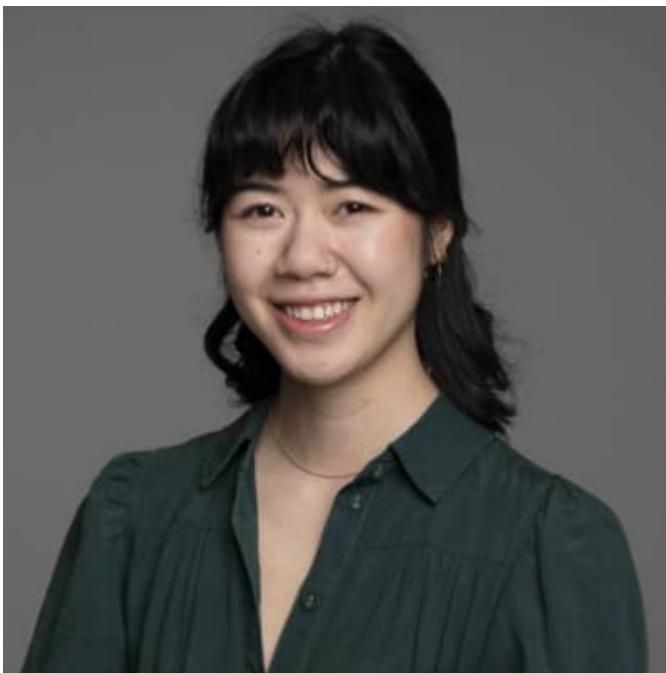


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Project: *Social adjustment in survivors of pediatric acute lymphoblastic leukemia*



Background

Pediatric acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL) is the most common form of pediatric cancer. Early treatments for ALL used cranial radiation therapy which has been linked to debilitating late effects such as secondary malignancies, chronic medical conditions, and mental health difficulties, including poor social adjustment. Social adjustment is the extent to which children attain socially desirable and developmentally appropriate goals. Despite the increase in survival rate, over 65% of survivors are left with significant debilitating late

effects caused by toxic therapies. Subsequently, modern treatments (e.g., chemotherapies) have moved away from cranial radiation therapy to minimize drug toxicity. However, we do not understand the effect of modern therapies on social adjustment. Treatment and non-treatment related factors may moderate social adjustment. Therefore, investigating the effect of modern therapies and associated risk factors on social adjustment will help inform risk-based guidelines and identify targets for intervention.