

## NIH Biographical Sketch Common Form

Name: Oon-arom, Awirut

Persistent Identifier (PID) of the Senior/Key Person: <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-5878-9620>

Position Title: Assistant Professor

Organization and Location: Department of Psychiatry, Faculty of Medicine, Chiang Mai University, Chiang Mai, Not Applicable, N/A, Thailand

### PROFESSIONAL PREPARATION

INSTITUTION AND LOCATION	DEGREE	Start Date	Completion Date	FIELD OF STUDY
The Royal College Of Psychiatrists Of Thailand, Chiang Mai, Not Applicable, N/A, Thailand	Other training	07/2024	06/2025	Diploma Certifying in Medical Practice in Specialty of Addiction Psychiatry
University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario, Canada	Fellow	07/2023	06/2024	Clinical Research Fellow in Addictions at the Center for Addiction and Mental Health
University of California Global Health Institute, California, Oakland, USA	Fellow	07/2022	06/2023	University of California Global Health Institute (UCGHI) GloCal Fellowship Program
Institute of HIV Research and Innovation (IHRI) and Center of Excellence in Transgender Health (CETH), Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, Thailand, Thailand	Other training	07/2020	08/2020	Certification of completion the fundamental course in Transgender Competent Care
Center for Clinical Epidemiology & Clinical Statistics, Chiang Mai, Thailand, Thailand	Other training	08/2019	07/2020	Diploma in Clinical Epidemiology
Center for Clinical Epidemiology & Clinical Statistics, Chiang Mai, Thailand, Thailand	Other training	08/2018	08/2019	Diploma in Clinical Statistics
Faculty of Medicine, Chiang Mai University, Chiang Mai, Chiang Mai, Thailand	OTHER	08/2015	08/2017	Higher Graduate Diploma in Clinical Science (Psychiatry)
Department of Psychiatry, Faculty of Medicine, Chiang Mai University, Chiang Mai, Chiang Mai, Thailand	Resident	04/2014	08/2018	Diploma Certifying in Medical Practice in Specialty of Psychiatry, The Royal Collage of Psychiatrist of Thailand
Faculty of Medicine, Ramathibodi Hospital, Mahidol University, Bangkok, Bangkok, Thailand	DOCTOR OF MEDICINE	06/2008	03/2014	Medicine

### Appointments and Positions

2020 - present     Assistant Professor, Department of Psychiatry, Faculty of Medicine, Chiang Mai University, Chiang Mai, Not Applicable, N/A, Thailand

2023 - 2024        Clinical Research Fellow in Addictions, University of Toronto, Center for Addiction and Mental Health, Toronto, Ontario, Canada

2022 - 2023	Fogarty UCGHI GloCal Fellow, Fogarty International Center, National Institute of Health (NIH), University of California Global Health Institute (UCGHI) and Chiang Mai University, Chiang Mai, Not Applicable, N/A, Thailand
2019 - 2020	Clinical Instructor, Department of Psychiatry, Faculty of Medicine, Chiang Mai University, Chiang Mai, Not Applicable, N/A, Thailand
2018 - 2019	Research Fellow in Psychiatry, Department of Psychiatry, Faculty of Medicine, Chiang Mai University, Chiang Mai, Not Applicable, N/A, Thailand

## **Products**

### **Products Closely Related to the Proposed Project**

1. Oon-Arom A, Grelotti DJ, Srithanaviboonchai K, Angurawaranon C, Larkins S, Lee SJ, Jiraporncharoen W. Sexualized alcohol and drug use among men who have sex with men and the PrEP retention in Thailand. *Drug Alcohol Depend Rep.* 2026 Mar;18:100402. PubMed Central PMCID: [PMC12768936](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/PMC12768936/).
2. Wainipitapong S, Oon-Arom A, Wiwattarangkul T, Vadhanavikkit P, Wiwattanaworaset P, Srifuengfung M, Chiddaycha M. Sexual Behaviors Among Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Other Sexual and Gender Diverse Medical Students: A National Study of Thai Medical Schools. *Int J Sex Health.* 2023;35(3):352-362. PubMed Central PMCID: [PMC10903562](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/PMC10903562/).
3. Oon-arom A., Likhitsathain S., Srisurapanont M.. Efficacy and acceptability of varenicline for alcoholism: A systematic review and meta-analysis of randomized-controlled trials. *Drug and Alcohol Dependence.* 2019; 205. DOI: 10.1016/j.drugalcdep.2019.107631
4. Oon-arom A, Wongpakaran T, Kuntawong P, Wongpakaran N. Attachment anxiety, depression, and perceived social support: a moderated mediation model of suicide ideation among the elderly. *Int Psychogeriatr.* 2021 Feb;33(2):169-178. PubMed PMID: [32375910](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/32375910/).
5. Oon-Arom A, Wiwattanaworaset P, Wiwattarangkul T, Vadhanavikkit P, Srifuengfung M, Chiddaycha M, Wainipitapong S. Academic difficulties, education-related problems, and discrimination among Thai gender-diverse medical students: a cross-sectional study of Thai medical schools. *BMC Med Educ.* 2024 Sep 18;24(1):1025. PubMed Central PMCID: [PMC11411750](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/PMC11411750/).

