



Ms. Tetine Sentell

Dr. Tetine Sentell is an Associate Professor in the Office of Public Health Studies at the University of Hawai'i, Mānoa where she is part of the Health Policy and Management specialization. Dr. Sentell received a Ph.D. in Health Services and Policy Analysis from the University of California, Berkeley and was a National Institute of Mental Health postdoctoral fellow at the University of California, San Francisco.

Dr. Sentell has a long-standing interest in racial and ethnic health disparities, especially related to the consequences of low health literacy and limited English language ability in the United States health care system. She has quantified health across multiple outcomes (including mental health, chronic disease, maternal healthcare quality, and dementia) using quantitative methods in large, population-based data sets as well as thematic analyses in detailed, person-centered qualitative work. In recent work, she has begun to more deeply explore the role of community-, social-, and family- level variables in the context of health literacy and health promotion using a social-ecological approach.

Dr. Sentell was the PI for a 5-year study funded by National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities under the Center for Native and Pacific Health Disparities Research concerning racial/ethnic differences in preventable hospitalizations and re-hospitalizations among Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders. She is currently the PI of the Healthy Hawai'i Initiative Evaluation Team at the Office of Public Health Studies, which evaluates diverse chronic disease prevention efforts for the Chronic Disease Prevention & Health Promotion Division of the Hawai'i Department of Health. She was also a co-investigator on a Fogarty Funded R21 with investigators at the University of Hawai'i and Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Norte, Brazil.

Dr. Sentell was fortunate to be a Fulbright Specialist in Tirana, Albania in January 2017 at the University of Medicine, Tirana/Institute of Public Health, which has resulted in many fruitful collaborations in public health.