

# SNEHA SARAH MANI

Graduate Group in Demography  
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## Education

- 2023 Ph.D., University of Pennsylvania, Demography (*expected*)  
Dissertation: Mortality and Adult Health in India and Chile  
Comprehensive exams: Demography (passed with distinction).
- 2023 M.A., University of Pennsylvania, Statistics (*expected*)
- 2014 M.A., Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai, Development Studies
- 2012 B.A. (Hons), St. Stephen's College, University of Delhi, Economics

## Research Areas

Demography, mortality, health, non-communicable diseases, and cognitive aging

## Publications

### Journal Articles

- 2022 Aashish Gupta\*, and **Sneha Sarah Mani\***. “Assessing mortality registration in Kerala: the MARANAM study,” *Genus* 78(1), 1-20. doi.org/10.1186/s41118-021-00149-z
- 2020 Rasmi Avula, Purnima Menon, Sumati Bajaj, **Sneha Sarah Mani**, Nitya George, Lakshmi Gopalakrishnan, Sumeet Patil, Sneha Nimmagadda, Nadia Diamond-Smith, Lia Fernald, and Dilys Walker “Factors influencing roll-out of an m-health intervention in India: Results from a dynamic and responsive process evaluation” *Current Developments in Nutrition* 4, no. Supplement 2, 801-801. doi.org/10.1093/cdn/nzaa053006
- 2019 Sumati Bajaj, Purnima Menon, Phuong Nguyen, Rasmi Avula, **Sneha Sarah Mani**, Lakshmi Gopalakrishnan, Sneha Nimmagadda, Sumeet Patil, Lia Fernald, and Dilys Walker. “Use of situational vignettes helps assess the competence of frontline workers in nutrition counseling programs (OR13-07-19).” *Current developments in nutrition* 3, no. Supplement 1. doi.org/10.1093/cdn/nz050.OR13-07-19
- 2019 Purnima Menon, Phuong Nguyen, Rasmi Avula, **Sneha Sarah Mani**, Lan Tran, and Cesar Victora. “A decade of progress on scaling up health and nutrition interventions in India: a countdown to 2030 case study (Po4-115-19).” *Current developments in nutrition* 3, no. Supplement 1. doi.org/10.1093/cdn/nz051.Po4-115-19
- 2019 Sneha Nimmagadda, Lakshmi Gopalakrishnan, Rasmi Avula, Diva Dhar, Nadia Diamond-Smith, Lia Fernald, Anoop Jain, **Sneha Sarah Mani**, Purnima Menon, Phuong Nguyen, Hannah Park. “Effects of an mHealth intervention for community health workers on maternal and child nutrition and health service delivery in India: protocol for a quasi-experimental mixed-methods evaluation.” *BMJ Open* 9, no. 3, e025774. doi.org/10.1136/bmjopen-2018-025774

