

## 6 research rainmaker

### UTHSC Researchers Funded to Study Medicare Policy



*Junling Wang*

A UT research team headed by Junling Wang, PhD, a Professor in Health Outcomes and Policy Research at the College of Pharmacy, Department of Clinical Pharmacy, has been funded by NIH/NIA to study a Medicare policy. Dr. Wang received a UTHSC Bridge Support Award while working on the proposal.

Dr. Wang's group was the first in the U.S. to find Medicare eligibility criteria for medication therapy management (MTM) services as a cause for racial/ethnic disparities. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, recently cited Dr. Wang's findings as a main reason for planning MTM reform.

For this new project, Dr. Wang's group aims to find equitable and effective MTM eligibility criteria. Dr. Wang's co-investigators include Marie A. Chisholm-Burns, PharmD, MPH, MBA, FCCP, FASHP, from College of Pharmacy; Jim Y. Wan, PhD, Samuel Dagogo-Jack, MD, FRCP, and William C. Cushman, MD, from College of Medicine (Cushman also from Veteran Affairs Medical Center); Julie Kuhle, PharmD, from Pharmacy Quality Alliance; and Ya-Chen Tina Shih, PhD, from MD Anderson Cancer Center. Ms. Yanru Qiao, MS, is the Data Analyst on the team. Israel A. Goldberg, PhD, a grant consultant for UTHSC, guided Dr. Wang closely in the grant application process.

Have a story we should include?  
**Submissions and ideas**  
**can be sent to:**  
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