staff Nurse I, Intensive Care Unit**

Sept. 2007-Sept. 2008

- Provided comprehensive and compassionate nursing care to critically ill patients.

**CITY OF HOPE HOSPITAL, Duarte, CA**

**Research Intern, Nursing Research Department**

June 2005-Aug. 2005

- Assisted in the preparation of grant proposals; entered, cleaned, and analyzed data; transcribed qualitative interviews; contributed to codebooks; and created research presentations.

## PUBLICATIONS

1. Arnold, M. L., Tonti, L., **Phillips, S.**, Kershner, S. P., Lipton, B., Heslin, B., Ukert, B., Hebert, R., & Pesko, M. (2025). Longitudinal Trends in Medicaid Hearing Aid Coverage for Adults in the United States: 2003-2023. *American Journal of Audiology*. Accepted, in press.
2. Garuccio J, Ukert B, Arnold M, Phillips S, Pesko MF. (2025). Using Supply and Demand to Identify Shortages in the Hearing Health Care Professional Workforce. *JAMA Otolaryngol Head Neck Surg*. 151(9):868–873. <https://doi.org/10.1001/jamaoto.2025.2112>
3. Arnold, M. L., Tonti, L., **Phillips, S.**, Kershner, S. P., Lipton, B. J., Heslin, B., Ukert, B. D., & Pesko, M. F. (2025). Number Of States Providing Medicaid Hearing Aid Coverage For Adults Increased; Variability Was Substantive, 2017-23. *Health Affairs*, 44(12), 1522–1529. <https://doi.org/10.1377/hlthaff.2025.00270>
4. Callison, K., Pesko, M., **Phillips, S.**, Sosa, J. (2025). Health care utilization following the adoption of U.S. paid sick leave mandates: a cohort study using health insurance claims data. *The Lancet Regional Health – Americas*. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.lana.2025.101174>
5. Cotti, C., Nesson, E., Pesko, M., **Phillips, S.** (2025). Standardising the Measurement of E-cigarette Tax Rates in the United States (2<sup>nd</sup> edition): 2010-2023. *Tobacco Control*.
6. Jang, J., Sun, K.H., Mann, K., Barrett, E., Khilnani, A., Harrod, T., **Phillips, S.** (2025). Patient Navigation Increases Breast, Cervical, and Colorectal Cancer Screening Among Immigrants in the U.S.: A Systematic Review. *J Gen Intern Med*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11606-025-09566-8>
7. Datta, B., & **Phillips, S.** (2025). Long COVID and the Higher Risk of Food Insecurity Among Participants and Nonparticipants of Food Assistance Programs in the United States. *JAND*. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jand.2024.07.171>
8. Seidenberg AB, Braganza K, Chomas M, Diaz MC, Friedman AS, **Phillips S**, Pesko M. (2024). Coverage of Indoor Smoking and Vaping Restrictions in the US, 1990-2021. *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.amepre.2024.06.007>
9. Arnold, M., Heslin, B. J., Dowdy, M., Kershner, S. P., **Phillips, S.**, Lipton, B., Pesko, M. F. (2024). Longitudinal Policy Surveillance of Private Insurance Hearing Aid Mandates in the US. *American Journal of Public Health*, 114(4), 407-414. <https://doi.org/10.2105/AJPH.2024.307620>
10. Diaz, M. C., Donovan, E., Tauras, J., Stephens, D., Schillo, B., **Phillips, S.**, Chaloupka, F. J., & Pesko, M. (2023). Effect of e-cigarette taxes on e-cigarette and cigarette retail prices and sales, USA, 2014–2019. *Tobacco Control*, tc-2022-057743. <https://doi.org/10.1136/tc-2022-057743>
11. Ingram, R., Black, M., Garwood, S., Jacob, A., Kendall, J., Martin, R., Palmeri, M., Naidu, S., Strout, N., Thomas, M., Switzer, D., **Phillips, S.**, Harvey, A., Plotkin, E., Dodson, S., Helbling, S., & Boehmer, L. (2023). Examining colorectal and cervical cancer care in Appalachia: A review of barriers and interventions to cancer screening, genetic services, and continuity of care. *Oncology Issues*, 38(3), 50-55. <https://doi.org/doi:10.3928/25731777-20230515-09>
12. Callison, K., Pesko, M. F., **Phillips, S.**, & Sosa, J. A. (2023). Cancer Screening after the Adoption of Paid-Sick-Leave Mandates. *New England Journal of Medicine*, 388(9), 824-832. <https://doi:10.1056/NEJMsa2209197>
13. Dave, D. M., Liang, Y., Pesko, M. F., **Phillips, S.**, & Sabia, J. J. (2023). Have Recreational Marijuana Laws Undermined Public Health Progress on Adult Tobacco Use? *Journal of Health Economics*, 90, 102756. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jhealeco.2023.10275>

