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EDUCATION

- 2018 – **Postdoctoral Associate**
Yale University
Mentor: Dr. Frederick L. Altice
- 2017 – 2018 **Postdoctoral Research Associate**
University of Connecticut
Mentor: Dr. Michael M. Copenhaver
- 2017 **Ph.D., Public Health**
University of Connecticut
Dissertation: *Developing and testing an integrated, brief bio-behavioral HIV prevention intervention targeting high risk drugs users in treatment*
- Awarded the '**Outstanding Dissertation Award 2018**' and the '**Optimization of Behavioral & Biobehavioral Interventions Research Award**' by the Society of Behavioral Medicine
- 2013 **Master of Public Health**
University of Connecticut
Thesis: *Understanding HIV-related risk behaviors among migrant workers in Nepal*
- 2011 **B.S., (summa cum laude)** with Highest Distinction
Wiley College
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ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

- 2015 – 2017 **Teaching Assistant**
University of Connecticut
- *Biostatistics for Health Professionals (AH 5005, STAT 3005)*
 - *Health Education and Behavioral Interventions for At-risk Populations (GPAH 5319)*
 - *Critical Issues in Health Promotion, Disease, and Disability Prevention (GPAH 6324)*
 - *Research for the Health Professionals (AH 4241, AH 4239)*
- 2015 – 2016 **Instructor**
University of Connecticut
- *Writing Allied Health Research (AH 4240W)*
- 2012 - 2017 **Graduate Research Assistant**
University of Connecticut
- 2011 – 2012 **Graduate Assistant**
Graduate School, University of Connecticut
- 2009 – 2011 **Academic Tutor**
Student Support Services, Wiley College
- 2008 – 2010 **Lab Assistant**
Department of Chemistry, Wiley College
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RESEARCH SUPPORT (PI or Co-I)

Ongoing Research Support

**FLAGS Research Grant
(Fund for Lesbian and Gay Studies)**

Shrestha (PI)

11/27/18 - 11/26/19

Role: *Principal Investigator*

Title: A Theory-Based Approach to Implement Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) among Men Who Have Sex with Men (MSM) in Malaysia

Description: The goal of this project is to explore how Malaysian MSM value various aspects of PrEP programs and variation in preferences within groups to inform optimal PrEP program design.

**Busch Biomedical Grant
(Seed Grant for Early Stage Faculty)**

Rawal (PI)

10/15/18 - 10/14/20

Role: *Co-Investigator*

Title: Methadone vs. Buprenorphine Therapy for Opioid Dependence: Diet and Metabolic Implications

Description: We aim to longitudinally examine differences in sugar intake, weight gain, and HbA1c levels between patients in MMT vs. buprenorphine-naloxone treatment therapy.

Completed Research Support

UConn InCHIP Seed Grant

Shrestha (PI)

05/12/16 - 09/25/18

Role: *Principal Investigator*

Title: Developing and testing an evidence-based bio-behavioral intervention targeting high-risk drug users in treatment

Description: A formative research to adapt an evidence-based behavioral intervention that incorporates tools specifically designed to accommodate the disruptive impact that neurocognitive impairment may have on HIV risk reduction behavior and medication adherence among high risk people who use drugs.

UConn InCHIP Seed Grant

Shrestha (PI)

05/01/14 - 04/30/16

Role: *Principal Investigator*

Title: Developing an evidence-based intervention targeting high-risk migrant workers

Description: A formative research study as a means to guide adaptation and refinement of the original Holistic Health Recovery Program (HHRP) such that it will be optimally designed for implementation with high-risk migrant workers in Nepal.

UConn CLAS Research Grant

Shrestha (PI)

05/01/11 - 05/01/13

Role: *Principal Investigator*

Title: HIV-related risk behaviors among returnee male migrant workers in Nepal.

Description: A cross-sectional study conducted among returnee male migrant and non-migrant workers to assess the possible role of migration in spreading HIV and identified predictors of HIV-risk behaviors.

Research Proposal in Preparation

K01 Training Grant (NIH)

Shrestha (PI)

Role: *Principal Investigator*

Title: Smartphone App-Based Intervention to Improve PrEP Continuum of Care among Men Who Have Sex with Men in Malaysia

Description: This study aims to develop a smartphone-based app to deliver a combination HIV prevention intervention that incorporates PrEP and multi-component health communication strategies for MSM in Malaysia, followed by a pilot exploration of the intervention.

Gilead Investigator Sponsored Research

Shrestha (PI)

Role: *Principal Investigator*

Title: PrEP4All: A Peer-Based Intervention to Improve PrEP Uptake and Adherence among High-Risk People Who Inject Drugs

Description: This study aims to pilot test the PrEP4All intervention to evaluate its feasibility, acceptability, and preliminary efficacy in terms of improving PrEP care continuum among PWID.

Unfunded Proposals

NSF DDRI Award

Shrestha (PI)

11/01/11 - 10/30/13

Role: *Principal Investigator*

Title: Doctoral Dissertation Research: Developing an evidence-based intervention targeting high-risk migrant workers.

Description: We aimed to guide adaptation and refinement of the original HHRP intervention such that it will be optimally designed for implementation with high-risk migrant workers in Nepal.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

2018 –

Principal Investigator

University of Connecticut

Project: *A Self-Report Tool to Measure Neurocognitive Impairment: Preliminary Validation of the Brief Inventory of Neurocognitive Impairment (BINI) among Drug Users*

2018 –

Postdoctoral Associate

Yale University

Project: *Developing a smartphone application to prevent and treat HIV among people who inject drugs (PWID)*

2017 – 2018

Postdoctoral Research Associate

University of Connecticut

Project: *Testing an Integrated Bio-Behavioral Primary HIV Prevention Intervention Among High-Risk People Who Use Drugs*

