



Xingxing Shelley Cheng

Assistant Professor of Medicine (Nephrology) and, by courtesy, of Surgery (Abdominal Transplantation) and of Health Policy

Medicine - Nephrology

CLINICAL OFFICE (PRIMARY)

- **Surgical Specialties Clinic**

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Bio

BIO

Dr. Xingxing Cheng is a practising transplant nephrologist and a clinical investigator with an expertise in decision science. Her clinical practice includes kidney transplant readiness, kidney transplant aftercare, and multi-organ transplantation.

Her overarching research goal is to make better decisions based on the existing technology and state of knowledge. Her active research program is on improving kidney transplant access through better systems design, including but not limited to clinical workflow, kidney transplant program operations, and financing. Her research is supported by the National Institute of Diabetes, Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK).

CLINICAL FOCUS

- Nephrology
- Transplant nephrology
- Kidney failure in the setting of advanced liver disease

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- Assistant Professor - University Medical Line, Medicine - Nephrology
- Assistant Professor - University Medical Line (By courtesy), Surgery - Abdominal Transplantation
- Assistant Professor - University Medical Line (By courtesy), Health Policy
- Member, Cardiovascular Institute

HONORS AND AWARDS

- Young Innovator Award, American Society of Transplantation (2016, 2020)
- Young Investigator Forum 2nd Place in Clinical Sciences, National Kidney Foundation (2017)
- Career Development Award, American Heart Association (2019-2022)
- K23 Mentored Patient-Oriented Research Career Development Award, National Institute of Health - National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (2020-2025)
- R03 Small Research Grant, National Institute of Health - National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (2023-2025)

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

- Board Certification: Nephrology, American Board of Internal Medicine (2016)
- Medical Education: Washington University School Of Medicine (2011) MO
- Fellowship: Stanford University Transplant Nephrology Fellowship (2018) CA
- Fellowship: Stanford University Nephrology Fellowship (2017) CA
- BS, University of British Columbia , Pharmacology & Therapeutics (2007)
- BA, University of British Columbia , English (2007)
- MS, Stanford University , Health Services Research (2017)
- Residency: Massachusetts General Hospital Internal Medicine Residency (2014) MA
- Board Certification: Internal Medicine, American Board of Internal Medicine (2014)

Research & Scholarship

CURRENT RESEARCH AND SCHOLARLY INTERESTS

Dr. Xingxing Cheng's expertise is in applying the tools of decision science to clinical practice and policy analysis. Her current research is in the following areas:

- 1) the costs, effectiveness, and implementation of work-up before kidney transplantation, including pretransplant cardiovascular screening;
- 2) ethics of and decision-making in in multi-organ transplantation.

Teaching

GRADUATE AND FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM AFFILIATIONS

- Health Services Research (Masters Program)
- Nephrology (Fellowship Program)

Publications

PUBLICATIONS

- **De-Escalating Medical Evaluation for Kidney Transplantation: A Potential Avenue to Improve Access to Kidney Transplantation.** *Clinical transplantation*
Cheng, X. S., Myaskovsky, L., Singh, N., Butler, C. R.
2026; 40 (3): e70494
- **The Medical Costs of Determining Eligibility and Waiting for a Kidney Transplantation.** *Medical care*
Xu, K., Dor, A., Mohanty, S., Han, J., Parvathinathan, G., Braggs-Gresham, J. L., Held, P. J., Roberts, J. P., Vaughan, W., Tan, J. C., Scandling, J. D., Chertow, G. M., Busque, et al
2024
- **Emerging Evidence on Coronary Heart Disease Screening in Kidney and Liver Transplantation Candidates: A Scientific Statement From the American Heart Association: Endorsed by the American Society of Transplantation** *CIRCULATION*
Cheng, X. S., VanWagner, L. B., Costa, S. P., Axelrod, D. A., Bangalore, S., Norman, S. P., Herzog, C. A., Lentine, K. L., Amer Heart Assoc Council Kidney Ca, Council Cardiovasc Radiology Inter
2022; 146 (21): E299-E324
- **Trends in Cost Attributable to Kidney Transplantation Evaluation and Waiting List Management in the United States, 2012-2017.** *JAMA network open*
Cheng, X. S., Han, J., Braggs-Gresham, J. L., Held, P. J., Busque, S., Roberts, J. P., Tan, J. C., Scandling, J. D., Chertow, G. M., Dor, A.
2022; 5 (3): e221847

