

Telehealth/Telemedicine Special Interest Group

11/17/2023 @ 8:30 am PST / 11:30 am EST



Cynthia I. Campbell, PhD

Dr. Cynthia Campbell is a Senior Research Scientist at the Kaiser Permanente Northern California Division of Research (DOR), and Adjunct Professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, University of California, San Francisco. She has been conducting research on substance use and comorbidity for over 15 years using pragmatic trials, patient surveys, and electronic health record data. Her work focuses on access to care, pain and substance use, prescription opioid and cannabis use, and related health policies. She is co-PI of the Health Systems Node (MPI: Weisner and Bradley), and co-director of the Center for Addiction and Mental Health Research at the DOR. She received her doctorate in Health Services, Organization and Policy at the University of Michigan.



Vanessa A. Palzes, MPH

Ms. Palzes is a Senior Statistical Programmer Analyst at the Center for Addiction and Mental Health Research, Division of Research, Kaiser Permanente. She received her master's degree in Epidemiology/Biostatistics from the University of California, Berkeley. She has published studies on substance use and co-occurring disorders, addiction treatment utilization, and recovery.

Overall and Telehealth Treatment Utilization by Age, Race, Ethnicity, & Socioeconomic Status in California After COVID-19 Policy Changes

The COVID-19 pandemic catalyzed a swift expansion of delivery of addiction treatment services via telehealth, facilitated by key changes in federal regulations. Healthcare systems rapidly transitioned to a primarily telehealth modality, which have largely remained in place. This had raised concerns about exacerbating disparities in treatment access and utilization, especially for Asian, Black, and Latino/Hispanic groups who have historically initiated treatment at lower rates compared to White individuals, and for older adults and adults with lower socioeconomic status (SES) due to the digital divide. In this presentation, Ms. Palzes and Dr. Campbell will describe findings from their recently published study in *JAMA Health Forum*. This study examined changes in addiction treatment utilization during the first 10 months of the COVID-19 pandemic among adults with drug use problems in the Kaiser Permanente Northern California healthcare system, with a focus on differences by age group, race/ethnicity, and SES.

To join the Zoom meeting use the following:
Zoom link: <https://uclahs.zoom.us/j/93122421416>
San Jose: 1-669-900-6833
Tacoma: 1-253-215-8782
Meeting ID: 931 2242 1416

We look forward to seeing you,
Yih-Ing Hser, Ph.D.