- 2017 – 2018 **Research Consultant**
Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center, New Orleans
Project: *HIV/AIDS & Alcohol-Related Outcomes; Translational Evidence-Based Interventions*
- 2016 – 2018 **Principal Investigator**
University of Connecticut
Project: *Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis Adherence & HIV Risk Reduction among Drug Users*
- 2016 – 2018 **Research Consultant**
Connecticut Department of Public Health
Project: *Cooperative Re-Engagement Controlled Trial (Project CoRECT)*
- 2016 – 2017 **Principal Investigator**
University of Connecticut
Project: *Improving health care services during drug treatment*
- 2016 – 2017 **Principal Investigator**
University of Connecticut
Project: *Adapting an Evidence-based Behavioral Intervention Targeting High-risk Drug Users in Treatment*
- 2015 – 2016 **Principal Investigator**
University of Connecticut Health Center
Project: *Developing Evidence-based Intervention Targeting High-risk Migrant Workers*
- 2012 – 2018 **Research Assistant**
University of Connecticut
Project: *Secondary HIV Prevention and Adherence Among HIV-infected Drug Users*
- 2012 – 2013 **Principal Investigator**
University of Connecticut Health Center
Project: *Exploring HIV Risk Behaviors among Returnee Male Migrant Workers in Nepal*
- 2012 **Research Intern (CT-RI Public Health Training Center Program)**
United Community & Family Services Health Center
- 2011 – 2013 **Research Assistant**
University of Connecticut
Project: *Testing a Community-Friendly Risk Reduction Intervention for Injection Drug Users*
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PUBLICATIONS

Book Chapter

Shrestha, R., Karki, P., & Copenhaver, M. (2018). Addressing the Challenges of Neuro-cognitive Impairment (NCI) on Treatment Engagement. In *'The Wiley Handbook of Patient Engagement in Healthcare Treatment: Theory, Research and Clinical Practice'*. Wiley. (In press)

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

1. **Shrestha, R.**, Altice, F., & Copenhaver, M. (2018). HIV-Related Stigma, Motivation for Medication Adherence, Viral Suppression, and Adherence to Antiretroviral Therapy (ART) among HIV-Positive Drug Users. *JAIDS Journal of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndromes*. (In press).

2. **Shrestha, R.** & Copenhaver, M. (2018). Viral Suppression among HIV-Infected Methadone-Maintained Patients: The Role of Ongoing Injection Drug Use and Adherence to Antiretroviral Therapy (ART). *Addictive Behaviors*. (In press). doi:10.1016/j.addbeh.2018.05.031
3. **Shrestha, R.,** Altice, F., Karki, P., & Copenhaver, M. M. (2018). Integrated bio-behavioral approach to improve adherence to pre-exposure prophylaxis and reduce HIV risk in people who use drugs: A pilot feasibility study. *AIDS & Behavior*. (In press). doi: 10.1007/s10461-018-2099-0
4. **Shrestha, R.,** Altice, F., Sibilio, B., & Copenhaver, M. (2018). HIV Sero-Status Non-Disclosure among High-Risk Drug Users Living with HIV: The Roles of HIV-Related Stigma, Risk Behavior, and Social Support. *Journal of Community Health*. (In press). doi: 10.1007/s10900-018-0560-7
5. **Shrestha, R.,** & Copenhaver, M. (2018). Exploring the Use of Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) for HIV Prevention among High Risk Drug Users. *Frontiers in Public Health*. doi: 10.3389/fpubh.2018.00195
6. **Shrestha, R.,** Karki, P., Altice, F., Dubov, O., Fraenkel, L., Huedo-Medina, T., & Copenhaver, M. M. (2017). Measuring acceptability and preferences for implementation of pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) using conjoint analysis: An application to primary HIV prevention among high risk drug users. *AIDS & Behavior*. (In press). doi: 10.1007/s10461-017-1851-1
7. **Shrestha, R.,** Altice, F., Karki, P., & Copenhaver, M. (2017). Developing a Bio-Behavioral HIV Prevention Intervention for High Risk Drug Users in Treatment: Taking into Account the Impact of Neurocognitive Impairment. *Frontiers in Immunology*. (In press). doi: 10.3389/fimmu.2017.00561
8. **Shrestha, R.,** Karki, P., Huedo-Medina, T., Altice, F., Meyer, J., Madden, L., & Copenhaver, M. (2017). Correlates of willingness to use Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis and the likelihood of practicing safer drug- and sex-related risk behaviors among high-risk drug users in treatment. *Drug and Alcohol Dependence*, 173: 107-116. doi: 10.1016/j.drugalcdep.2016.12.023
9. Bazazi, A.R., Wickersham, J., Wegman, M, Pillai, V., Culbert, G., **Shrestha, R.,** Al-Darraj, H., Copenhaver, M., Kamarulzaman, A., & Altice, F.L. (2017). Design and implementation of a factorial randomized controlled trial of methadone maintenance therapy and an evidence-based behavioral intervention for incarcerated people living with HIV and opioid dependence in Malaysia. *Contemporary Clinical Trials*, 8:561. doi: 10.1016/j.cct.2017.05.006
10. **Shrestha, R.,** Karki, P., & Copenhaver, M. M. (2017). Interest in Use of mHealth Technology in HIV Prevention and Associated Factors among High Risk Drug Users in Treatment. *AIDS Care*. (In press). doi: 10.1080/09540121.2017.1325439
11. **Shrestha, R.,** Weikum, D., Copenhaver, M., & Altice, F. (2017). A Self-report Measure to Detect Neurocognitive Impairment Among Incarcerated People Living with HIV in Malaysian Context: an Exploratory Factor Analysis. *International Journal of Mental Health and Addiction*. (In press). doi: 10.1007/s11469-017-9752-0
12. **Shrestha, R.,** Karki, P., Altice, F., & Copenhaver, M. M. (2017). Intent to use pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP), HIV risk behaviors, and self-report neurocognitive symptoms among high risk drug users: A mediation analysis. *Journal of the Association of Nurses in AIDS Care*. (In press). doi: 10.1016/j.jana.2017.04.005
13. Weikum, D., **Shrestha, R.,** Ferro, E.G., Vagenas, P., Copenhaver, M., Spudich, S., Alpert, M.D., Cabello, R., Lama, J.R., Sanchez, J., & Altice, F. (2017). An Explanatory Factor Analysis of a Brief Self-Report Scale to Detect Neurocognitive Impairment Among HIV-infected Men Who Have Sex with Men and Transgender Women in Peru. *AIDS Care*. (In press). doi: 10.1080/09540121.2017.1322681