- **The Organ Procurement Costs of Expanding Deceased Donor Organ Acceptance Criteria: Evidence from a Cost Function Model.** *American journal of transplantation : official journal of the American Society of Transplantation and the American Society of Transplant Surgeons*
Cheng, X. S., Held, P. J., Dor, A., Bragg-Gresham, J. L., Tan, J. C., Scandling, J. D., Chertow, G. M., Roberts, J. P.
2021
- **Defining a willingness-to-transplant threshold in an era of organ scarcity: Simultaneous liver-kidney transplant as a case example.** *Transplantation*
Cheng, X. S., Goldhaber-Fiebert, J. n., Tan, J. C., Chertow, G. M., Kim, W. R., Wall, A. E.
2019
- **A New Approach to Kidney Waitlist Management in the Kidney Allocation System Era: Pilot Implementation and Evaluation.** *Clinical transplantation*
Cheng, X. S., Busque, S., Lee, J., Discipulo, K., Hartley, C., Tulu, Z., Scandling, J. D., Tan, J. C.
2018: e13406
- **Rethinking Routine Coronary Screening in Kidney Transplant Candidates.** *Journal of the American Society of Nephrology : JASN*
Gupta, M., Cheng, X. S.
2026
- **Predicting Simultaneous Heart Kidney Allocation and Posttransplant Adverse Kidney Outcomes.** *Kidney international reports*
Mete, M., Ayvaci, M. U., Gungor, A. B., Araj, F., Acharya, D., Hippen, B., Cheng, X. S., Molnar, M. Z., Alhamad, T., Akalin, E., Singh, N., Anand, P. M., Gupta, et al
2026; 11 (1): 152-163
- **Predicting Simultaneous Heart Kidney Allocation and Posttransplant Adverse Kidney Outcomes** *KIDNEY INTERNATIONAL REPORTS*
Mete, M., Ayvaci, M. U. S., Gungor, A. B., Araj, F., Acharya, D., Hippen, B., Cheng, X. S., Molnar, M. Z., Alhamad, T., Akalin, E., Singh, N., Anand, P. M., Gupta, et al
2026; 11 (1): 152-163
- **Insights From Refusal Patterns for Deceased Donor Kidney Offers.** *Transplantation*
Guan, G., Neelam, S., Studnia, J., Cheng, X. S., Melcher, M. L., Rees, M. A., Roth, A. E., Somaini, P., Ashlagi, I.
2025
- **Calcimimetic Prescriptions in Fee-for-Service Medicare Beneficiaries Undergoing Dialysis.** *JAMA health forum*
Caldwell, J. S., Cheng, X. S., Bendavid, E., Chertow, G. M., Lakdawalla, D. N., Lin, E.
2025; 6 (4): e250452
- **Kidney Transplant Wait Times Under Waiting List Expansion Scenarios.** *JAMA network open*
Caldwell, J. S., Cheng, X. S., Chertow, G. M., Goldhaber-Fiebert, J. D.
2025; 8 (3): e251665
- **Short-term Pains for Long-term Gains? In Search of More Solutions to Inequities in Kidney Transplantation.** *American journal of kidney diseases : the official journal of the National Kidney Foundation*
Cheng, X. S.
2024
- **Empagliflozin in Diuretic-Refractory Ascites (DRAIn-Em): Results of a Single-Center Feasibility Study.** *Journal of general internal medicine*
Hu, K., Goel, A., Tarlow, B., Cheng, X., Kim, S., Kim, W. R., Kwo, P.
2024
- **The Final Rule in a Bind: What We Are Learning From Suboptimal Simultaneous Heart-Kidney Outcomes and Potential Solutions to the Problem.** *Transplantation*
Ariyamuthu, V. K., Cheng, X. S., Hippen, B., Bloom, R. D., Acharya, D., Araj, F., Gungor, A. B., Alhamad, T., Singh, N., Anand, P. M., Gupta, G., Akalin, E., Molnar, et al
2024
- **Immunologic Benefits of 0-antigen Mismatched Transplants: No Added Boost for Racial and Ethnic Minorities.** *Transplantation direct*
Caldwell, J. S., Parvathinathan, G., Stedman, M. R., Ahearn, P., Tan, J. C., Cheng, X. S.
2024; 10 (7): e1653
- **Expanding the Overton Window in Deceased Kidney Donor Eligibility-Enough to Make a Difference?** *JAMA*

