

CURRICULUM VITAE

Cordelia Kwon

cordeliakwon@g.harvard.edu | 585-260-6232 | 8 Story Street, Cambridge, MA, 02138

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Harvard University, Cambridge, MA 2030 (presumptive)
PhD in Health Policy, Political Analysis Track
National Institutes of Mental Health T-32 Trainee

Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD 2025
Master of Public Health, Concentration in Health Systems and Policy. Certificate in Public Health Economics.
Capstone: *Reporting on Causal Inference Methods: A Training for Journalists*.

New York University, New York, NY 2021
Bachelor of Arts in Global Public Health/Anthropology. Minor: Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies.
Honors Thesis Title: *Blood, Toil, Tears, and Sweat: The Mobilization of Global Health Trends in the Aboriginal Australian Community-Controlled Health Movement*.

NYU Accra, Accra, Ghana 2020 (Spring)

NYU Sydney, Sydney, Australia 2019 (Fall)

NYU Abu Dhabi, Abu Dhabi, UAE 2018 (Spring)

Certificates:

Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA 2022
MicroMasters in Data, Economics, and Development.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant, Dr. Ari Ne'eman November 2025-Present

- Developed coding structure using state definitions of medical frailty to inform recommendations for auto-exemptions from work requirements for those with severe disabilities

Research Assistant, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD August 2024-December 2025

- Authored and supported data-driven research on food insecurity, race, and disability, including analyzing trend-level data and supporting data management, with Dr. Laura Samuel
- Summarized potential health impacts of legislative and judicial decisions under Dr. Keisha Pollack Porter and the Health in All Policies Initiative

Research Consultant, Thiel Lab for Sustainable Healthcare, New York, NY May 2021-June 2025

Research Intern, Thiel Lab for Sustainable Healthcare, New York, NY March 2019-May 2021

- Offered flexible research support to Dr. Cassandra Thiel on life-cycle assessments in health contexts and associated topics
- Conducted literature reviews; authoring and editing manuscripts to support lab publications
- Lead author of life-cycle assessment of a health system transition to electronic medical records.

Senior Policy Associate, J-PAL North America, Cambridge, MA June 2023-June 2024

Policy Associate, J-PAL North America, Cambridge, MA June 2021-June 2023

- Catalyzed high-quality randomized evaluations of social policies and programs by supporting a network of academic researchers and government partners
- Oversaw development of organization-wide strategy on designing for and learning from null results
- Co-authored a policy brief summarizing eleven randomized evaluations of nudges to increase health insurance take-up, including calculating average impact estimates, costs, and consumer savings across studies

- Supported Connecticut’s Medicaid Office and Franklin County’s Department of Jobs and Family Services in developing early-stage randomized evaluations through technical assistance and capacity-building
- Led dissemination strategies for >20 randomized evaluations of health care and other social policies, including the evaluation of medical debt relief with Undue Medical Debt and the Nurse-Family Partnership study
- Developed researcher-facing communications campaign, including the launch of a researcher-facing newsletter, which received high engagement and feedback
- Ran five funding cycles to distribute over \$1 million to health care delivery RCTs, including providing feedback on topics and design, coordinating peer and board review processes, and managing award calls
- Coordinated funding cycles across multiple topic areas to ensure high-quality and equitable grant-making processes

Partnerships and Communications Associate, The Access Challenge, New York, NY May 2020-May 2021

- Headed communications and partnerships strategy to advance Universal Health Coverage in Africa, directly reporting to Director of Political Strategy and CEO

Research Intern, George Institute for Global Health, Sydney, Australia September 2019-December 2019

- Developed review paper focusing on community-based models of care to support program development of new medication adherence intervention

PUBLICATIONS

Journal Articles

1. **Kwon, C**, Li Y, Kim B, Crews D, Stuart E, Samuel L. Racial Disparities in Food Insecurity are Persistently High- and Low-Income Households. *JAMA Health Forum*. 2026;7(3):e256935. doi:10.1001/jamahealthforum.2025.6935
2. Davie C, Cloud L, Burriss S, **Kwon C**, Tharp MA, Shiwdin S, et al. Real and perceived barriers to effective use of cataract surgical supplies. *Journal of Climate Change of Health*. Forthcoming.
3. **Kwon C**, Essayei L, Spencer M, et al. The Environmental Impacts of Electronic Medical Records Versus Paper Records at a Large Eye Hospital in India: Life Cycle Assessment Study. *J Med Internet Res*. 2024;26:e42140. doi:[10.2196/42140](https://doi.org/10.2196/42140)
4. **Kwon C**, Webster R, Santo K, Atkins E. Community Group-Based Models of Medication Delivery: Applicability to Cardiovascular Diseases. *Global Heart*. 2021;16(1). doi:[10.5334/gh.763](https://doi.org/10.5334/gh.763)

Policy Briefs and Op-Eds (Non-Peer-Reviewed)

1. **Kwon C**, Stuart I, Kenan J. Why – and How – Academics Should Talk with Journalists. *Inside Higher Ed*. 18 March 2026. <https://www.insidehighered.com/opinion/career-advice/2026/03/18/why-and-how-academics-should-talk-journalists-opinion>
2. Stuart E and **Kwon C**. How to tease out what’s causation and what’s just correlation: The acetaminophen-autism debate highlights the challenge of studying cause and effect. *StatNews*, October 23, 2025. <https://www.statnews.com/2025/10/23/causation-correlation-tylenol-autism-research/>
3. Gubb J, **Kwon C**, Notowidigdo M. Embracing Failure In Health Care Delivery And Learning From Null Results. *Health Affairs: Forefront*. 2024. doi:[10.1377/forefront.20240122.715672](https://doi.org/10.1377/forefront.20240122.715672)
4. **Kwon C**, Graeber, E The effect of nudges on health insurance take-up in the United States. *The Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab*. 2023. <https://www.povertyactionlab.org/policy-insight/effect-nudges-health-insurance-take-united-states>