14. **Shrestha, R.**, Huedo-Medina, T., Krishnan, A., Altice, F., & Copenhaver, M. (2016). Examining the Acceptability of mHealth Technology in HIV Prevention among High-risk Drug Users in Treatment. *AIDS and Behavior*. (In press). doi: 10.1007/s10461-016-1637-x
15. **Shrestha, R.**, Copenhaver, M., Krishnan, A., Bazazi, A., & Altice, F. (2016). A Moderated Mediation Model of HIV-Related Stigma, Depression, and Social Support on Quality of Life among Incarcerated HIV-Positive Malaysian Men with Opioid Dependence. *AIDS and Behavior*. 21(4): 1059-1069. doi: 10.1007/s10461-017-1693-x
16. **Shrestha, R.**, Huedo-Medina, T. B., Altice, F., Karki, P., & Copenhaver, M. M. (2016). Willingness to Use Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP): An Empirical Test of the Information-Motivation-Behavioral Skills (IMB) Model among High-Risk Drug Users in Treatment. *AIDS and Behavior*. (In press). doi: 10.1007/s10461-016-1650-0
17. **Shrestha, R.**, Weikum, D., Copenhaver, M., & Altice, F. (2016). The Influence of Neurocognitive Impairment, Depression, and Alcohol Use Disorders on Quality of Life among Incarcerated, HIV-Positive Opioid Dependent Malaysian Men: A Moderated Mediation Analysis. *AIDS & Behavior*. 21(4): 1070-1081. doi: 10.1007/s10461-016-1526-3.
18. **Shrestha, R.**, Karki, P., Huedo-Medina, T., & Copenhaver, M. (2016). Treatment engagement moderates the effect of neurocognitive impairment on antiretroviral therapy adherence among HIV-infected drug users in treatment. *Journal of the Association of Nurses in AIDS Care*, 28(1): 85-94. doi: dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jana.2016.09.007
19. Huedo-Medina, T. B., **Shrestha, R.**, & Copenhaver, M. M. (2016). Modeling a Theory-Based Approach to Examine the Influence of Neurocognitive Impairment on HIV Risk Reduction Behaviors among Drug Users in Treatment. *AIDS & Behavior*, 20(8): 1646-57. doi: 10.1007/s10461-016-1394-x
20. Copenhaver, M., **Shrestha, R.**, Wickersham, J. A., Weikum, D., & Altice, F. L. (2016). An Exploratory Factor Analysis of a Brief Self-Report Scale to Detect Neurocognitive Impairment Among Participants Enrolled in Methadone Maintenance Therapy. *Journal of Substance Abuse Treatment*, 63, 61-65. doi: 10.1016/j.josat.2016.01.002
21. **Shrestha, R.**, & Copenhaver, M. (2016). The Influence of Neurocognitive Impairment on HIV Risk Behaviors among High-Risk Drug Users: A Systematic Review. *Frontiers in Public Health*, 4:16. doi: 10.3389/fpubh.2016.00016
22. Karki, P., **Shrestha, R.**, Huedo-Medina, T., & Copenhaver, M. (2016). The impact of methadone maintenance treatment on HIV risk behaviors among high-risk injection drug users: A systematic review. *Evidence-based Medicine and Public Health*, 2(e1229): 1-6. doi: 10.14800/emph.1229
23. **Shrestha, R.**, Karki, P., & Copenhaver, M. (2016). Use of Commercial Sex Workers among Men in Nepal: Prevalence, STIs/HIV-related Risk Behaviors, and Gender Ideology. *Primary Prevention Insights*. 2016:6, 11-17. doi: http://dx.doi.org/10.4137/PPRI.S39664
24. **Shrestha, R.**, & Copenhaver, M. (2016). Association between Intimate Partner Violence against Women and HIV Risk Behaviors: Findings from the Nepal Demographic Health Survey. *Violence Against Women*. 22(13): 1621-1641. doi: 10.1177/1077801216628690
25. **Shrestha, R.**, Karki, P., Pandey, S., & Copenhaver, M. (2016). Adapting an Evidence-Based HIV Prevention Intervention Targeting High-Risk Migrant Workers: The Process and Outcome of Formative Research. *Frontiers in Public Health*, 4:61. doi: 10.3389/fpubh.2016.00061

