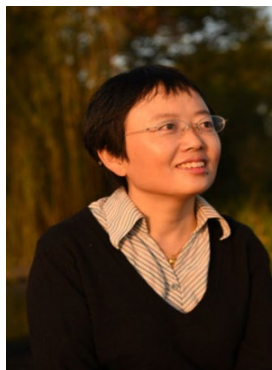




Center for Interdisciplinary Research on AIDS  
at Yale University

## *CIRA Talk: "Engaging Men Who Have Sex with Men in HIV Testing and Prevention: Current Research and Lessons Learned from China and Thailand"*

Join us on Zoom for a virtual panel featuring presentations by CIRA International Visiting Fellows, followed by a discussion with Yale faculty hosts and a Q&A session with audience members.



**Yifei Hu**  
Capital Medical  
University, China  
*Speaker*



**Thomas  
Guadamuz**  
Mahidol University,  
Thailand  
*Speaker*



**Sten Vermund**  
Yale School of  
Public Health, Yale  
School of Medicine  
*Discussant*



**Jeffrey  
Wickersham**  
Yale School of  
Medicine  
*Discussant*



**Luke Davis**  
Yale School of  
Public Health, Yale  
School of Medicine,  
CIRA  
*Moderator*

**Friday, February 11, 2022  
8:30 am – 10:00 am EST**

**Register via Zoom:  
<https://bit.ly/3qBncs9>**

Contact [dini.harsono@yale.edu](mailto:dini.harsono@yale.edu) for questions about this event.

Organized by the Center for Interdisciplinary Research on AIDS (CIRA).  
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Trace Kershaw, Ph.D., Principal Investigator.

# ***CIRA Talk: "Engaging Men Who Have Sex with Men in HIV Testing and Prevention: Current Research and Lessons Learned from China and Thailand"***

**Friday, February 11, 2022**

**8:30 am - 10:00 am EST**

**8:30 pm - 10:00 pm Bangkok**

**9:30 pm - 11:00 pm Beijing**

## **OVERVIEW**

This virtual panel provides an opportunity for the CIRA International Visiting Fellows to talk about their research and partnership with Yale faculty, receive feedback on their research and collaborative efforts, and share best practices. This event will be the first of a series of virtual panels organized by CIRA in 2022 with a broad theme of addressing HIV/AIDS through the health equity lens in global settings. At this first panel, the International Visiting Fellows will present on their respective research focused on HIV testing and prevention strategies for men who have sex with men (MSM).

## **PANEL AGENDA**

(Event is scheduled in Eastern Standard Time.)

8:30 am-8:45 am	Welcome and Introduction
8:45 am-9:15 am	"Taking HIV Testing Home to Regular Partners Can Lower HIV Seroconversion: from a Beijing 9 Years Prospective Cohort among Men Who Have Sex with Men" – Dr. Yifei Hu
9:15 am-9:45 am	"HIV Self-Testing with Online Supervision among High-Risk Thai Men: Findings from Two Exploratory Studies" – Dr. Thomas Guadamuz
9:45 am-10:05 am	Discussion with Yale faculty hosts Dr. Jeffrey Wickersham and Dr. Sten Vermund
10:05 am-10:20 am	Q&A with Audience
10:20 am-10:30 am	Wrap-up and Closing

## **PRESENTERS**

**Yifei Hu, MD, PhD**

**Professor, Department of Child and Adolescent Health and Maternal Care**

**Capital Medical University, China**

**CIRA International Visiting Fellow 2018-2020**

Dr. Yifei Hu, MD, PhD is Professor in the Department of Child and Adolescent Health and Maternal Care, Capital Medical University, China. She focuses on infectious diseases epidemiology, pediatric non-alcoholic fatty liver disease and cardiovascular risks from obesity. She received short period of training in Vanderbilt University supported by the AIDS International Training and Research Program and the Fogarty International Clinical Research Scholars Program. Dr. Hu received a CIRA International Visiting Fellow Program 2018 from the Center for Interdisciplinary Research on AIDS at Yale University. She undertook 3 grants from China NSFC and 3 grants from Beijing NSFC, Beijing Health Commission and Beijing Education Commission, respectively.

**Thomas Guadamuz, PhD**

**Associate Professor of Social Epidemiology**

**Mahidol University, Thailand**

**CIRA International Visiting Fellow 2019-2021**

Thomas Guadamuz received his PhD in Epidemiology from Johns Hopkins University and completed his post-doctoral training in behavioral sciences and medical anthropology at the University of Pittsburgh and Mahidol University, respectively. His research has been funded by the National Institutes of Health, the Thailand Research Fund, UNICEF, UNESCO and the World Health Organization. Guadamuz's scholarly work has been recognized through the receipt of an early career award from the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) and the Thailand Research Fund. Recently, Dr. Guadamuz received an R01 Research Award from NIMH to evaluate a community-level, combination, empowerment-based intervention to increase HIV testing and prompt linkage to care, treatment and support for YMSM in Northeastern Thailand through a randomized community trial. In 2018, he received the Outstanding Professor Award from Mahidol University.

