

## **Social Determinants of Oral Health: The Impact of Immigration, Race/Ethnicity, and Socioeconomic Status**

### **Abstract**

Oral health disparities pose significant challenges in both the United States and globally, characterized by barriers such as limited access to dental care and inadequate insurance coverage. This seminar aims to investigate the influence of immigration on oral health outcomes and utilization of dental services. Additionally, it explores disparities in oral health among marginalized communities with low socioeconomic status. Drawing on comprehensive analysis of national datasets from both the U.S. and China, this study sheds light on the complex interplay of factors affecting oral health disparities. Furthermore, the presentation introduces a novel conceptual framework developed by Professor Bei Wu and team, focusing on the intersection of aging, immigration, and oral health outcomes. By synthesizing empirical evidence and theoretical insights, this framework offers a deeper understanding of the multifaceted nature of oral health disparities. Lastly, the seminar concludes with a discussion on potential strategies to address these disparities, emphasizing the importance of targeted interventions and policy initiatives. By fostering collaboration between stakeholders and implementing evidence-based approaches, Professor Bei Wu and team aim to mitigate oral health inequalities and promote better overall health outcomes for vulnerable populations.