26. **Shrestha, R.**, Huedo-Medina, T. B., & Copenhaver, M. M. (2015). Sex-Related Differences in Self-Reported Neurocognitive Impairment among High-Risk Cocaine Users in Methadone Maintenance Treatment Program. *Substance Abuse: Research and Treatment*, 9:17-24.
27. **Shrestha, R.**, Krishnan, A., Altice, F., & Copenhaver, M. (2015). A Non-Inferiority Trial of an Evidence-Based Secondary HIV Prevention Behavioral Intervention Compared to an Adapted, Abbreviated Version: Rationale and Intervention Description. *Contemporary Clinical Trials*. 44: 995-102.
28. **Shrestha, R.**, Karki, P., & Copenhaver, M. (2015). Early sexual debut: A Risk Factor for STIs/HIV Acquisition among a Nationally Representative Sample of Adults in Nepal. *Journal of Community Health*, 41(1): 70-77. doi: 10.1007/s10900-015-0065-6
29. **Shrestha, R.**, & Copenhaver, M. (2015). Long-Term Effects of Childhood Risk Factors on Cardiovascular Health during Adulthood. *Clinical Medicine Reviews in Vascular Health*. 7:1-5. 10.4137/CMRVH.S29964.
30. **Shrestha, R.**, Karki, P., Suwal, A. & Copenhaver, M. (2015). Sex Trafficking Related Knowledge, Awareness, and Attitudes Among Adolescent Female Students in Nepal: A Cross-Sectional Study. *PLoS ONE*, 10(7): e0133508. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0133508
31. **Shrestha, R.**, Karki, P., & Copenhaver, M. (2015). Nepal Earthquake Exposes Significant Gaps in Disaster Preparedness. *BMJ*, 350: h2691.
32. **Shrestha, R.**, & Karki, P. (2015). Using Policy, Systems, and Environmental (PSE) Changes to Promote Physical Activity. *BMJ*, 350: h3024.
33. **Shrestha, R.**, & Karki, P. (2015). Tobacco Industry “Should Be Sued by UK Government” for Smokers’ Health Costs: Lessons from the United States. *BMJ*, 350: h3159.
34. **Shrestha, R.**, & Karki, P. (2015). Mitigating the Impact of Gun Violence on Children: Have We Covered All Dimensions? *BMJ*, 350: h3159.
35. Baldwin, P., **Shrestha, R.**, Potrepka, J., & Copenhaver, M. (2013). The Age of Initiation of Drug Use and Sexual Behavior May Influence Subsequent HIV Risk Behavior: A Systematic Review. *ISRN AIDS*, vol. 2013, Article ID 976035, 17 pages, 2013.
36. **Shrestha, R.** (2012). Maternal Mortality in Nepal: Addressing the Issue. *International Journal of Health Sciences Research*. 2(9):65-74.
37. **Shrestha, R.** (2012). Arsenic Contamination of Groundwater in Nepal: Good Public Health Intention Gone Bad. *Inquiries Journal/Student Pulse*, 4(09).

Manuscripts (Under Review & In Preparation)

- Shrestha, R.**, & Copenhaver, M. (2018, Revision). Perceived HIV Risk Mediates the Relationship Between HIV Risk Behavior and Willingness to Use Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) among Drug Users. *PLoS ONE*.
- Shrestha, R.**, Altice, F., & Copenhaver, M. (2018, Under Review). Evidence for Feasibility, Use, and Acceptability of mHealth-Based Strategy to Improve Adherence to Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) among Drug Users. *BMC Public Health*.
- Ranjit, Y.S., Snyder, L.B., **Shrestha, R.**, & Altice, F.L. (2018, Under Review). HIV/AIDS Related Misconception, Media Exposure, and Stigma: A Study of Women in Nepal. *Health Communication*.

- Shrestha, R.,** Lim, H.S., Wickersham, J., Kamarulzaman, A., & Altice, F.L. (2018, In Preparation). Use of Smartphone to Find Sexual Health Information Online Among Malaysian Men Who Have Sex with Men (MSM): Implications for HIV Intervention.
- Shrestha, R.,** Lim, H.S., Kamarulzaman, A., & Altice, F.L. (2018, In Preparation). HIV Testing Practices of Malaysian Men Who Have Sex with Men (MSM) in the Era of Expanded Access to ART.
- Shrestha, R.,** Altice, F., & Copenhaver, M. (2018, In Preparation). Women in Violent Relationship More Likely to Have Sub-Optimal Adherence to Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP): Implications for HIV Prevention.
- Shrestha, R.,** Ssenyonjo, J., Altice, F., & Copenhaver, M. (2018, In Preparation). An Integrated Bio-behavioral Approach to Improve Adherence to Pre-exposure Prophylaxis and Reduce HIV Risk in People Who Use Drugs: Rationale and Intervention Description.
- Huedo-Medina, T., **Shrestha, R.,** Altice, F., & Copenhaver, M. (2018, In Preparation). A randomized controlled trial of the Holistic Health for HIV (3H+) intervention among high-risk HIV-infected opioid-dependent drug users.
- Deng, Y., **Shrestha, R.,** Altice, F., & Copenhaver, M. (2018, In Preparation). Estimation of cost-effectiveness of secondary HIV prevention intervention (Holistic Health for HIV) for HIV-infected opioid-dependent drug users in the United States.
- Ranjit, Y., **Shrestha, R.,** Altice, F., & Copenhaver, M. (2018, In Preparation). Online Information Seeking and Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) Awareness among HIV-Negative Drug Users.
- Copenhaver, M., **Shrestha, R.,** Jenkins, H., Villanueva, M., & Altice, F.L. (2018, In Preparation). Project CONNECT: A Randomized Controlled Trial to Promote Continuity of HIV Care among Out of Care People Living with HIV.
- Ssenyonjo, J., **Shrestha, R.,** & Copenhaver, M. (2018, In Preparation). Effect of Social Stigma on Willingness and Uptake of Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) among Men Who Have Sex with Men (MSM) in the United States.
- Lim, H.S., Akbar, M., McStea, M., Lim, J., Wickersham, J.A., Kamarulzaman, A., **Shrestha, R.,** & Altice, F.L. (2018, In Preparation). A Daily Survey of Methamphetamine Use and Sexual Behaviors Among MSM in Malaysia Using a Mobile Phone Application.
- Weikum, D., Ferro, E.G., Vagenas, P., **Shrestha, R.,** Copenhaver, M., Spudich, S., Alpert, M.D., Cabello, R., Lama, J.R., Sanchez, J., & Altice, F. (2018, In Preparation). Neurocognitive Impairment Negatively Influences Antiretroviral Medication Adherence Among HIV-infected Men Who Have Sex with Men and Transgender Women in Peru.
- Ahmed, T., **Shrestha, R.,** Huedo-Medina, T., & Copenhaver, M. (2018, In Preparation). Self-efficacy mediates the relationship of neurocognitive impairment and HIV risk reduction intervention outcomes among female drug users in treatment.
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CONFERENCE PAPERS

Oral Presentations

- Shrestha, R.,** Altice, F., & Copenhaver, M. (2019). Preliminary Evidence for Feasibility and Acceptability of an mHealth-Based Strategy to Improve Adherence to Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) among

Drug Users. *Accepted for oral presentation at the 2019 National HIV Prevention Conference (NHPC)*. Georgia, USA.

