

Wen G. Chen, MMSc, PhD, is Acting Director of the Division of Extramural Research and Training at the National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health (NCCIH), NIH. She provides scientific and managerial leadership for programs spanning basic, translational, and clinical research on complementary and integrative health. Dr. Chen also guides training and grant initiatives and shapes new research priorities to address emerging health challenges.

Dr. Chen has championed NIH's interoception research program and oversees major initiatives such as the Trans-NIH Whole Person Physiome Research and Coordination Center, the Topological Atlas and Repository for Acupoint Research (TARA), projects on acupuncture, myofascial biomarkers, force-based manipulations, emotional well-being, mindfulness meditation, music and pain research, precision probiotics, the Consortium for Advancing Research on Botanical and Other Natural Products (CARBON), the Cannabis and Cannabinoid Research Resource Center, and NIH's BRAIN Initiative.

She serves as NCCIH's liaison to the NIH Common Fund, co-chairs its Human Virome Program, and is an active member of several working groups, including High-Risk/High-Reward, Ultra-Processed Foods, and SPARC (Stimulating Peripheral Activity to Relieve Conditions). She is also a voting member of the NIH HEAL Pain Initiative Steering Committee and co-chairs the NIH Harnessing Arts Research and Practice (HARP) for Health working group.

Dr. Chen earned her Master of Medical Sciences from Harvard Medical School and PhD in Biological Chemistry and Molecular Pharmacology from Harvard University. She completed postdoctoral training in proteomics at MIT. Before joining NCCIH, Dr. Chen worked as a scientific editor at Neuron, a program coordinator at the National Institute of Mental Health, and a program director at the National Institute on Aging, where she led research on sensory and motor disorders of aging.

Her publications span basic and clinical research on music-based interventions, interoception, whole person health, pain, aging, as well as transcriptional and epigenetic regulation of BDNF, neuroplasticity, proteomics, and the neural control of mobility. Her work has appeared in leading journals including *The Lancet*, *Science*, *Neuron*, *PNAS*, *Trends in Neurosciences*, *Aging Cell*, *The Journal of Neuroscience*, *The Journal of Pain*, *Pain Medicine*, *Brain*, *The Journals of Gerontology*, and *Expert Review of Proteomics*.