

# HIV prevention and control in Shandong Province, China

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## Introduction

- Due to a low overall prevalence of HIV—reported to be 0.037% in 2014<sup>1</sup>—China bears relatively little of the global HIV/AIDS burden
- New infections have increased substantially in recent years, more than doubling between 2011 and 2014<sup>2</sup>
- There has been an explosion in the prevalence of HIV among men who have sex with men across the country—from less than 1% in 2003 to about 8% in 2014<sup>1</sup>
- Other vulnerable populations have experienced a consistent decrease in risk over the same period<sup>1</sup>
- Trends demonstrate that current prevention efforts are insufficient to control the epidemic among MSM in China
- Pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP), the latest breakthrough intervention, has not been made available
- Post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) is only available for occupational exposures

In cooperation with China's extensive Centers for Disease Control network, Professor Wei Ma is investigating the feasibility of implementing non-occupational post-exposure prophylaxis (nPEP) for MSM and other vulnerable groups in China.

## Practicum Objectives

- Increased knowledge of HIV control and prevention programs in China and in Shandong Province
- Improved proficiency in Mandarin, particularly within professional contexts related to public health and HIV
- Improved communication, survey research, and presentation skills
- Strengthened relationship between Vanderbilt and Shandong University (SDU)



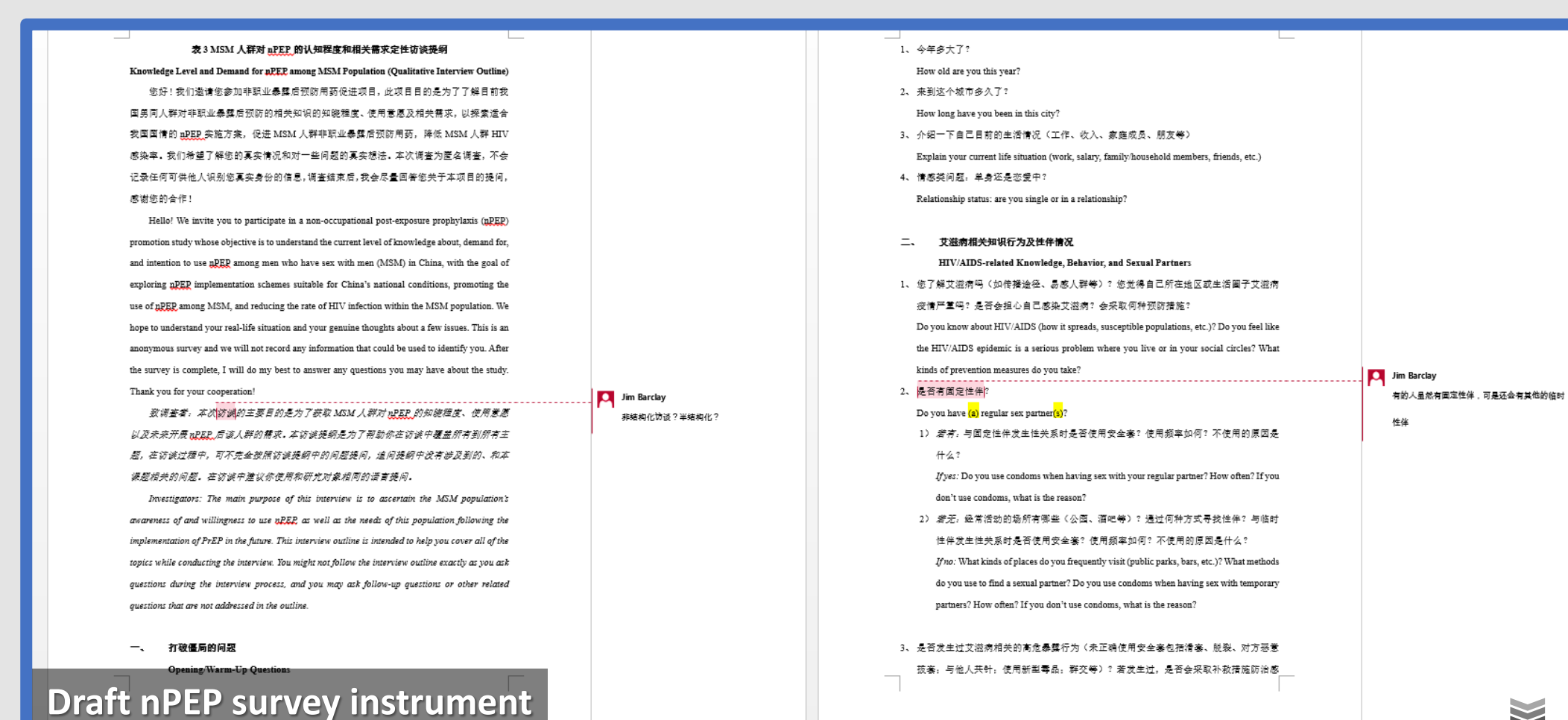
Shandong University School of Public Health

## Practicum Structure

- Contributed to the development of a survey instrument to measure demand for, knowledge about, and attitudes towards nPEP among MSM in China
- Completed internships at the Shandong Province CDC and the Jinan City CDC
  - Shadowed staff responsible for data analysis and reporting, HIV risk counseling, HIV testing, program implementation, and staff training
  - Delivered Chinese-language presentation about the role and function of the Southeast AIDS Education and Training Center (US)
- Participated in public health study tour jointly administered by SDU and the University of Adelaide (Australia)