- Cheng, X. S., Lenihan, C. R.
2024
- **Referral and Beyond: Restructuring the Kidney Transplant Process to Support Greater Access in the United States.** *American journal of kidney diseases : the official journal of the National Kidney Foundation*
Butler, C. R., Reese, P. P., Cheng, X. S.
2024
 - **Maximizing Utility of Deceased Donor Kidney Offers.** *Clinical journal of the American Society of Nephrology : CJASN*
Caldwell, J. S., Cheng, X. S.
2023; 18 (12): 1521-1523
 - **Incidence of Kidney Failure after Primary Organ Transplant.** *Kidney360*
Jan, A., Schappe, T., Caddell, K. B., Cheng, X. S., Sanoff, S., Lu, Y., Shaw, B. I., Samoylova, M. L., Peskoe, S., Pendergast, J., McElroy, L.
2023
 - **Dual-Organ Transplantation: Indications, Evaluation, and Outcomes for Heart-Kidney and Heart-Liver Transplantation: A Scientific Statement From the American Heart Association** *CIRCULATION*
Kittleson, M., Sharma, K. C., Brennan, D. S., Cheng, X. S. L., Chow, S., Colvin, M. D., DeVore, A. M., Dunlay, S., Fraser, M., Garonzik-Wang, J., Khazanie, P. M., Korenblat, K. T., Pham, et al
2023; 148 (7): 622-636
 - **One size does not fit all: Differential benefits of simultaneous liver-kidney transplantation by eligibility criteria.** *Liver transplantation : official publication of the American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases and the International Liver Transplantation Society*
Cheng, X. S., McElroy, L. M., Sanoff, S. L., Kwong, A. J.
2023
 - **Preoperative Evaluations Before Transplantation-Essential Tools, Not Obstacles-Reply.** *JAMA internal medicine*
Cheng, X. S.
2023
 - **Kidney Stone Events after Kidney Transplant in the United States.** *Clinical journal of the American Society of Nephrology : CJASN*
Ganesan, C., Holmes, M., Liu, S., Montez-Rath, M., Conti, S., Chang, T. C., Lenihan, C. R., Cheng, X. S., Chertow, G. M., Leppert, J. T., Pao, A. C.
2023
 - **Association of Pretransplant Coronary Heart Disease Testing With Early Kidney Transplant Outcomes.** *JAMA internal medicine*
Cheng, X. S., Liu, S., Han, J., Stedman, M. R., Baiocchi, M., Tan, J. C., Chertow, G. M., Fearon, W. F.
2023
 - **Is Prioritization of Kidney Allografts to Combined Liver-Kidney Recipients Appropriate? CON** *KIDNEY360*
Cheng, X. S.
2022; 3 (6): 996-998
 - **Trends in Coronary Artery Disease Screening before Kidney Transplantation.** *Kidney360*
Cheng, X. S., Liu, S., Han, J., Stedman, M. R., Chertow, G. M., Tan, J. C., Fearon, W. F.
2022; 3 (3): 516-523
 - **Center variations in patient selection for simultaneous heart-kidney transplantation.** *Clinical transplantation*
Shaw, B. I., Samoylova, M. L., Barbas, A. S., Cheng, X. S., Lu, Y., McElroy, L. M., Sanoff, S.
2022: e14619
 - **Optimal patient selection for simultaneous heart-kidney transplant: a modified cost-effectiveness analysis.** *American journal of transplantation : official journal of the American Society of Transplantation and the American Society of Transplant Surgeons*
Wayda, B., Cheng, X. S., Goldhaber-Fiebert, J. D., Khush, K. K.
2021
 - **Racial Disparities in Pediatric Kidney Transplantation under the New Kidney Allocation System in the United States.** *Clinical journal of the American Society of Nephrology : CJASN*
Krissberg, J., Kaufmann, M., Gupta, A., Bendavid, E., Stedman, M., Cheng, X., Tan, J., Grimm, P., Chaudhuri, A.
2021