### **Other Significant Products Highlighting Contributions to Science**

1. Boonyarit Chakeeyanun, Nahathai Wongpakaran, Tinakorn Wongpakaran, Awirut Oon-arom. Resilience, Perceived Stress from Adapted Medical Education Related to Depression among Medical Students during the COVID-19 Pandemic. *Healthcare.* 2023 January. DOI: 10.3390/healthcare11020237
2. Oon-arom A., Wongpakaran T., Satthapisit S., Saisavoey N., Kuntawong P., Wongpakaran N.. Suicidality in the elderly: Role of adult attachment. *Asian Journal of Psychiatry.* 2019; 44:8-12. DOI: 10.1016/j.ajp.2019.07.014
3. Panitan Daengruan, Rattapong Chairat, Rewadee Jenraumjit, Dujrudee Chinwong, Awirut Oon-arom, Jakkrit Klaphajone, Poukwan Arunmanakul. Effectiveness of Receptive Music Therapy with Imbedded 10 Hz Binaural Beats Compared with Standard Care for Patients with Major Depressive Disorder: A Randomized Controlled Trial. *Complementary Therapies in Medicine.* 2021 September; 61:102765. Available from: <https://doi.org/10.1016%2Fj.ctim.2021.102765> DOI: 10.1016/j.ctim.2021.102765
4. Oon-Arom A, Suradom C, Srichairatanakool S, Luewan S, Petiwathayakorn T, Maneeton B, Maneeton N, Kawilapat S, Srisurapanont M. Serum oxytocin and corticotropin-releasing hormone levels in the third trimester of pregnancy for predicting postpartum depression in Thai women. *Asian J Psychiatr.* 2023 Feb;80:103392. PubMed PMID: [36516698](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/36516698/).
5. Srisurapanont M, Likhitsathian S, Suttajit S, Maneeton N, Maneeton B, Oon-Arom A, Suradom C. Efficacy and dropout rates of antipsychotic medications for methamphetamine psychosis: A systematic review and network meta-analysis. *Drug Alcohol Depend.* 2021 Feb 1;219:108467. PubMed PMID: [33385693](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/33385693/).

## **Certification:**

I certify that the information provided is current, accurate, and complete. This includes but is not limited to information related to domestic and foreign appointments and positions.

I also certify that, at the time of submission, I am not a party to a malign foreign talent recruitment program.

Misrepresentations and/or omissions may be subject to prosecution and liability pursuant to, but not limited to, 18 U.S.C. §§ 287, 1001, 1031 and 31 U.S.C. §§ 3729-3733 and 3802.

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**NIH BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH SUPPLEMENT**

Name: Oon-arom, Awirut

Persistent Identifier (PID) of the Senior/Key Person: <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-5878-9620>