## Reports and Other Publications

- 2021 “Tracking India’s progress on addressing malnutrition and enhancing the use of data to improve programs”, Purnima Menon, Esha Sarswat, **Sneha Sarah Mani** and Manita Jangid, International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)
- 2021 “Tracking India’s progress on addressing malnutrition: What will it take?”, Purnima Menon, Rasmi Avula, Esha Sarswat, **Sneha Sarah Mani**, Manita Jangid, Anamika Singh, Supreet Kaur, Alok Kumar Dubey, Shuchita Gupta, Divya Nair, Pulkit Agarwal, and Nitya Agrawal, International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)
- 2020 “Integrating maternal nutrition interventions in existing reproductive, maternal, newborn and child health services in Uttar Pradesh, India”, Phuong Hong Nguyen, Shivani Kachwaha, Lan M Tran, **Sneha Sarah Mani**, Rasmi Avula, and Sumeet Patil, Alive & Thrive endline survey report, Alive & Thrive
- 2018 “Status of nutrition-relevant interventions during pregnancy in India: Insights from the National Family Health Survey-4”, Rasmi Avula, Esha Sarswat, Suman Chakrabarti, **Sneha Sarah Mani**, Phuong Hong Nguyen, and Purnima Menon, International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)
- 2017 “Trends in nutrition outcomes, determinants, and interventions in India (2006-2016)”, Purnima Menon, Phuong H. Nguyen, **Sneha Sarah Mani**, Neha Kohli, Rasmi Avula, Lan M. Tran, POSHAN report, , International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)
- 2017 “Improving nutrition in Uttar Pradesh: insights from examining trends in outcomes, determinants and interventions between 2006 and 2016”, **Sneha Sarah Mani**, Phuong H. Nguyen, Rasmi Avula and Purnima Menon, POSHAN Policy Note, , International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)
- 2017 “Improving nutrition in Maharashtra: insights from examining trends in outcomes, determinants and interventions between 2006 and 2016”, **Sneha Sarah Mani**, Phuong H. Nguyen, Rasmi Avula and Purnima Menon, POSHAN Policy Note, International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)
- 2017 “How are India’s districts doing on maternal, infant and child nutrition? Insights from the National Family Health Survey 4”, Phuong H. Nguyen, **Sneha Sarah Mani** and Purnima Menon, POSHAN Data Note, International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)

## Working Papers

- “Factors responsible for the stagnation in life expectancy in Kerala,” **Sneha Sarah Mani**
- “Does home-based screening lead to improved hypertension diagnosis and treatment? A regression discontinuity analysis in urban India,” Michaela Theilmann\*, **Sneha Sarah Mani\***, Pascal Geldsetzer, and Nikkil Sudharsanan
- “Predictive power of own and parents’ schooling on physical and cognitive health for ages 60+ for Chilean females and males,” Irma Elo, Jere R. Behrman, David Bravo, **Sneha Sarah Mani**, Alejandro Sánchez Becerra
- “Predictors of functional disability in Chile: A life course approach,” **Sneha Sarah Mani**
- “Socioeconomic differences in household debt due to health shocks in India,” **Sneha Sarah Mani**
- “The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on health screenings: trends and implications for population health disparities,” **Sneha Sarah Mani\*** and Rebecca Anna Schut\*

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\*Joint first authors

## Grants and Awards

- 2022–23 Penn Doctoral Extension Funding
- 2021–22 Sobti Doctoral Fellow, Center for the Advanced Study of India (CASI)
- 2020–21 Judith Rodin Fellowship
- 2018–19 Samuel Preston Graduate Fellowship
- 2018–22 Benjamin Franklin Fellowship

## Research Visits

- 2022 Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research, Rostock  
(Affiliated student (2019-22), research stay (Oct-Nov 2022))

## Conference Activity

- 2022 Population Association of America (PAA)
- 2021 International Population Congress, British Society of Population Studies, PAA, PAA Applied Demography, Population Development Research Initiative at the University of Pennsylvania.
- 2017 Strengthening Data, Analytics and Evidence for Nutrition, 2017

## Teaching and Service

- 2021 - 23 Teaching assistant (Spring), Prof. Irma Elo, Health of Populations, University of Pennsylvania.
- 2021 Session Chair, Population Association of America (PAA)

## Employment

- 2019– Research Assistant  
Chile Cognitive Aging Study (Chile-Cog)  
University of Pennsylvania
- 2016–18 Senior Research Assistant  
Poverty, Health and Nutrition Division  
International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)
- 2014–16 Research Assistant  
Prof. Rohini Pande and Erica Field  
LEAD at Krea University (formerly IFMR LEAD)

## Field and Survey Experience

- 2016–18 Impact evaluation of a mHealth intervention for community health workers in India
- 2014–16 Randomized Control Trial to measure the impacts of increased financial access on poverty reduction, entrepreneurship, social networks, health, and female empowerment
- 2013 Research for Action - Survey on social security programs in Tamil Nadu

## Languages

English, Hindi, Malayalam, and Tamil