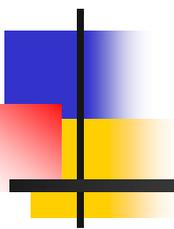


Epidemiology of mild cognitive impairment and dementia in China

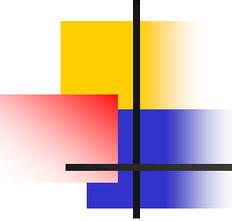


Rhoda Au PhD.

Boston University School of Medicine

Abu S Abdullah MD., PhD.

Boston University Medical Center



Foreign collaborators:

Site PIs:

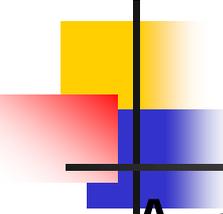
Tang Jin lin MD., PhD (Chinese University of Hong Kong)

Wang Jia Ji, MD (Guangzhou Medical University)

Yang Li, MD (Guangxi Medical University)

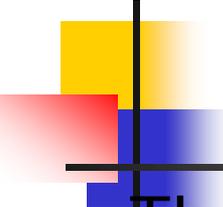
Consultant:

Zhang Zhen-xin, MD (Peking Union Medical College Hospital)



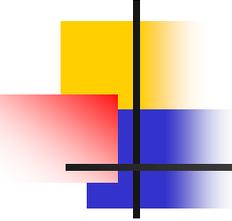
Background and Rationale

- A significant consequence of growing elderly population has been the increased incidence of AD and other types of dementia.
- In the US, the current AD associated healthcare costs are estimated at 148 billion/year, and a projected 8.64 million people will be diagnosed with a dementing illness by 2047.



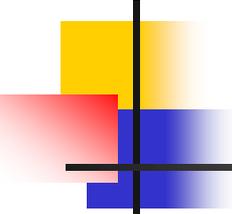
Background and Rationale

- The projected number of dementia cases in China are 34 million by 2025.
- However, recognition and knowledge of AD and other types of dementia among Chinese is alarmingly poor.
- For example, Zhang et al., found that 48.8% of Chinese surveyed considered AD a normal process of aging.
- This perceptual bias suggests that elderly people who are demented are not being brought in for diagnosis.



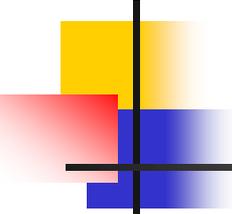
Objective

Our long-term objective is to establish a cohort study to identify prevalent and incident cases of mild cognitive impairment (MCI) and Alzheimer's disease (AD) and other types of dementia in rural and urban regions of southern China



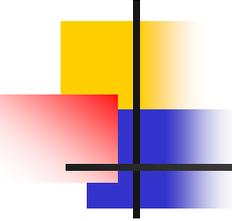
Primary Aims

- **Aim 1:** Conform FHS' protocol for prevalent and incident study of MCI, AD and dementia for implementation in China. Study design will also include data collection of risk factors previously documented to be related to increase risk of AD and vascular dementia.



Primary Aims

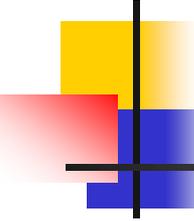
- **Aim 2:** Pilot test training program designed to teach China-based investigators for identifying prevalent cases of dementia, measuring known risk factors for dementia, maintaining a surveillance program to detect incident cases of dementia and executing diagnostic procedures for determining dementia subtypes.



Primary aims

- **Aim 3:** Identify prevalent and incident cases of AD and dementia and relate them to well-established cardiovascular risk factors (e.g., systolic blood pressure, diabetes, smoking.)

Progress to date-1



1. Rapport building

- “Guan xi” is very important
- Re-establish/establish

2. Training

- Protocol development workshop
- Training workshop 1
- Training (& review of study protocols) workshop 2

3. Development of protocols & guidelines

- Health exam protocol
- Neuropsychological test protocol

Progress to date -2

4. Development of Questionnaires

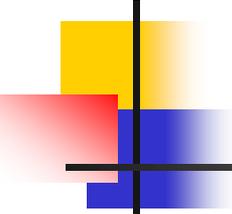
- Developed, field tested and revised
- Ready for pilot testing

5. Training of others

- Medical students training (3 students from BUSM)
- Masters and PhD level students (~3 in each site)
- Visiting Scholar training with Framingham Heart Study (1 from Peking Union Medical College Hospital)

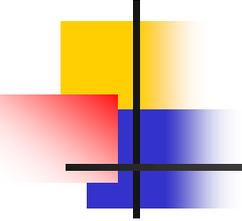
6. Funding to expand the study and in other interested areas

- Funding from Chinese government
- FIRCA R03



Challenges

- Administrative challenge (i.e. contract agreement, research personnel changes)
- Communication challenge (delay in response, language barriers)
- IRB approval, Consent forms
- Over ambitiousness of site PIs



Thank you !