

## **NAM International Health Policy Fellowship Seminar**

### **Speaker**

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### **Title**

Bridging Basic Research and Public Health Programs to Advance Sustainability in the Prevention of Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias

### **Abstract**

Alzheimer's disease and related dementias (AD/ADRD) represent a group of neurodegenerative disorders that pose significant public health challenges. While considerable progress has been made in understanding these conditions, critical gaps remain in the development and implementation of effective prevention strategies for AD/ADRD.

This presentation examines the potential of an interdisciplinary framework that bridges basic research and public health initiatives to reduce the burden of AD/ADRD. By addressing barriers to the adoption of risk reduction strategies, promoting early diagnosis, and enhancing education for both the general public and healthcare professionals, this integrative approach aims to strengthen the sustainability and efficacy of prevention efforts.

Key taken actions included: (1) the development of a recommendation report to inform future federal research funding priorities at policy level, (2) a scientific proposal to re-examine the etiology of AD/ADRD through a neurodevelopmental lens, and (3) evidence from a community-based program that successfully reshaped perceptions and understanding of dementia-related risk factors across the life course. Collectively, these efforts aim to empower communities to take leadership in their brain health, fostering long-term sustainability, equity and resilience in AD/ADRD prevention programs.