- **Recurrence of IgA Nephropathy after Kidney Transplantation in Adults.** *Clinical journal of the American Society of Nephrology : CJASN*
Uffing, A., Perez-Saez, M. J., Jouve, T., Bugnazet, M., Malvezzi, P., Muhsin, S. A., Lafargue, M., Reindl-Schwaighofer, R., Morlock, A., Oberbauer, R., Buxeda, A., Burballa, C., Pascual, et al
2021; 16 (8): 1247-1255
- **Performance versus Risk Factor-Based Approaches to Coronary Artery Disease Screening in Waitlisted Kidney Transplant Candidates.** *Cardiovascular medicine*
Cheng, X. S., Watford, D. J., Arashi, H., Stedman, M. R., Chertow, G. M., Tan, J. C., Fearon, W. F.
2021: 1-11
- **Feasibility and Effectiveness of Norepinephrine Outside the Intensive Care Setting for Treatment of Hepatorenal Syndrome.** *Liver transplantation : official publication of the American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases and the International Liver Transplantation Society*
Kwong, A., Kim, W. R., Kwo, P. Y., Wang, U., Cheng, X.
2021
- **Incorporating kidney-related multi-organ transplants into the kidney allocation sequence.** *American journal of transplantation : official journal of the American Society of Transplantation and the American Society of Transplant Surgeons*
Cheng, X. S., Reese, P. P.
2021
- **Consensus Conference on Heart-Kidney Transplantation.** *American journal of transplantation : official journal of the American Society of Transplantation and the American Society of Transplant Surgeons*
Kobashigawa, J., Dadhania, D. M., Farr, M., Tang, W. H., Bhimaraj, A., Czer, L., Hall, S., Haririan, A., Formica, R. N., Patel, J., Skorka, R., Fedson, S., Srinivas, et al
2021
- **And Then There Were Three: Effects of Pretransplant Dialysis on Multiorgan Transplantation.** *Transplantation direct*
Cheng, X. S., Han, J., Stedman, M. R., Chertow, G. M., Tan, J. C.
2021; 7 (2): e657
- **Ethical decision-making in simultaneous heart-liver transplantation.** *Current opinion in organ transplantation*
Cheng, X. S., Wall, A., Teuteberg, J.
2020
- **Coronary Artery Disease Screening of Asymptomatic Kidney Transplant Candidates: A Web-Based Survey of Practice Patterns in the United States.** *Kidney medicine*
Cheng, X. S., Mathew, R. O., Parasuraman, R., Tantisattamo, E., Levea, S., Kapoor, R., Dadhania, D. M., Rangaswami, J.
2020; 2 (4): 505-7
- **Histologic Case Definition of an Atypical Glomerular Immune-Complex Deposition Following Kidney Transplantation.** *Kidney international reports*
Chin, K., Charu, V., O'Shaughnessy, M. M., Troxell, M. L., Cheng, X. S.
2020; 5 (5): 632-42
- **An overview of frailty in kidney transplantation: measurement, management and future considerations.** *Nephrology, dialysis, transplantation : official publication of the European Dialysis and Transplant Association - European Renal Association*
Harhay, M. N., Rao, M. K., Woodside, K. J., Johansen, K. L., Lentine, K. L., Tullius, S. G., Parsons, R. F., Alhamad, T., Berger, J., Cheng, X. S., Lappin, J., Lynch, R., Parajuli, et al
2020
- **Effect of low contrast medium-dose CTA on device sizing and access vessel assessment for TAVR.** *European journal of radiology*
Suchá, D., Kino, A., Bogart, K., Molvin, L., Cheng, X. S., Fearon, W. F., Fischbein, M. P., Fleischmann, D.
2020; 124: 108826
- **Recurrence of FSGS after Kidney Transplantation in Adults.** *Clinical journal of the American Society of Nephrology : CJASN*
Uffing, A. n., Pérez-Sáez, M. J., Mazzali, M. n., Manfro, R. C., Bauer, A. C., de Sottomaio Drumond, F. n., O'Shaughnessy, M. M., Cheng, X. S., Chin, K. K., Ventura, C. G., Agena, F. n., David-Neto, E. n., Mansur, et al
2020
- **To Kidney or Not to Kidney: Applying Lessons Learned from the Simultaneous Liver-Kidney Transplant Policy to Simultaneous Heart-Kidney Transplantation.** *Clinical transplantation*