14. Hoehn-Velasco, L., Pesko, M. F., & **Phillips, S.** (2022). The Long-term Impact of In-Utero Cigarette Taxes on Adult Prenatal Smoking. *American Journal of Health Economics*. <https://doi.org/10.1086/723825>
15. **Phillips, S.**, Raskin, S. E., Harrington, C. B., Bishop, D., & Gany, F. M. (2022). "Like pouring salt in a wound": A qualitative exploration of the impact of unmet housing needs on cancer patients and survivors in New York City. *Journal of Psychosocial Oncology*, 41(4):411-433. <https://doi.org/10.1080/07347332.2022.2136025>
16. Duong, D., Agraviador, D., Cariou, C. George, M., Karanja, M., Kashima, K., Kerch, S., Khalaf, M., Love, B., McCauley-HixenBaugh, L., **Phillips, S.**, Ramirez, S., Sy, A., Tutii, I., Villalobos, A., Pratt-Chapman, M. (2022). Results of the George Washington University Cancer Center's comprehensive cancer control cancer communication mentorship program and implications for future practice. *Cancer Causes Control*, 33(7), 995-1003. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10552-022-01586-7>
17. Cotti, C., Nesson, E., Pesko, M., **Phillips, S.**, & Tefft, N. (2021). Standardising the measurement of e-cigarette taxes in the USA, 2010–2020. *Tobacco Control*. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1136/tobaccocontrol-2021-056865>
18. **Phillips, S.**, Wyatt, L. C., Turner, M. M., Trinh-Shevrin, C., & Kwon, S. C. (2020). Patient-provider communication patterns among Asian American immigrant subgroups in New York City. *Patient Education and Counseling*, S0738-3991(20)30537-1. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.pec.2020.10.002>
19. Harvey, A., Dekle, L., **Phillips, S.**, Zhang, Y., Suarez, R., Villalobos, A., & Pratt-Chapman, M. (2020). Addressing the care of cancer survivors: Evaluation of an online training for interprofessional learners. *Journal of Oncology Navigation & Survivorship*.
20. Pratt-Chapman, M. L., & **Phillips, S.** (2020). Health professional student preparedness to care for sexual and gender minorities: Efficacy of an elective interprofessional educational intervention. *Journal of Interprofessional Care*, 34(3), 418–421. <https://doi.org/10.1080>
21. **Phillips, S.**, Raskin, S., Zhang, Y., & Pratt-Chapman, M. (2020). Perspectives from oncology patient navigation programs on information management practices and needs: A descriptive study. *Supportive Care in Cancer*, 28(2), 515–524. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00520-019-04837-7>
22. Villalobos, A., **Phillips, S.**, Zhang, Y., Crawbuck, G., & Pratt-Chapman, M. L. (2019). Oncology healthcare provider perspectives on caring for diverse patients fifteen years after Unequal Treatment. *Patient Education and Counseling*, 102(10), 1859–1867. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.pec.2019.04.030>
23. **Phillips, S.**, Raskin, S. E., Harrington, C. B., Brazinskaite, R., & Gany, F. M. (2019). "You have to keep a roof over your head": A qualitative study of housing needs among patients with cancer in New York City. *Journal of Oncology Practice*, 15(8), e677–e689. <https://doi.org/10.1200/JOP.19.00077>
24. **Phillips, S.**, Villalobos, A., & Pratt-Chapman, M. (2019). Evaluation of an online training to build and sustain cancer navigation and survivorship programs: Impact on nurses and other health professional learners. *Oncology Nursing Forum*. 46(5), E171–E179. <https://doi.org/10.1188/19.ONF.E171-E179>
25. Harvey, A., Zhang, Y., **Phillips, S.**, Suarez, R., Dekle, L., Villalobos, A., & Pratt-Chapman, M. (2018). Initial outcomes of an online continuing education series focused on post-treatment cancer survivorship care. *Journal of Cancer Education*, 1–7. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s13187-018-1453-2>
26. Kashima, K., **Phillips, S.**, Harvey, A., Villalobos, A., & Pratt-Chapman, M. (2018). Efficacy of the competency based oncology patient navigator training. *Journal of Oncology Navigation and Survivorship*.
27. **Phillips, S.**, Villalobos, A., Crawbuck, G., & Pratt-Chapman, M. (2018). In their own words: Patient navigator roles in culturally sensitive care. *Supportive Care in Cancer*. 1–8. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00520-018-4407-7>

