



## Jim Barclay

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Practicum Site:  
School of Public Health at Shandong University  
Shandong, China

Practicum Site Supervisor:  
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### HIV Prevention and Control in Shandong Province, China

**Project purpose:** During my practicum, I worked with a group of MPH students and a professor of epidemiology at the School of Public Health at Shandong University (SDU), engaged in two short-term internships at the Shandong Province Center for Disease Control (CDC) and the Jinan City Center for Disease Control (CDC), and participated in a public health study tour jointly administered by SDU and the University of Adelaide. The objectives of my practicum experience were to broaden my understanding of HIV prevention and control at different levels within China's public health system, to gain experience in new work environments, and to strengthen the relationship between Vanderbilt University and SDU.

**Structure of project:** While working with the group at SDU, I met periodically with a partner to contribute to the development of a survey instrument whose purpose was to measure the demand for, knowledge about, and attitudes towards non-occupational HIV post-exposure prophylaxis (nPEP) among men who have sex with men in China. At the two CDC offices, I shadowed staff responsible for data analysis and reporting, HIV risk counseling, HIV testing, program implementation, and staff training. During the study tour, I attended a series of lectures and toured both an urban and a rural hospital with a group of public health students from SDU and the University of Adelaide.

**Products:** I produced a list of recommendations for improving the nPEP survey instrument and, once the instrument was complete, I produced an English language version for inclusion in a possible future publication. During my time at the Shandong Province CDC, I created and delivered a Chinese-language presentation about HIV

in the United States and the role of the Southeast AIDS Education and Training Center. Finally, at the end of the study tour, I worked with two students from SDU and a student from the University of Adelaide to prepare and deliver a presentation on the topic of nPEP in China.

**Lessons learned:** I was able to put into practice many of the research and presentation skills that I have developed throughout my coursework at Vanderbilt University, gained valuable experience working within a different professional culture, and learned about the Chinese healthcare system.

