



Namkee G. Choi
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Namkee G. Choi, PhD, MSW, is Professor and Louis and Ann Wolens Centennial Chair in Gerontology in the University of Texas at Austin Steve Hicks School of Social Work. She received her MSW degree from the University of Minnesota, and PhD from the University of California at Berkeley. She also received intensive geriatric mental health research training (2007-2009) at the Advanced Research Institute in Geriatric Mental Health.

Choi's research goal is to improve low-income, especially racial/ethnic minority, older adults' access to mental health services. In collaboration with aging service organisations in Texas and funding support from the National Institute of Health, St. David's Foundation, and the AARP Foundation, Choi has been implementing randomised clinical trials of the effectiveness of tele-delivered depression treatments and prevention interventions for homebound older adults. In collaboration with her colleagues at the University of Manchester, UK, Choi has also implemented a fall prevention program for homebound older adults, utilising a tablet-based, gamified exercise program.

Choi's other areas of research include late-life suicide and substance misuse. She has done extensive research on older suicide decedents with respect to physical and mental health problems that contributed to their death by suicide and suicide means. She has also done extensive research on the potential harms of substance misuse among older adults.

Choi is the recipient of the 2021 Gerontological Society of America's Maxwell A. Pollack Award for Contribution to Health Aging.