

David C. Kim

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Education

University of California Los Angeles—David Geffen School of Medicine <i>M.D Candidate</i>	Expected 06/2028
University of California Los Angeles—Fielding School of Public Health <i>MPH in Epidemiology</i>	06/2025
Princeton University <i>A.B. Molecular Biology; minor in Global Health Policy</i>	06/2018

Psychiatry and Mental Health Research

UCLA Department of Pediatrics and Psychiatry, Student Researcher	2025–Present
Advisors: Lauren Wisk, PhD; Bonnie Zima, MD, MPH Study: Psychotropic medication use among children, adolescents, and young adults in the Medical Expenditure Panel Survey (MEPS), 2000–2019. • Classify psychotropic medications by FDA approval status according to age, indication, and approval date for application to national utilization analyses. • Contributed to an AACAP 2026 poster examining on-label and off-label second-generation antipsychotic prescribing among adolescents and young adults.	
VA and UCLA Department of Psychiatry, Student Researcher	10/2024–11/2025
Advisor: Michael Hsu, MD Study: Access to medications for opioid use disorder among homeless-experienced Veterans in HUD-VASH permanent housing. • Analyzed VA administrative data for the THRIVE initiative to examine medication treatment uptake and housing retention. • Presented findings at the American Academy of Addiction Psychiatry in 2025; published the study in 2026. • MPH Capstone project	

Additional Research

UCLA Department of Ophthalmology, Student Researcher	05/2023–05/2024
Advisor: Victoria Tseng, MD, PhD Study: Social vulnerability, race and ethnicity, and primary angle closure spectrum disease. • Examined disparities in glaucoma outcomes using epidemiologic analyses; presented related work at the American Academy of Ophthalmology in 2024.	
Princeton University Department of Molecular Biology, Student Researcher	09/2016–06/2018
Advisor: Alexander Ploss, PhD Study: Host factors in yellow fever virus infection. • Conducted genome-wide CRISPR screening and follow-up experiments; developed an undergraduate thesis on candidate host factors. • Contributed to a coauthored publication in Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.	

Publications and Manuscripts

- Accessibility to Medications for Opioid Use Disorder among Homeless-Experienced Veterans in Permanent Supportive Housing. Published 2026.
- Short Snips: YouTube Shorts Recommendations for Hair Loss and Alopecia. Journal of Cosmetic Dermatology. 2024.
- Species-Specific Disruption of STING-Dependent Antiviral Cellular Defenses by the Zika Virus NS2B3 Protease. 2018.
- Social vulnerability, race and ethnicity, and primary angle closure spectrum disease. Manuscript submitted.
- FDA approval classification and mental health utilization among youth and young adults (MEPS). Work in progress.

Selected Presentations and Accepted Abstracts

- On- vs Off-Label Use of Psychotropic Medications Among Adolescents and Young Adults in the U.S., 2000-2019
 - Conference: American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry
- Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Identification of Psychiatric Diagnoses Among US Adults with Serious Psychological Distress. Abstract accepted, American Psychiatric Association Annual Meeting, 2026.
 - Conference: American Psychiatric Association Annual Meeting, 2026.
- Racial and Ethnic Inequities in Post-Diagnosis Mental Health Treatment Modality Among U.S. Adults: MEPS 2021–2023.
 - Conference: American Psychiatric Association Annual Meeting, 2026.
- Disparities in Medications for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD) Adoption Among Homeless-Experienced Veterans in HUD-VASH: A National Retrospective Analysis. Poster
 - Conference: American Academy of Addiction Psychiatry Annual Meeting, 2025.
- Effect Measure Modification of Social Vulnerability Index on the Association Between Race and Ethnicity and Prevalence of Primary Angle Closure Spectrum Disease.
 - Conference: American Academy of Ophthalmology Annual Meeting, 2024.
- The Follicle Frontier: Unraveling ChatGPT's Responses to Commonly Asked Questions about Hair Loss and Alopecia.
 - Conference: UCLA Research Day, 2024.

Awards and Honors

- Trainee Award, American Academy of Addiction Psychiatry Annual Meeting, 2025
- Dean's Merit Scholarship, David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA
- MPH Merit-Based University Fellowship, UCLA Division of Graduate Education
- Sigma Xi, Princeton University

Leadership and Mentorship

Asian Pacific American Medical Student Association, National Mental Health Committee Coordinator

2024–2026

- Support national educational and advocacy initiatives concerning mental health in Asian American and Pacific Islander communities.

Christian Medical and Dental Associations, So-Cal Regional Student Leader

06/2026–Present

- Connect medical school chapters across Southern California and coordinate chapter resources, student leadership communications, With the intended goal of discussing spiritual and faith integrated care.

UCLA Christian Medical Student Association, Student Leader

09/2022–Present

- Organized faith-and-medicine discussions for UCLA medical students through guest speakers and panelist talks.

Princeton Manna Christian Fellowship, Ministry Intern

09/2015–06/2019

- Full time work of engaging in spiritual care of students via mentorship and organizing community events

Community Health and Clinical Experience

UCLA Student Run Homeless Clinic, Street Medicine Chief

09/2022–01/2025

- Led student outreach serving unhoused patients in West Los Angeles and helped connect patients with transportation, housing, social work, and insurance resources.

Lawndale Christian Health Center, Complex Care Coordinator

03/2020–07/2022

- Managed care coordination for more than 80+ high-risk patients, working with primary care teams to address barriers involving housing, benefits, appointments, and chronic disease care.

Lawndale Christian Health Center, Medical Assistant

07/2019–03/2020

- Supported primary care visits and a COVID-19 hotel shelter for people experiencing homelessness through patient intake, testing, scribing, and daily care.

New Life Centers, Volunteer and Tutor

09/2020–05/2021

- Packaged and distributed food in Chicago's Lawndale community and tutored elementary school students.

Ascend Hospice, Volunteer**09/2018–06/2019**

- Visited patients with terminal illness weekly to offer companionship and support.

Additional Skills

- Certified bilingual Korean–English clinical communication (2025);
- Spanish, basic–Trilingual Certificate in High School
- Coding in R and SAS