- Shrestha, R.,** Altice, F., & Copenhaver, M. (2019). HIV-Related Stigma, Motivation to Adhere to Medication, and ART Adherence among HIV-Positive Methadone-Maintained Patient. *Accepted for oral presentation at the 40th Annual Meeting & Scientific Sessions of the Society of Behavioral Medicine*. Washington, DC, USA.
- Shrestha, R.** & Copenhaver, M. (2018). Exploring the Use of Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) for HIV Prevention among High Risk Drug Users in Treatment. *Roundtable presentation at the 146th American Public Health Association (APHA) Conference*. San Diego, California.
- Shrestha, R.,** Altice, F., Karki, P., & Copenhaver, M. (2018). Integrated biobehavioral approach to improve adherence to pre-exposure prophylaxis and reduce HIV risk in people who use drugs. *Oral presentation at the 39th Annual Meeting & Scientific Sessions of the Society of Behavioral Medicine*. New Orleans, Louisiana.
- Shrestha, R.,** & Copenhaver, M. (2018). Experiences Using Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis for HIV Prevention among High Risk Drug Users. *Oral presentation at the 39th Annual Meeting & Scientific Sessions of the Society of Behavioral Medicine*. New Orleans, Louisiana.
- Shrestha, R.,** Altice, F., Huedo-Medina, T., Karki, P., & Copenhaver, M. (2017). Willingness to Use Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP): An Empirical Test of the Information-Motivation-Behavioral Skills (IMB) Model among High-Risk Drug Users in Treatment. *Oral presentation at the 145th American Public Health Association (APHA) Conference*. Atlanta, Georgia.
- Shrestha, R.,** Altice, F., Karki, P., & Copenhaver, M. (2017). Developing an Integrated, Brief Bio-Behavioral HIV Prevention Intervention for High Risk Drug Users in Treatment: Taking into Account the Impact of Neurocognitive Impairment. *Oral presentation at the 145th American Public Health Association (APHA) Conference*. Atlanta, Georgia.
- Shrestha, R.,** Karki, P., Altice, F., & Copenhaver, M. (2017). Correlates of willingness to use Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) among high-risk drug users in treatment. *Oral presentation at the 38th Annual Meeting & Scientific Sessions of the Society of Behavioral Medicine*. San Diego, California.
- Shrestha, R.,** Karki, P., Altice, F., & Copenhaver, M. (2017). Feasibility, Acceptability, and Preliminary Efficacy of an Integrated Bio-Behavioral Approach for Adherence to Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) and HIV Risk Reduction among High Risk Drug Users. *Oral presentation at the University of Connecticut Graduate Student Research Forum*. Storrs, Connecticut.
- Shrestha, R.,** Karki, P., Copenhaver, M., & Altice, F. (2016). Moderating Role of Treatment Engagement on the Relationship between Neurocognitive Impairment and Antiretroviral Treatment (ART) Adherence. *Oral presentation at the 2016 Connecticut Public Health Association Annual Conference*. New Haven, Connecticut.
- Shrestha, R.,** Huedo-Medina, T., Karki, P., & Copenhaver, M. (2016). Modeling a Theory-Based Approach to Examine the Influence of Neurocognitive Impairment on HIV Risk Reduction Behaviors among Drug Users. *Oral presentation at the 144th American Public Health Association (APHA) Conference*. Denver, Colorado.
- Shrestha, R.,** Weikum, D., Copenhaver, M., & Altice, F. (2016). Influence of Neurocognitive Impairment, Depression, and Alcohol Use Disorders on Quality of Life among Incarcerated, HIV-Positive Opioid Dependent Malaysian Men: A Moderated Mediation Analysis. *Oral presentation at the 144th American Public Health Association (APHA) Conference*. Denver, Colorado.

- Shrestha, R.,** Copenhaver, M., & Altice, F. (2016). A moderated mediating model of stigma, depression, and social support on quality of life among incarcerated, HIV-positive men with opioid dependence in Malaysia. *Oral presentation at the 144th American Public Health Association (APHA) Conference.* Denver, Colorado.
- Karki, P., **Shrestha, R.,** & Copenhaver, M. (2016). The Use of Female Sex Workers among Men in Nepal: Prevalence, STIs/HIV-Related Risk Behaviors, and Gender Ideology. *Oral presentation at the 144th American Public Health Association (APHA) Conference.* Denver, Colorado.
- Ahmed, T., **Shrestha, R.,** Huedo-Medina, T., & Copenhaver, M. (2016). Self-efficacy mediates the effect of neurocognitive impairment on HIV risk reduction intervention outcomes among high-risk drug users in treatment. *Oral presentation at the 144th American Public Health Association (APHA) Conference.* Denver, Colorado.
- Shrestha, R.,** & Copenhaver, M. (2015). Association between Intimate Partner Violence and STI/HIV-Related Risk Behaviors: Findings from the Nepal Demographic Health Survey. *Oral presentation at the 143rd American Public Health Association (APHA) Conference.* Chicago, IL.
- Shrestha, R.,** Karki, P., & Copenhaver, M. (2015). Early Sexual Debut: A Risk Factor for STIs/HIV Acquisition among a Nationally Representative Sample of Adults in Nepal. *Oral presentation at the 3rd International Conference on HIV/AIDS, STDs & STIs.* Atlanta, GA.
- Shrestha, R.,** & Copenhaver, M. (2014). Association between Intimate Partner Violence against Women and HIV Risk Behaviors: Findings from the Nepal Demographic Health Survey. *Oral presentation at the 2014 CHOP Global Health Conference.* Philadelphia, PA.
- Shrestha, R.,** & Copenhaver, M. (2013). HIV-Related Risk Behaviors among Returnee Male Migrant Workers in Nepal. *Oral presentation at the 141st American Public Health Association (APHA) Conference.* Boston, MA.