- Cheng, X. S., Khush, K. K., Wiseman, A. n., Teuteberg, J. n., Tan, J. C.
2020
- **Simultaneous Coccidioidomycosis and Phaeohyphomycosis in a Kidney Transplant Recipient: A Case Report and Literature Review.** *Transplant infectious disease : an official journal of the Transplantation Society*
Puing, A. G., Couture-Cossette, A. n., Wang, A. X., Zygourakis, C. C., Cheng, X. n., Stevens, B. A., Banaei, N. n., Novoa, R. A., Ho, D. Y., Subramanian, A. n.
2020: e13365
 - **Toward telemedicine-compatible physical functioning assessments in kidney transplant candidates.** *Clinical transplantation*
Watford, D. J., Cheng, X. S., Han, J. n., Stedman, M. R., Chertow, G. M., Tan, J. C.
2020: e14173
 - **Physical Performance Testing in Kidney Transplant Candidates at the Top of the Waitlist.** *American journal of kidney diseases : the official journal of the National Kidney Foundation*
Cheng, X. S., Myers, J. n., Han, J. n., Stedman, M. R., Watford, D. J., Lee, J. n., Discipulo, K. V., Chan, K. N., Chertow, G. M., Tan, J. C.
2020
 - **COVID-19 and Kidney Transplantation: Results from the TANGO International Transplant Consortium.** *American journal of transplantation : official journal of the American Society of Transplantation and the American Society of Transplant Surgeons*
Cravedi, P. n., Suraj, S. M., Azzi, Y. n., Haverly, M. n., Farouk, S. n., Pérez-Sáez, M. J., Redondo-Pachón, M. D., Murphy, B. n., Florman, S. n., Cyrino, L. G., Grafals, M. n., Venkataraman, S. n., Cheng, et al
2020
 - **Coronary Computed Tomography Angiography in Diagnosing Obstructive Coronary Artery Disease in Patients with Advanced Chronic Kidney Disease: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis.** *Cardiorenal medicine*
Cheng, X. S., Mohanty, S. n., Turner, V. n., Mastrodicasa, D. n., Winther, S. n., Fleischmann, D. n., Tan, J. C., Fearon, W. F.
2020: 1–8
 - **Implications of Frailty for Peritransplant Outcomes in Kidney Transplant Recipients.** *Current transplantation reports*
Cheng, X. S., Lentine, K. L., Koraihy, F. M., Myers, J., Tan, J. C.
2019; 6 (1): 16–25
 - **Perceptions and Practices Regarding Frailty in Kidney Transplantation: Results of A National Survey.** *Transplantation*
McAdams-DeMarco, M. A., Rasmussen, S. E., Chu, N. M., Agoons, D. n., Parsons, R. F., Alhamad, T. n., Johansen, K. L., Tullius, S. G., Lynch, R. n., Harhay, M. N., Rao, M. K., Berger, J. n., Cooper, et al
2019
 - **A large, international study on post-transplant glomerular diseases: the TANGO project** *BMC NEPHROLOGY*
Uffing, A., Jose Perez-Saez, M., La Manna, G., Comai, G., Fischman, C., Farouk, S., Manfro, R., Bauer, A., Lichtenfels, B., Mansur, J. B., Tedesco-Silva, H., Kirsztajn, G. M., Manonelles, et al
2018; 19: 229
 - **Native Kidney Cytomegalovirus Nephritis and Cytomegalovirus Prostatitis in a Kidney Transplant Recipient.** *Transplant infectious disease : an official journal of the Transplantation Society*
Tan, S. K., Cheng, X. S., Kao, C., Weber, J., Pinsky, B. A., Gill, H. S., Busque, S., Subramanian, A. K., Tan, J. C.
2018: e12998
 - **Underutilization of Hepatitis C Virus Seropositive Donor Kidneys in the United States in the Current Opioid Epidemic and Direct-Acting Antiviral Era.** *Diseases (Basel, Switzerland)*
Li, A. A., Cholankeril, G., Cheng, X. S., Tan, J. C., Kim, D., Toll, A. E., Nair, S., Ahmed, A.
2018; 6 (3)
 - **Comparing Simultaneous Liver-Kidney Transplant Strategies: A Modified Cost-Effectiveness Analysis.** *Transplantation*
Cheng, X. S., Kim, W. R., Tan, J. C., Chertow, G. M., Goldhaber-Fiebert, J.
2018
 - **Prehabilitation for Kidney Transplant Candidates: Is it Time?** *Clinical transplantation*
Cheng, X. S., Myers, J. N., Chertow, G. M., Rabkin, R., Chan, K. N., Chen, Y., Tan, J. C.
2017