## Outcomes/Products

- Produced list of recommendations for improving the nPEP survey instrument
- Produced English translation of nPEP survey for inclusion in possible future publication
- Created Chinese-language presentation about the role and function of the Southeast AIDS Education and Training Center



Draft nPEP survey instrument

## Discussion/Lessons Learned

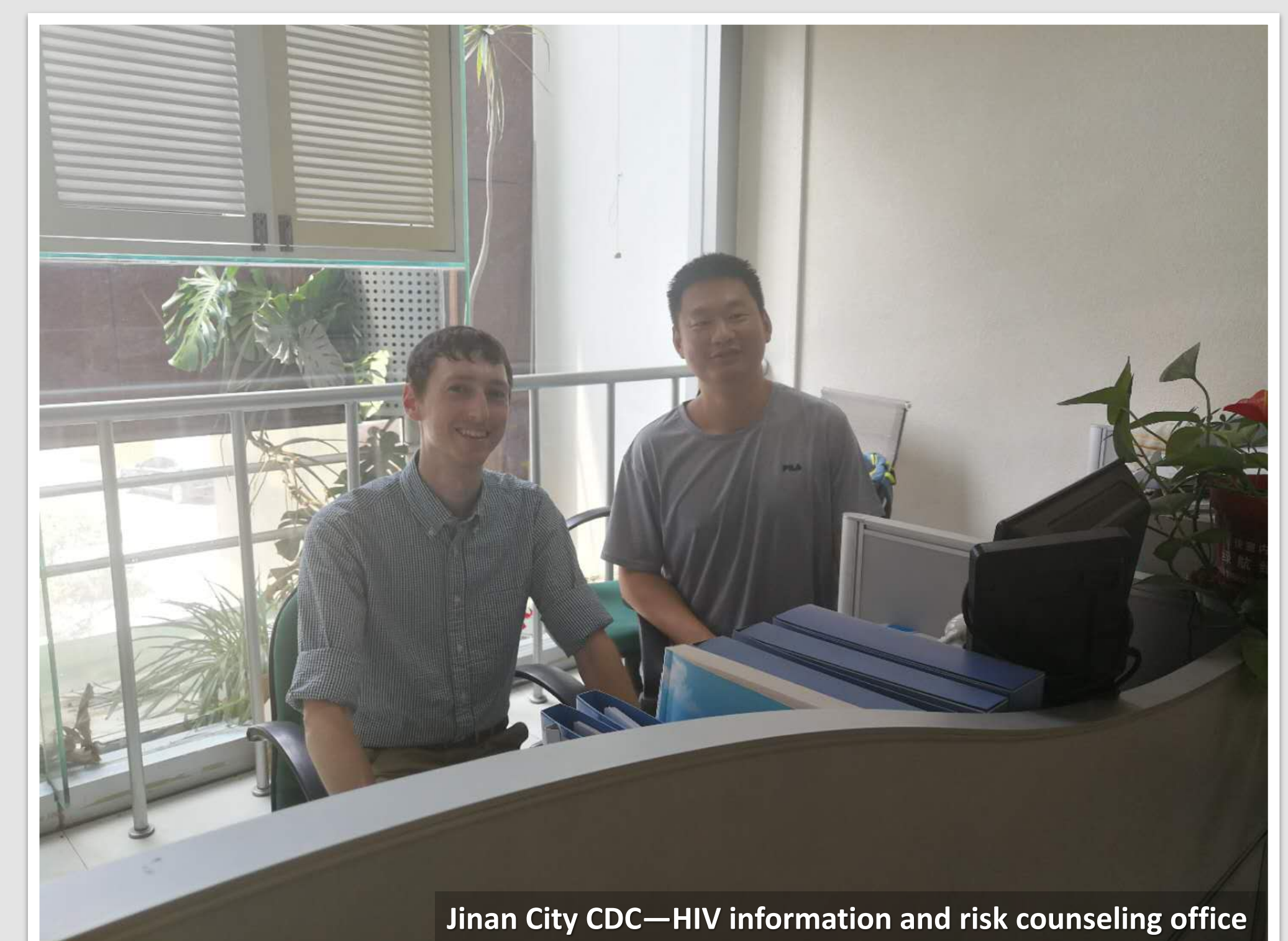
Overall, the practicum was successful with respect to each of my specified objectives. I learned about the current state of HIV control in China, used Mandarin to engage in discussions about HIV interventions and policies with professionals at multiple levels within China's tiered CDC system, delivered presentations to both academic and professional audiences, and collaborated with an SDU research team to develop a survey instrument for use in a national study.



Jinan City CDC—HIV/AIDS department staff



Jinan City CDC—HIV/AIDS department staff meeting



Jinan City CDC—HIV information and risk counseling office

## Acknowledgements

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1. National Health and Family Planning Commission of the People's Republic of China. (2015). 2015 China AIDS Response Progress Report. Retrieved from [http://www.unaids.org/sites/default/files/country/documents/CHN\\_narrative\\_report\\_2015.pdf](http://www.unaids.org/sites/default/files/country/documents/CHN_narrative_report_2015.pdf)  
2. Huang, M. B., Ye, L., Liang, B. Y., Ning, C. Y., Roth, W. W., Jiang, J. J., ... & Liang, H. (2015). Characterizing the HIV/AIDS Epidemic in the United States and China. *International journal of environmental research and public health*, 13(1), 30.