Poster Presentations

- Shrestha, R.,** Altice, F., & Copenhaver, M. (2019). Antiretroviral Therapy (ART) Adherence among HIV-Infected Opioid-Dependent Patients: The Role of HIV-Related Stigma and Motivation to Adhere to ART. *Poster presentation at the 2019 National HIV Prevention Conference (NHPC).* Georgia, USA.
- Shrestha, R.,** Altice, F., & Copenhaver, M. (2019). Use of Smartphone to Find Sexual Health Information Online Among Malaysian MSM: Implications for mHealth Intervention. *Accepted for poster presentation at the 40th Annual Meeting & Scientific Sessions of the Society of Behavioral Medicine.* Washington, DC, USA.
- Shrestha, R.,** Altice, F., & Copenhaver, M. (2019). Feasibility and Acceptability of an mHealth-Based Strategy to Improve Adherence to Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis among Drug Users. *Accepted for poster presentation at the 40th Annual Meeting & Scientific Sessions of the Society of Behavioral Medicine.* Washington, DC, USA.
- Ssenyonjo, J., **Shrestha, R.,** & Copenhaver, M. (2019). Stigma May Influence Willingness and Uptake of Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) Among High-risk Populations *Accepted for poster presentation at the 40th Annual Meeting & Scientific Sessions of the Society of Behavioral Medicine.* Washington, DC, USA.
- Shrestha, R.,** Altice, F., & Copenhaver, M. (2018). HIV-Related Stigma, Motivation to Adhere to Antiretroviral Therapy, and Medication Adherence among HIV-Positive Methadone-Maintained Patients. *Poster presentation at the 9th International Conference on Stigma.* Washington, DC, USA.

- Shrestha, R.,** Altice, F., & Copenhaver, M. (2018). HIV-related stigma, motivation to adhere to ART, and ART adherence among HIV-infected methadone-maintained patients. *Poster presentation at the HIV Drug Therapy Glasgow 2018*. Glasgow, UK.
- Shrestha, R.** & Copenhaver, M. (2018). Viral Suppression among HIV+ Methadone-Maintained Patients: The Role of Ongoing Injection Drug Use and Adherence to Antiretroviral Therapy. *Poster presentation at the 20th Annual International Meeting of the Institute of Human Virology*. Baltimore, MD.
- Shrestha, R.** & Copenhaver, M. (2018). HIV Risk, and Awareness and Willingness to Use Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) for HIV Prevention among High-Risk Female Drug Users. *Poster presentation at the Ending Gender Inequalities: Evidence to Impact Conference*. Johannesburg, South Africa.
- Shrestha, R.** & Copenhaver, M. (2018). Exploring the Use of Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) for HIV Prevention among High-Risk Female Drug Users in Treatment. *Poster presentation at the Ending Gender Inequalities: Evidence to Impact Conference*. Johannesburg, South Africa.
- Shrestha, R.,** Altice, F., & Copenhaver, M. (2018). Serostatus Non-Disclosure to Sexual Partners among High-Risk Drug Users Living with HIV: Examining the Roles of HIV-Related Stigma and Risk Behavior. *Poster presentation at the 22nd International AIDS Conference (AIDS 2018)*. Amsterdam, Netherlands.
- Shrestha, R.** & Copenhaver, M. (2018). Exploring the Use of Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) for HIV Prevention among High Risk Drug Users in Treatment. *Poster presentation at the 22nd International AIDS Conference (AIDS 2018)*. Amsterdam, Netherlands.
- Shrestha, R.** & Copenhaver, M. (2018). Perceived HIV Risk Mediates the Relationship Between HIV Risk Behavior & Willingness to Use Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis among Drug Users. *Poster presentation at the Annual Conference of the College on Problems of Drug Dependence (CPDD)*. San Diego, CA.
- Ssenyonjo, J., **Shrestha, R.,** & Copenhaver, M. (2018). Stigma May Influence Willingness and Uptake of Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) Among High-risk Populations *Poster presentation at the University of Connecticut Graduate Student Research Forum*. Storrs, Connecticut.
- Shrestha, R.,** Karki, P., Altice, F., & Copenhaver, M. (2017). Using conjoint analysis to measure the acceptability of pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) use for HIV prevention among high-risk drug users in treatment. *Poster presentation at the 9th IAS Conference on HIV Science*. Paris, France.
- Shrestha, R.,** Altice, F., Huedo-Medina, T., Karki, P., & Copenhaver, M. (2017). Willingness to Use Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP): An Empirical Test of the Information-Motivation-Behavioral Skills (IMB) Model among High Risk Drug Users in Treatment. *Poster presentation at the 9th IAS Conference on HIV Science*. Paris, France.
- Shrestha, R.,** Altice, F., Karki, P., Huedo-Medina, T., & Copenhaver, M. (2017). Feasibility, acceptability, and preliminary efficacy of the Bio-Behavioral Community-friendly Health Recovery Program (CHRP-BB): A combination approach for primary HIV prevention among high risk drug users. *Poster presentation at the 9th IAS Conference on HIV Science*. Paris, France.
- Shrestha, R.,** Altice, F., & Copenhaver, M. (2017). Examining the Acceptability of mHealth Technology in HIV Prevention among High-risk Drug Users in Treatment. *Poster presentation at the 38th Annual Meeting & Scientific Sessions of the Society of Behavioral Medicine*. San Diego, California.
- Shrestha, R.,** Karki, P., Altice, F., & Copenhaver, M. (2017). Developing a Bio-Behavioral HIV Intervention for High-Risk Drug Users: Taking into Account Impact of Neurocognitive Impairment. *Poster presentation at the 38th Annual Meeting & Scientific Sessions of the Society of Behavioral Medicine*. San Diego, California.