28. Gervès-Pinquié, C., Girault, A., **Phillips, S.**, Raskin, S., & Pratt-Chapman, M. (2018). Economic evaluation of patient navigation programs in colorectal cancer care, a systematic review. *Health Economics Review*, 8(1). <https://doi.org/10.1186/s13561-018-0196-4>
29. Nomura, S. O., Hwang, Y., Gomez, S. L., Fung, T. T., Yeh, S., Dash, C., Allen, L., **Phillips, S.**, Hilakivi-Clarke, L., Zheng, Y., & Wang, J. H. (2018). Dietary intake of soy and cruciferous vegetables and treatment-related symptoms in Chinese-American and non-Hispanic White breast cancer survivors. *Breast Cancer Research and Treatment*, 168(2), 467-479. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10549-0174578-9>
30. Gany, F., Leng, J., Ramirez, J., **Phillips, S.**, Aragonés, A., Roberts, N., Mujawar, M. I., & Costas-Muñiz, R. (2015). Health-related quality of life of food-insecure ethnic minority patients with cancer. *Journal of Oncology Practice*, 11(5):396-402. <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/26286100>.
31. Weerasinghe, I., Zhang, L., Kwon, S.C., & **Chen, S.** (2013). Complimentary and alternative medicine use in Asian Americans: Is integrative medicine the ticket into the US healthcare system? In G.J. Yoo, M.N. Le, & A.Y. Oda (Eds.), *Handbook of Asian American Health* (pp 327-340), New York: Springer Science+Business Media, LLC.
32. Gany, F., Ramirez, J., **Chen, S.**, & Leng, J. (2011). Targeting social and economic correlates of cancer treatment appointment keeping among immigrant Chinese patients. *Journal of Urban Health*. 88(1), 98-103

#### **RESEARCH SUPPORT AS PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR**

1. Principal Investigator. Paid Sick Leave Mandates and Cancer Outcomes, RWIA-23-1048667-01. American Cancer Society, 2024. \$75,000.
2. DrPH Candidate. Dissertation Research Award. The George Washington University Milken Institute School of Public Health, 2018. \$4,000

#### **VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE**

##### **Manuscript peer review**

Ongoing

- Supportive Care in Cancer, Journal of Immigrant and Minority Health, Preventive Oncology & Epidemiology

##### **ASIAN & PACIFIC ISLANDER CAUCUS FOR PUBLIC HEALTH, Encino, California**

###### **Membership Director**

July 2015-Nov. 2017

- Grew, maintained, and engaged Caucus membership in collaboration with the board of directors.
- Contributed to planning and implementation of Caucus-sponsored events at the American Public Health Association Annual Meeting.

##### **CHARLES B. WANG COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER, New York, NY**

###### **Health Disparities Research Training Program Intern**

Oct. 2011-July 2012

- Conducted a literature review and retrospective case-control chart review exploring risk factors for gestational diabetes among low-income immigrant Chinese women through a path analytic model.

##### **NYU CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF ASIAN AMERICAN HEALTH, New York, NY**

###### **Intern, B Free Center of Excellence in the Elimination of Disparities**

Jan. 2011-Aug. 2011

- Conducted a content analysis of hepatitis b information in English language newspapers.
- Examined social media usage in hepatitis b awareness campaigns targeting Asian Americans.

- Contributed content to a textbook chapter on complementary and alternative medicine.
- Conducted a literature review about hepatitis b linkages to care.

**MEMORIAL SLOAN KETTERING CANCER CENTER**, New York, NY

***Outreach Intern, Queens Library Healthlink Project***

Nov. 2008-May 2009

- Collected and entered data for the Healthlink research project, an effort to decrease late-stage detection of cancer in underserved Queens communities.
- Conducted survey interviews with Queens residents about cancer beliefs and screening behaviors, and referred them to resources.

#### **OTHER**

- Technical skills: Microsoft Office, Stata, Nvivo, REDCap, ArcGIS, SEER\*Stat, Constant Contact
- Languages: Conversational Mandarin Chinese and Spanish
- Licenses: Registered Nurse licensed in New York
- Citizenship: United States