Selected Blogs

1. Gubb, J, **Kwon, C**, Riis-Vestergaard, M. “Nurturing the null: Preparing for null results to bolster evidence use” *The Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL)*, 8 November 2024, <https://www.povertyactionlab.org/blog/11-8-24/nurturing-null-preparing-null-results-bolster-evidence-use>.
2. **Kwon, C** and Gubb, J. “Regression to the Mean: What It Is and Why It Matters for Impact Evaluations.” *The Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL)*, 27 Feb. 2024, <https://www.povertyactionlab.org/blog/2-27-24/regression-mean-what-it-and-why-it-matters-impact-evaluations>.
3. Niehaus, P and **Kwon, C**. “Rigorously Evaluating Cash Transfer Programs in the United States: Perspectives from Other Contexts.” *The Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL)*, 16 Jan. 2024,

<https://www.povertyactionlab.org/blog/1-16-24/rigorously-evaluating-cash-transfer-programs-united-states-perspectives-other-contexts>.

4. Gennetian, L; Sonterblum, L; **Kwon, C**. “Rigorously Evaluating Cash Transfer Programs in the United States: Considerations, Challenges, and Future Research Questions.” *The Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL)*, 28 Nov. 2023, <https://www.povertyactionlab.org/blog/11-28-23/rigorously-evaluating-cash-transfer-programs-united-states-considerations-challenges>.
5. Sonterblum, L and **Kwon, C**. “Researching Racial Equity: Integrating Inclusive and Asset-Based Communication throughout the Research Cycle.” *The Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL)*, 22 Nov. 2023, <https://www.povertyactionlab.org/blog/11-22-23/researching-racial-equity-integrating-inclusive-and-asset-based-communication>.
6. **Kwon, C**. “Building Research Partnerships between Clinicians and Economists: A Recap from a 2023 ASHEcon Panel.” *The Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL)*, 8 Aug. 2023, <https://www.povertyactionlab.org/blog/8-8-23/building-research-partnerships-between-clinicians-and-economists-recap-2023-ashecon>.
7. **Kwon, C** and Haas, S. “Reflecting on a Decade of Impactful Research at J-PAL North America: Ensuring Rigorous Research Design and Effective Implementation.” *The Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL)*, 12 Sept. 2023, <https://www.povertyactionlab.org/blog/9-12-23/reflecting-decade-impactful-research-j-pal-north-america-ensuring-rigorous-research>.
8. **Kwon, C**. “Overcoming Administrative Burdens: Strategies to Increase Access to Health Insurance in the United States.” *The Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL)*, 27 Apr. 2023, <https://www.povertyactionlab.org/blog/4-27-23/overcoming-administrative-burdens-strategies-increase-access-health-insurance-united>.
9. **Kwon, C**, Cohen, J, McConnell, M. “Promoting Rigorous, Actionable Research in Maternal and Newborn Health in the United States.” *The Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL)*, 21 Oct. 2022, <https://www.povertyactionlab.org/blog/10-21-22/promoting-rigorous-actionable-research-maternal-and-newborn-health-united-states>.
10. Cohodes, S; Robles, S; Ho, H; **Kwon, C** “Investing in Students Early: The Effects of a STEM Pipeline Program for Underrepresented High School Students.” *The Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL)*, 11 July 2022, <https://www.povertyactionlab.org/blog/7-11-22/investing-students-early-effects-stem-pipeline-program-underrepresented-high-school>.
11. Sesso, A; Yin, W; **Kwon, C**. “Exploring the Benefits of Rigorous Evidence with the Team behind the Evaluation of RIP Medical Debt.” *The Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL)*, 2 Nov. 2021, <https://www.povertyactionlab.org/blog/11-2-21/exploring-benefits-rigorous-evidence-team-behind-evaluation-rip-medical-debt>.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

1. “Skills Session: Demystifying Studies Estimating Causal Effects—Tips and Tricks”. *Bloomberg American Health Initiative Summit*. Baltimore, MD. 2025.
2. “Using Inclusive Communication to Improve the Accuracy and Accessibility of Public Policy Research.” *Association of Public Policy Analysis and Management Annual Conference*. Atlanta, GA. 2023.
3. “Blood, Toil, Tears, and Sweat: The Mobilization of Global Health Trends in the Aboriginal Australian Community-Controlled Health Movement.” *NYU CAS 47th Annual Undergraduate Research Conference*. New York, NY. 2021.

AWARDS AND HONORS

Honors:

Capstone Award (Johns Hopkins University)	2025
Sommer Scholar (Johns Hopkins University)	2024
Hopkins Business of Health Initiative (HBHI) Graduate Academy Fellow (Johns Hopkins University)	2025
Phi Beta Kappa (New York University)	2021
Presidential Honors Scholar (New York University)	2017

Awards:

Fulbright Anne Wexler Scholarship in Public Policy Finalist (<i>Declined</i>)	2024
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J-STAR Award for Outstanding Contributor (J-PAL)	2024
College of Arts and Science Faculty Memorial Award (New York University)	2021
Annette B. Weiner Memorial Prize for Excellence in Sociocultural Anthropology (New York University)	2021
Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies Department Writing Award (New York University)	2019