- Karki, P., **Shrestha, R.**, Altice, F., Huedo-Medina, T., & Copenhaver, M. (2017). Correlates of willingness to use Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) among high-risk drug users in treatment. *Poster presentation at the University of Connecticut Graduate Student Research Forum*. Storrs, Connecticut.
- Shrestha, R.**, Karki, P., Copenhaver, M., & Altice, F. (2016). The Moderating Role of Treatment Engagement on the Relationship between Neurocognitive Impairment and Antiretroviral Treatment (ART) Adherence. *Poster presentation at the HIV Drug Therapy Glasgow*. Glasgow, UK.
- Shrestha, R.**, Karki, P., Huedo-Medina, T., & Copenhaver, M. (2016). The Moderating Role of Treatment Engagement on the Relationship between Neurocognitive Impairment and Antiretroviral Treatment (ART) Adherence. *Poster presentation at the 18th International Workshop on Adverse Drug Reactions and Co-Morbidities in HIV*. New York, NY.
- Shrestha, R.**, Huedo-Medina, T., Karki, P., & Copenhaver, M. (2016). Modeling a Theory-Based Approach to Examine the Influence of Neurocognitive Impairment on HIV Risk Reduction Behaviors among Drug Users. *Poster presentation at the annual conference of the College on Problems of Drug Dependence (CPDD)*. Palm Springs, California.
- Shrestha, R.**, Karki, P., & Copenhaver, M. (2016). An Exploratory Factor Analysis of a Brief Self-Report Scale to Detect Neurocognitive Impairment Among Participants Enrolled in Methadone Maintenance Therapy. *Poster presentation at the annual conference of the College on Problems of Drug Dependence (CPDD)*. Palm Springs, California.
- Shrestha, R.**, & Copenhaver, M. (2016). Association between Intimate Partner Violence and STI/HIV-Related Risk Behaviors: Findings from the Nepal Demographic Health Survey. *Poster presentation at the Ending Gender Inequalities: Addressing the Nexus of HIV, Drug Use, and Violence with Evidence-based Action conference*. Chapel Hill, NC.
- Shrestha, R.**, Huedo-Medina, T., & Copenhaver, M. (2015). Sex-Related Differences in Self-Reported Neurocognitive Impairment among High-Risk Cocaine Users in Methadone Maintenance Treatment Program. *Poster presentation at the 143rd American Public Health Association (APHA) Conference*. Chicago, IL.
- Shrestha, R.**, & Copenhaver, M. (2015). Gender Differences in Associations between Neurocognitive Impairment and Cocaine Use among High-Risk Cocaine-Dependent Methadone-Maintained Patients. *Poster presentation at the annual conference of the College on Problems of Drug Dependence (CPDD)*. Phoenix, Arizona.
- Shrestha, R.**, & Copenhaver, M. (2014). Early Sexual Debut: A Risk Factor for STIs/HIV Acquisition among a Nationally Representative Sample of Adults in Nepal. *Poster presentation at the 2015 Connecticut Public Health Association (CPHA) Annual Conference*. Waterbury, CT.
- Shrestha, R.**, & Copenhaver, M. (2014). Developing an Evidence-Based Intervention Targeting High-Risk Migrant Workers. *Poster presentation at the annual conference of the College on Problems of Drug Dependence (CPDD)*. San Juan, Puerto Rico.
- Shrestha, R.**, & Copenhaver, M. (2014). Gender-Related Differences in Neurocognitive Impairment among High-Risk Cocaine Users in Methadone Maintenance Program. *Poster presentation at the 2014 Connecticut Public Health Association (CPHA) Annual Conference*. Waterbury, CT.
- Shrestha, R.**, & Copenhaver, M. (2013). HIV Risk Behaviors among Returnee Male Migrant Workers in Nepal. *Poster presentation at the annual conference of the College on Problems of Drug Dependence (CPDD)*. San Diego, CA.

- Copenhaver, M., Altice, F., & **Shrestha, R.** (2013). Using a Non-Inferiority Trial Approach to Test the Holistic Health for HIV (3H+) Intervention among HIV+ Drug Users. *Poster presentation at the annual conference of the College on Problems of Drug Dependence (CPDD)*. San Diego, CA.
- Shrestha, R.**, & Copenhaver, M. (2013). Understanding HIV-Risk Behaviors among Returnee Male Migrant Workers in Nepal. *Poster presentation delivered at the International Conference on HIV/AIDS, STDs, & STIs*. Miami, Florida.
- Shrestha, R.**, Huedo-Medina, T., & Copenhaver, M. (2013). HIV-Related Risk Behaviors among Migrant and Non-Migrant Workers in Nepal. *Poster presentation delivered at the Health, Workplace, and Environment: Cultivating Connections Conference*. Storrs, Connecticut.
- Shrestha, R.**, & Copenhaver, M. (2013). Understanding HIV-Risk Behaviors among Returnee Male Migrant Workers in Nepal. *Poster presentation at the 2013 Connecticut Public Health Association (CPHA) Annual Conference*. Waterbury, CT.
- Shrestha, R.**, & Joshi, J. (2011). Characterizing Staurosporine Induced Cell Death in Various Cell Lines. *Poster presentation at the North East Alliance (NEA) Summer Research Program*. Storrs, Connecticut.
- Shrestha, R.**, & Joshi, J. (2010). Mechanistic Differences of Silica and Staurosporine Induced Death in MH-S Alveolar Macrophages and HeLa Cells. *Poster presentation at the North East Alliance (NEA) Summer Research Program*. Storrs, Connecticut.

Invited Presentations & Talks

- Shrestha, R.** (2018). Developing and Testing a Brief, Integrated Bio-Behavioral HIV Prevention Intervention for High Risk Drug Users. CIRA Clinical and Health Services Research Core Meeting. Yale University.
- Shrestha, R.** (2018). Exploring the use of pre-exposure prophylaxis for HIV prevention among high risk drug users in treatment. Yale Clinical and Community Research Seminar Series. Yale University.
- Shrestha, R.** (2018). Guest speaker (for Dr. Copenhaver, AHS). Integrated bio-behavioral approach to improve adherence to pre-exposure prophylaxis and reduce HIV risk in people who use drugs. University of Connecticut.
- Shrestha, R.** (2017). Guest speaker (for Dr. Copenhaver, AHS). Developing & Testing a Bio-Behavioral HIV Prevention Intervention for High-Risk Drug Users. University of Connecticut
- Shrestha, R.** (2016). Influence of Neurocognitive Impairment, Depression, & Alcohol Use Disorders on Quality of Life among Incarcerated, HIV+ Opioid Dependent Malaysian Men: A Moderated Mediation Analysis. Yale Clinical and Community Research Seminar Series. Yale University.
- Shrestha, R.** (2016). Guest speaker (for Dr. Copenhaver, AHS). HIV-Risk Reduction Intervention and Neurocognitive Impairment. University of Connecticut.
- Shrestha, R.** (2015). Guest speaker (for Dr. Copenhaver, AHS). The Influence of Neurocognitive Impairment on HIV Risk Reduction Intervention Outcomes. University of Connecticut.
- Shrestha, R.**, & Clark, I. (2012). National Committee for Quality Assurance Patient-Centered Medical Home Accreditation of United Communities and Family Services Edward and Mary Lord Family Health Center. Community Health Center Association of Connecticut Meeting. Connecticut.
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HONORS & AWARDS

