

international standards for best practices with older migrants. How then can we apply lessons about diversity and the impact of programs on a national and international scale? We propose the use of Social Interaction Modeling as a method for understanding patterns of behavior at both national and international levels, while preserving the unique character of each migrant group and the context within which they live.

#### NEIGHBORHOOD COHESION, ACCULTURATION, AND ORAL HEALTH PROBLEMS AMONG OLDER CHINESE AMERICAN IMMIGRANTS

Weiyu Mao,<sup>1</sup> Bei Wu,<sup>2</sup> Iris Chi,<sup>3</sup> Wei Yang,<sup>1</sup> and XinQi Dong,<sup>4</sup> 1. *University of Nevada, Reno, Reno, Nevada, United States*, 2. *New York University, New York, New York, United States*, 3. *University of Southern California, Los Angeles, California, United States*, 4. *Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey, United States*

The influences of neighborhood characteristics remain understudied in relation to oral health, especially within the context of immigration. Acculturation exerts influences on the oral health of immigrants. This study investigated the relationship between neighborhood cohesion and oral health problems among older Chinese American immigrants and examined the moderating role of acculturation in such a relationship. The working sample included 3,157 older Chinese American immigrants aged 60 years or older from the baseline of the Population Study of Chinese Elderly in Chicago. Stepwise logistic regression models with interaction terms were conducted. Individuals experiencing higher levels of neighborhood cohesion reported a lower likelihood of having oral health problems. The protective effect of neighborhood cohesion against having oral health problems was stronger when individuals resided in ethnic enclaves such as Chinatown. To promote optimal oral health, interventions need to account for individuals' perceptions and levels of integration into their neighborhoods and communities.

#### SESSION 7550 (SYMPOSIUM)

##### USER INVOLVEMENT IN RESEARCH ON AGING AND HEALTH: CREATING KNOWLEDGE AND TECHNOLOGIES WITH OLDER ADULTS

Chair: Sofi Fristedt

Co-Chair: Anna Wanka

Discussant: Neil Charness

Although, user involvement is largely recognized as instrumental when developing relevant knowledge, services as well as products - aging populations are still likely to be sparsely involved in such processes. Surprisingly, many gerontechnologies are still developed based on a technological perspective rather than a gerontological perspective. Consequently, age-related changes as well as needs, actual use or perceptions of older adults are disregarded or neglected. Similar problems apply to public and private environments with potentially negative implications on accessibility. The present symposium includes four presentations that address user involvement, by capturing older adults' and aging populations' use as well as perceptions of emerging technologies, successful development of gerontechnologies,

and a multigenerational mass-experiment on housing accessibility in later life. The first study from Germany captures the everyday situation of smartphone use as well as aspects of user experience, affect and social context among older adults. The second study addresses perceptions and attitudes of three generations in Sweden related to continuous technological advancement of products intended to support active and healthy aging. The third presentation will describe the iterative development process of the 2020 mass-experiment - the Housing Experiment -- involving older adults, stakeholders in the housing sector, teachers and pupils in Sweden. The fourth presentation from Canada explores the benefits, challenges, and solutions to support older adult engagement in research that leads to the successful development of technologies for and with older adults. Finally, our discussant will further elaborate on the respective study findings and summarize the symposium.

##### USER ATTITUDES TOWARD RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT OF TECHNOLOGIES: PERSPECTIVES FROM THREE GENERATIONS

Steven Schmidt,<sup>1</sup> Sofi Fristedt,<sup>2</sup> Charlotte Löfqvist,<sup>1</sup> and Susanne Iwarsson,<sup>1</sup> 1. *Lund University, Lund, Skane Lan, Sweden*, 2. *Jonkoping University, Lund, Jonkopings Lan, Sweden*

New technologies are being touted as solutions to many societal challenges not least of which are ageing and health. However, the rapid development of new technologies is proceeding with little input from older adults. This presentation highlights the perceptions and attitudes of three age cohorts related to the continuous technological advancement of products intended to support active and healthy aging. Participants were 30-39 (n= 639), 50-59 (n=703), 70-79 (n=779) years-old randomly sampled from the Swedish population registry. Results showed both similarities and difference across generations. For example, 24%-35% of older adults would like to use home monitoring devices (e.g. fall sensors, smart home devices) to support active and healthy aging, compared to 35%-56% of younger groups. More than 82% of all groups highlighted the importance of involving intended users in the development process. Results can be used to support the needs and desires of current older adults and future generations.

##### THE HOUSING EXPERIMENT: CITIZEN SCIENCE ENGAGING OLDER ADULTS AND SCHOOL PUPILS TO ASSESS HOUSING ACCESSIBILITY

Susanne Iwarsson,<sup>1</sup> Fredrik Brounéus,<sup>2</sup> Knut mårtensson,<sup>3</sup> and Marianne Granbom,<sup>4</sup> 1. *Lund University, Lund, Skane Lan, Sweden*, 2. *Vetenskap & Allmänhet, Stockholm, Stockholms Lan, Sweden*, 3. *miThings, Lund, Skane Lan, Sweden*, 4. *Lund University, Lund, Sweden*

Citizen science is gaining momentum as an approach in many scientific fields. However, it is scarcely used in aging research. Since 2009 in Sweden, Public & Science (NGO) has coordinated an annual mass-experiment where thousands of school pupils have collected data that would have been impossible for researchers to collect on their own. Designed as a cross-generational endeavour, the 2020 mass-experiment, the Housing Experiment, is based on scientific methodology for data collection on housing accessibility. The aim of this