- **Home Dialysis in the Prospective Payment System Era.** *Journal of the American Society of Nephrology*
Lin, E., Cheng, X. S., Chin, K., Zubair, T., Chertow, G. M., Bendavid, E., Bhattacharya, J.
2017
- **Utility in Treating Kidney Failure in End-Stage Liver Disease With Simultaneous Liver-Kidney Transplantation** *TRANSPLANTATION*
Cheng, X. S., Stedman, M. R., Chertow, G. M., Kim, W. R., Tan, J. C.
2017; 101 (5): 1111-1119
- **Validating identification of patients with small vessel vasculitis, with or without renal involvement, using administrative healthcare records.** *Clinical nephrology*
O'Shaughnessy, M. M., Cheng, X. S., Montez-Rath, M. E., Lafayette, R. A., Winkelmayer, W. C.
2017; 87 (2017) (3): 159-162
- **Donation, Not Disease! A Multiple-Hit Hypothesis on Development of Post-Donation Kidney Disease.** *Current transplantation reports*
Cheng, X. S., Glasscock, R. J., Lentine, K. L., Chertow, G. M., Tan, J. C.
2017; 4 (4): 320-26
- **Management of Renal Failure in End-Stage Liver Disease: A Critical Appraisal** *LIVER TRANSPLANTATION*
Cheng, X. S., Tan, J. C., Kim, W. R.
2016; 22 (12): 1710-1719
- **An electronic alert to decrease Kayexalate ordering** *RENAL FAILURE*
Leaf, D. E., Cheng, X. S., Sanders, J. L., Mendu, M., Schiff, G. D., Mount, D. B., Bazari, H.
2016; 38 (10): 1752-1754
- **Beyond the last battle: a viewpoint from the frontiers of transplantation.** *American journal of kidney diseases : the official journal of the National Kidney Foundation*
Cheng, X. S.
2015; 66 (1): A15-7
- **The Root of This Evil: Microangiopathic Hemolytic Anemia and Renal Failure** *AMERICAN JOURNAL OF MEDICINE*
Cheng, X. S., Adusumalli, S., Singh, H., DePasse, J. W., Smith, R., Hauptert, G. T.
2015; 128 (1): 21-23
- **Enhanced Creatinine and Estimated Glomerular Filtration Rate Reporting to Facilitate Detection of Acute Kidney Injury** *AMERICAN JOURNAL OF CLINICAL PATHOLOGY*
Baron, J. M., Cheng, X. S., Bazari, H., Bhan, I., Lofgren, C., Jaromin, R. T., Lewandrowski, K. B., Dighe, A. S.
2015; 143 (1): 42-49
- **Inhibitory Interactions between BK and JC Virus among Kidney Transplant Recipients** *JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF NEPHROLOGY*
Cheng, X. S., Bohl, D. L., Storch, G. A., Ryschkewitsch, C., Gaudreault-Keener, M., Major, E. O., Randhawa, P., Hardinger, K. L., Brennan, D. C.
2011; 22 (5): 825-31