- 2018 **International Conference on Stigma Scholarship**
Howard University
- 2018 **Ending Gender Inequalities Conference Travel Award**
RTI International
- 2018 **Alumni Inductee**
Delta Omega National Public Health Honor Society
- 2018 **Outstanding Dissertation Award**
Society of Behavioral Medicine (SBM)
- 2018 **Optimization of Behavioral & Biobehavioral Interventions Research Award**
Society of Behavioral Medicine (SBM)
- 2017 **Top Reviewer in Medicine – 2017**
Publons Peer Review Awards 2017
- 2016 **COMPACT for Faculty Diversity Travel Award**
Graduate School (University of Connecticut)
- 2016 **Travel Award for Early Career Investigators**
College on Problems of Drug Dependence (CPDD)
- 2016 **Ending Gender Inequalities Conference Travel Award**
RTI International
- 2015 **NIDA Women and Sex/Gender Differences Junior Investigator Travel Award**
National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA)
- 2015 **Doctoral Student Travel Award**
Graduate School (University of Connecticut)
- 2012 **Public Health Training Center (PHTC) Award**
University of Connecticut Health Center
- 2011 – 2012 **Predocctoral Fellowship**
University of Connecticut
- 2007 – 2011 **Presidential Scholarship**
Wiley College
- 2011 **Allen Mercer Mayes & Laverne Hadnott Mayes Endowed Scholarship**
University of Rhode Island
- 2011 **APHA Conference Travel Award**
Graduate School (University of Connecticut)
- 2010 **Destination Public Health Travel Award**
Rollins School of Public Health (Emory University)
- 2010 **Who's Who Among Students in American Universities & Colleges**
USA
- 2007 **International Student Award**
Wiley College

2004 – 2005 **Mahatma Gandhi Scholarship**
Indian Embassy, Nepal

2004 **Presidential Scholarship**
Ambition Academy, Nepal

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Grant Review Panel Member

2017 **National Science Centre**
Poland

2014/2015 **Graduate Student Seed Grant**
Institute for Collaboration on Health, Intervention, & Policy, University of Connecticut

Journal Editorial Board Member

2018 – AIDS & Behavior

2017 – BMC Public Health

2017 – BMC Women's Health

Journal Reviewer

- Journal of the International AIDS Society
- American Journal of Public Health
- Drug and Alcohol Dependence
- Journal of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndromes
- Addictive Behaviors
- AIDS & Behavior
- BMJ Open
- AIDS Care
- Clinical Epidemiology
- Medicine
- Contemporary Clinical Trials
- Journal of Substance Abuse Treatment
- International Journal of STD & AIDS
- BMC Public Health
- Journal of the International Association of Providers of AIDS Care
- Frontiers in Public Health
- Health and Quality of Life Outcomes
- Journal of Medical Internet Research
- LGBT Health
- International Social Work
- Patient Preference and Adherence

- Journal of Immigrant and Minority Health
- Substance Abuse: Research & Treatment
- PLoS ONE
- JMIR mHealth and uHealth
- BMC Women's Health
- Journal of HIV/AIDS & Social Services
- Substance Abuse and Rehabilitation
- HIV/AIDS - Research and Palliative Care
- Tobacco Use Insights
- American Public Health Association Conference (*Abstract Reviewer*)

Additional Services

- 2018 **Outstanding Trainee Abstract in Health Decision Making Search Committee**
Society for Behavioral Medicine (SBM)
- 2018 **AIDS 2018 Abstract Mentor**
22nd International AIDS Conference (AIDS 2018)
- 2017 – **Co-Liaison**, Violence & Trauma Special Interest Group
Society of Behavioral Medicine (SBM)
- 2017 **Oral Session Moderator**
American Public Health Association Annual Conference 2017
- *HIV and Substance Use*
 - *HIV Prevention in Injection Drug Users*
- 2011 – **Founder & Co-Director**
Nepal Public Health Network
- 2011 – 2012 **Website Committee Chair**, Student Assembly
American Public Health Association (APHA)
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PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

Member, Society of Behavioral Medicine (SBM)

Member, International AIDS Society

Research Affiliate, Center for Interdisciplinary Research on AIDS (CIRA), *Yale University*

Member, International Society of Infectious Disease

Member, American Public Health Association (APHA)

Member, Connecticut Public Health Association

Research Affiliate, Institute for Collaboration on Health, Intervention & Policy, *UConn*

Member, Nepal Red Cross Society, *Nepal*

Member, Public Health Student Organization (PHSO), *UConn Health Center*

ADDITIONAL SKILLS

Scientific Applications

Quantitative Data Analysis Software

- *SPSS, Mplus, SAS, R, AMOS*

Qualitative Data Analysis Software

- *Atlas.ti*

Questionnaire Development System

- *Question Design Studio (QDS), Audio Computer Assisted Self Interview (ACASI), Qualtrics*

Reference Management Software

- *Endnote, RefWorks*

Multimedia Packages

Dreamweaver, Photoshop, iWeb, Flash

PRESS COVERAGE

- Infectious Disease Advisor (July 9th, 2018): [Reduced HIV Viral Suppression Among Methadone-Maintained Patients](#)
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REFERENCES

Dr. Frederick L. Altice

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