## **DISCUSSANTS**

**Sten H. Vermund, MD, PhD**

**Dean and Anna M.R. Lauder Professor of Public Health**

**Professor of Pediatrics**

**Yale School of Public Health and Yale School of Medicine**

**Yale Faculty Host for Dr. Yifei Hu**

Dr. Sten Vermund is a pediatrician and infectious disease epidemiologist focused on diseases of low- and middle-income countries. His work on HIV-HPV interactions among women in Bronx methadone programs motivated a change in the 1993 CDC AIDS case surveillance definition and inspired cervical cancer screening programs launched within HIV/AIDS programs around the world. The thrust of his research has focused on health care access, adolescent sexual and reproductive health and rights, and prevention of HIV transmission among general and key populations, including mother-to-child. Dr. Vermund has become increasingly engaged in health policy, particularly around sustainability of HIV/AIDS programs and their expansion to non-communicable diseases, coronavirus pandemic response and prevention, and public health workforce development. His recent grants include capacity-building for public health in Chad, molecular epidemiology for HIV in Kazakhstan, and COVID-19 vaccine studies in Dominican Republic and Connecticut. He has worked with schools and arts organizations for COVID-19 risk mitigation and institutional safety.

**Jeffrey Wickersham, PhD**

**Assistant Professor of Medicine (AIDS)**

**Yale School of Medicine**

**Yale Faculty Host for Dr. Thomas Guadamuz**

Jeffrey Wickersham is Assistant Professor of Medicine in the section of infectious diseases. His research is focused on improving HIV treatment and prevention outcomes among sexual and gender minorities, including transgender women, gay men, and bisexual men. Dr. Wickersham's research has focused on development of biomedical and behavioral interventions, including peer/patient navigation, implementation of pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) for HIV prevention, development of artificial intelligence-based "chatbot" technology to improve uptake of HIV testing, and adaptation of mHealth applications for transgender women to scale-up HIV testing and linkage to PrEP services. Most of this research is being conducted in Southeast Asia, primarily at sites in Malaysia and Thailand.

## **MODERATOR**

**Luke Davis, MD, MAS**

**Associate Professor of Epidemiology (Microbial Diseases) and of Medicine (Pulmonary)**

**Yale School of Public Health and Yale School of Medicine**

Luke Davis, MD, MAS is an epidemiologist and pulmonary/critical care physician whose research employs implementation science to improve the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of tuberculosis (TB), the leading cause of infectious death in low- and middle-income countries. Dr. Davis serves as scientific advisor for the Center Interdisciplinary Research on AIDS (CIRA)'s international research activities and as a member of CIRA's Implementation Science Advisory Committee. Dr. Davis is associate faculty member of the Center for Implementation and Prevention Science at the Yale School of Public Health.

## PRESENTATION ABSTRACT

### “Taking HIV Testing Home to Regular Partners Can Lower HIV Seroconversion: from a Beijing 9 Years Prospective Cohort among Men Who Have Sex with Men”

Yifei Hu, MD, PhD

**Objective:** Previous studies indicated regular partners and undiagnosed men among men who have sex with men (MSM) were important sources of HIV transmission. We presented a new prevention strategy based on HIV testing between regular partners among MSM and aimed to determine its impact in HIV transmission.

**Methods:** A prospective MSM cohort study was established from July 2011 to August 2017 in Beijing. Logistic regression were performed to identify the predictors of taking HIV testing home to regular partners and multivariable cox regression was used to evaluate covariates for HIV seroconversion.

**Results:** Of 3153 eligible participants, 2535 (80.4%) had regular partners, 91 confirmed HIV positive at baseline and 43 HIV seroconversion were observed during the cumulative follow-up period. Participants taking HIV testing home to regular partners were more likely to be those with higher educational attainment (aOR=1.7, 95%CI:1.3-2.1), living in Beijing for  $\geq 2$  years (aOR=1.4, 95%CI:1.1-1.8), monthly income  $\geq$  US\$750 (aOR=1.3, 95%CI:1.1-1.6), having  $\geq 2$  regular partners in the past 3 months (aOR=1.3, 95%CI:1.1-1.6), having insertive sex with regular partners in the past 3 months (aOR=1.5, 95%CI:1.1-2.0). HIV seroconversion were more likely happened to those having unstable relationship, i.e., not as boyfriends (aHR=2.5, 95%CI:1.3-4.8), syphilis positive (aHR=1.9, 95%CI:1.0-3.5). HIV seroconversion were less likely happened to those taking HIV testing home to regular partners (aHR=0.4, 95%CI:0.2-0.9).

**Conclusions:** Taking HIV testing home to regular partners can lower the HIV infection risk by 60% among MSM. The findings underscore a new entry point for rolling-out treatment as prevention strategy.