

ALEXANDRA TATE

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POSITIONS

Director, Research

Section of Hospital Medicine, University of Chicago

Faculty Advisor

Policy Labs, Harris School of Public Policy, University of Chicago

Lecturer

Department of Comparative Human Development, University of Chicago

EDUCATION & TRAINING

NIH TL1 Postdoctoral Fellow, University of Chicago

Center for Health and the Social Sciences

PI: David O. Meltzer, MD, PhD

Mentorship team: Kathleen Cagney, PhD, Christopher Daugherty, MD, Stacie Levine, MD

PhD, University of California, Los Angeles (2018)

Department of Sociology

Dissertation title: “The Interactional Negotiation of Complex Treatment: Physician authority and patient agency in cancer care”

Committee members: Tanya Stivers, PhD (Chair), Patricia Ganz, MD, John Heritage, PhD, Stefan Timmermans, PhD

Exams in Medical Sociology (2) & Conversation Analysis (2)

MA, University of California, Los Angeles

Co-Chairs: John Heritage, PhD & Tanya Stivers, PhD

MS, University of Chicago

Department of Public Health Sciences

Co-Chairs: R. Tamara Konetzka, PhD & David Meltzer, MD, PhD

BA, Northwestern University

Sociology (with honors), Thesis supervisor: Monica Prasad, PhD

AREAS OF INTEREST

Decision-making, medical sociology, culture of U.S. health care, end-of-life, aging, oncology, the doctor-patient relationship

PUBLICATIONS

Under review	Wesevich, A., Boll, M.E.... Tate, A. “Never has anyone asked me ‘What do you value?’”: a thematic analysis of breast cancer treatment decision-making for patients and oncologists.”
Revise and resubmit	Stivers, T. and Tate, A. “Promoting patient perseverance: The morality of continuing cancer treatment.”
Revise and resubmit	Tate, A. Wolfson, R., Press, V....Volerman, A. “It’s a lot of the unknown: the triple burden on women early career researchers.”
2026	Tate, A. and Stivers, S. “Collusion in the clinic: Constructing patients’ moral responsibility to treat cancer.” <i>Qualitative Health Research</i> . doi: 10.1177/10497323251316768
2026	Kowalczyk, M., Temprano, E., Arora, V. M.,... Tate, A. , Wolfson, R. & Volerman, A. (2026). Rigorous evaluation needed to advance coaching in the biomedical workforce. <i>Frontiers in Medicine</i> . doi: 10.3389/fmed.2026.1830734
2026	Meltzer, D. O., Moy, J. N., Schram, A. W., Tate, A. , Hyman, M. J., Cursio, J. F., ... & Solway, J. (2026). Effect of moderate or high versus low dose daily vitamin D on COVID-19 incidence: a double-blind, parallel-group randomized clinical trial. <i>Clinical Nutrition</i> . doi: 10.1016/j.clnu.2026.106722
2024	Tate A. and Spencer, K.L. “High Stakes Treatment Negotiations Gone Awry: The importance of interactions for understanding treatment advocacy and patient resistance. <i>Journal of Health and Social Behavior</i> . doi: 10.1177/00221465231204354
2024	Prochaska M., Bogue, K., Levine, S., Tate, A.Meltzer, D. "The design and early results of a structured longitudinal training program for undergraduate students to increase diversity in aging research." <i>International Journal of Aging and Human Development</i> . doi: 10.1177/00914150241231183
2023	Molitch-Hou, E., Zhang, H., Gala, P., and Tate, A. “Impact of the COVID-19 Public Health Crisis and a Structured COVID Unit on Physician Behaviors in Code Status Ordering.” <i>American Journal of Hospice and Palliative Medicine</i> . doi: 10.1177/10499091231204943
2023	Stivers, S. and Tate, A. “The Role of Healthcare Communication in Treatment Outcomes” <i>Annual Review of Linguistics</i> . 9. 233-252.
2022	Tate, A. “Death and the Treatment Imperative: Decision-making in late-stage cancer.” <i>Social Science and Medicine</i> . 306. 115129.
2021	Lazaridis, C., Goldenberg, F., Mansour, A., Kramer, C. and Tate, A. “What Does Coma Mean? Implications for Shared Decision Making in Acute Brain Injury.” <i>World Neurosurgery</i> . 158: e377-e385.

- 2020 **Tate, A.** "Invoking Death: How oncologists discuss a deadly outcome." *Social Science and Medicine*. 246. 112672.
- 2020 **Tate, A.** & B.J. Rimel. "The Duality of Option-Listing in Cancer Care." *Patient Education and Counseling*. 103(1) 71-76.
- 2020 **Tate, A.** "Matter Over Mind: How mental health symptom presentations shape diagnostic outcomes." *Health*. 24(6), 755-772.
- 2019 **Tate, A.** "Treatment Recommendations in Oncology Visits: Implications for patient agency and physician authority." *Health Communication*. 34(13): 1597–1607.
- 2018 Snyder, K.A, **A. Tate** & E. Roubenoff. "Young Women with Breast Cancer and Treatment Decision-Making: Rethinking patient involvement and empowerment." In Jennie Jacobs Kronenfeld (ed.) *Gender, Women's Health Care Concerns and Other Social Factors in Health and Health Care: Research in the Sociology of Health Care, Vol. 36*. Bingley, UK: Emerald Publishing Limited, pp.37 – 58.
- 2016 Robinson, J.D., **A. Tate** & J. Heritage. "Agenda-Setting Revisited: When and how do primary care physicians solicit patients' additional concerns?" *Patient Education and Counseling*. 99(5): 718-723.
- 2014 Snyder, K.A. & **A. Tate** "Cancer-Related Infertility and Young Women: Strategies for discussing fertility preservation," in *Oncofertility Communication: Sharing information and Building Relationships Across Disciplines*, ed. Theresa Woodruff et al. New York: Springer Press. 49-60.
- 2013 Snyder, K.A. & **A. Tate**. "What To Do Now? How Women with Breast Cancer Make Fertility Preservation Decisions." *Journal of Family Planning and Reproductive Health Care*. 39(1): 172-178.

MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION

"A Virtual Third Place for Women Early Career Researchers: Incidental Perk or Key to Success?" (first author, senior author Anna Volerman Beaser)

"Improving Advance Care Planning Engagement among High Utilizers of Health Care: The Role of De-fragmented Care and Clinician-Patient Relationships" (first author; senior author David Meltzer)

"Drivers of Decisions Against Organ Donation in the Context of Brain Death" (first author; senior author Fernando Goldenberg)

RECENT FUNDING

- 2026-2027 Advance Care Planning Engagement and De-fragmented Care (Role: Co-PI), Institute for Translational Medicine Pilot Award, National Center for Advancing Translational Science.
- 2026-2031 Cultivating Health & Aging Researchers by Integrating Science, Medicine and Aging (CHARISMA), National Institute on Aging. (Role: Co-Investigator).

2025-2027	Doctor-Patient Communication in Cancer Care: Achieving Patient- Centered Communication in an Era of Engaged Patients. (Role: PI) National Cancer Institute Loan Repayment Award.
2025-2027	Neurotrauma Training Program for Military Providers: Bridging Gaps in Deployed Neurosurgical Capability and Improving Wartime Readiness (Role: Co-Investigator)
2025-2027	Center on Aging Behaviors and Longitudinal Investigations (CHABLIS) at the University of Chicago: External Innovation Core (Role: Co-Investigator).
2025-2026	Community-Engaged Consent Strategies for Building Representative Video Databases for Cancer Care Communication (Role: PI), National Cancer Institute P30 Pilot Award, UCM Comprehensive Cancer Center
2022-2027	Investigators Advancing via Coaching at the Transition to Independence: A Value-Adding Team Experience. National Institute of General Medical Sciences. (Role: Co-Investigator).

PAST FUNDING

2023-2026	A Long-Term Follow Up Platform and Data Commons for Survivors of Childhood Cancer (Role: Co-Investigator)
2022-2025	Understanding the Relatives' Experience of Organ Donation Request for Brain Dead Patients and the Family-Clinician Communication Process in the Neuro ICU. (Role: Co-Investigator)
2022-2023	National Institute on Aging's P30 Center on Aging Behaviors and Longitudinal Investigations (CHABLIS) at the University of Chicago. External Innovation Core. (Role: Principal Investigator).
2020-2022	National Institute on Aging Loan Repayment Award
2021-2022	COVID-19 Innovation Grant, Center for Healthcare Delivery, Science and Innovation, the University of Chicago
2021	Core Subsidy Award, Institute for Translational Medicine, University of Chicago

AWARDS, OTHER SCIENTIFIC APPOINTMENTS, AND HONORS

2024-2027	Editorial Board Member, <i>Journal of Health and Social Behavior</i> , an American Sociological Association Journal.
2024-	Advisory Board Member, I-CARE Program (Implementation science methodologies to Inform Chronic disease Advocacy, Research, and Education), University of Chicago
2024-2027	Council Member, American Sociological Association's Section on Ethnomethodology and Conversation analysis
2020-	Scholar, Center for Healthcare Delivery, Science and Innovation, University of Chicago

2020-2022	Awardee, National Institute on Aging Loan Repayment Award
2019	Graduate Student Paper Award, American Sociological Association Section of Ethnomethodology and Conversation Analysis Top Paper Panel, Language and Social Interaction Section of the National Communication Association
2017-2018	Dorothy L. Meier Dissertation Fellowship, UCLA
2017	Top Paper Panel, Language and Social Interaction Section of the National Communication Association
2014-2015	UCLA Graduate Research Mentorship Award
2014	Excellence in Teaching Award, Department of Sociology, UCLA UCLA Graduate Summer Research Mentorship Award

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS & INVITED TALKS

2025	Morality Has Entered the Chat: How Clinician Patient Dynamics in Cancer Care Shape Treatment Outcomes, MacLean Center for Ethics Lecture Series, University of Chicago
2025	The Role of the Doctor-Patient Relationship in Advance Care Planning, Academy Health Annual Meeting, Minneapolis, MN
2024	Provider-Patient Interactions as a Critical Resource for Outcomes Research, University of Michigan School of Nursing
2023	Ethical Considerations in an Era of Engaged Patients: The (delicate) balance of patient autonomy and physician expertise in medical decisions. Ethics Grand Rounds, MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston.
2022	Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Code Status Orders and Spillover Effects. American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Los Angeles.

OTHER ACADEMIC SERVICE & MEMBERSHIPS

Affiliate	Center for Health and the Social Sciences, University of Chicago Department of Sociology, University of Chicago
Member	Academy Health; Gerontological Society of America; American Sociological Association; National Communication Association

Reviewer American Journal of Sociology, Journal of Health and Social Behavior, Journal of Palliative Medicine, Social Science and Medicine, Sociology of Health and Illness, Patient Education and Counseling, Health Communication

TEACHING

2023-current Faculty Advisor, Health Policy Lab at the Harris School of Public Policy, University of Chicago

2021-current Lecturer, Department of Comparative Human Development, University of Chicago
(Courses: Death & Dying and Introduction to Health & Society)

2018 Instructor, Gender, Sexuality & Women's Studies Program, Temple University

2017 Instructor, Department of Sociology, Temple University

Instructor, Gender, Sexuality & Women's Studies Program, Temple University