Position Title: Assistant Professor

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**Personal Statement**

According to my experiences as a consultant psychiatrist in the Department of Psychiatry, Faculty of Medicine, Chiang Mai University (CMU), mental health issues related to substance use, gender diversity, and suicidality have become my area of interest because they highlight the complexities of the interaction between psychosocial factors, addictive behaviors, and their consequences. This opportunity widened my experiences and inspired me to conduct studies to understand more substance use problems, suicide, co-occurrence of psychiatric disorders, and mental health in gender-diverse people. My research reported the efficacy of medication in substance use, such as craving, and suggested the role of social support in suicidality among the elderly. With my concern about substance use among people with sexual and gender diversities, I collaborate with Chiang Mai University Research Institute for Health Sciences (CMU-RIHES) on a project that aims to improve the healthcare system, including substance use problems for all gender and sexual variations by integrating knowledge of physical and mental health that is related to sexual health to promote healthcare in the university faculties and students. This project allows me to initiate work for gender-diverse people, including creating a system for sexual and mental health surveys to obtain overall risk in the university and establishing preventive intervention for sexually transmitted infections using social media. The opportunity to work as a GloCal fellow of the University of California Global Health Institute allows me to research HIV prevention and substance use. The ongoing research investigates the relationship between sexualized alcohol and drug use and the HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis (HIV PrEP) care continuum among men who have sex with men in Thailand. This work was initiated by the concerns of stakeholders in the community, which demonstrated concealed healthcare needs among MSM outside clinical settings in hospitals. This study also explores the potential role of mobile health intervention to promote HIV PrEP use in people with risky behavior, especially sexualized substance use. This ongoing research also highlights the critical role of integrating psychiatry and mental health services in HIV prevention in my settings. Furthermore, my experiences while working in clinical and research work at the Center for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH) and the University of Toronto widened the perspectives of management for people who suffer from dual diagnosis of mental health illness and substance use disorder. The team supports me in researching factors associated with the experience of having sex with Intravenous drug users in the US and Canada. The preliminary results also support the importance of sexual violence exposure.

**Honors**

2020	Fellowship award, Japanese Society of Psychiatry and Neurology
2020	Best poster award and Young Psychiatrists Travel Award, Research and Education Center of Bridging Asian Mental Health and Psychiatry (REBAMP)
2019	3rd Place in the 2019 IPA Junior Research Awards in Psychogeriatrics, International Psychogeriatric Association
2018	Fellowship award, World Congress of Psychiatry

**Contributions to Science**

1. Pharmacological options for alcohol use disorder (AUD) have shown only modest efficacy, leaving a persistent gap in effective, well-tolerated treatments that can reduce heavy drinking and sustain abstinence. To address this scientific problem, my team conducted a systematic synthesis of available clinical evidence on the off-label use of varenicline, a partial nicotinic acetylcholine receptor agonist originally approved for smoking cessation. The central finding was that varenicline therapy is associated with a clinically meaningful reduction in overall alcohol consumption and heavy drinking days over time, with an acceptable safety profile. These findings contribute to the progression of addiction science by supporting the repurposing of a neurobiologically targeted medication and informing evidence-based treatment algorithms for AUD. My specific role involved conceptualizing the review question, leading the evidence synthesis, critically appraising trial quality, and interpreting the clinical implications for psychiatric practice.
2. Suicidal ideation in later life has long been recognized as a major public health concern, historically linked to aging-related vulnerabilities such as isolation, chronic illness, and bereavement. Although more recent epidemiological studies suggest that

the prevalence of suicidal ideation among older adults has become comparable to that of younger adults, ideation in this group remains more strongly associated with suicidal intent and lethality. Our studies identified perceived social support as a key protective factor influencing depression and suicidality in older populations, while a randomized evaluation of 10-Hz binaural beat–embedded mindfulness training combined with standard care showed no significant superiority over control conditions in depression scores, quality of life, or medication adherence. These findings refine the field’s understanding of which psychosocial mechanisms are most impactful and caution against overgeneralizing novel adjunctive interventions without robust evidence. I contributed by designing the study frameworks, statistical analyses, and integrating the results into a clinically relevant model of late-life suicide prevention.

3. Research across diverse ethnic groups has progressively emphasized that depression is a multidimensional disorder shaped by interacting biological, psychological, and social determinants. Building on this historical shift toward a biopsychosocial paradigm, our work examined key comorbidities and contextual factors influencing depressive severity and outcomes. The central findings demonstrated that somatic symptoms—particularly pain—are more prevalent among women with severe depression, fatigue, disability, or poorer overall health status, and that nutritional status plays a meaningful role in the prevention and treatment of perinatal depression. These results advance clinical science by underscoring the need for integrated assessments that include physical health and nutritional evaluation, thereby informing more holistic and personalized intervention strategies. My role included developing the research questions, coordinating multidisciplinary assessments, and synthesizing the evidence to propose integrated care approaches for depression management.

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