INSTITUTE FOR THE PUBLIC UNDERSTANDING OF RISK

Newsletter of the LRF Institute for the Public Understanding of Risk (IPUR) at NUS:

Welcome to our first newsletter of 2023! We are pleased to share some exciting news about our latest outputs including working with government agencies in Bangladesh on an AI and pregnancy monitoring project. As more sophisticated online scams lurk, we discuss ways to better protect yourself and to stay attuned to the risks. Lastly, two new seed grant projects are commencing to support our ongoing efforts to achieve translational impact. Read on to find out about all of these and more!



Incorporating Al into continuous pregnancy monitoring systems

IPUR project to be presented to government agencies in Bangladesh



Our AI for social good project is moving onto the next phase. Come May, the IPUR team will be presenting their findings to government officials and industry partners in Bangladesh to explore applications of these insights. The project investigates the perceptions and receptions of AI amongst different stakeholders to explore its incorporation in pregnancy monitoring systems. Find out more here.





Be mindful of overconfidence on online platforms

Increasingly sophisticated online scams mean more risk

Contrary to the common belief that the elderly are most vulnerable to scams, we found that youths are at higher risk - compared to those aged 65 years and above, youths under the age of 25 were 10 percent more susceptible to scams. With the digitally-savvy particularly at risk, we share how and why overconfidence on the Internet and online platforms could lead to poor judgment and decisions with severe repercussions. Read more.



Expanding risk literacy in Mongolia

Since drawing insights from the first <u>Lloyd's Register Foundation World Risk Poll</u> in 2019, IPUR has been conducting programmes in Mongolia to accelerate data literacy and improve risk communication. The research, ground efforts and intervention-based projects so far are the results of two MoU signings with the Mongolia National Academy of Governance (2021) and Mongolia Ministry of Justice and Home Affairs (2022).

The success of the IPUR-Mongolia collaboration has received widespread coverage on Mongolian <u>television</u>, <u>press</u>, Singapore <u>newspapers</u> and <u>Asian news</u>. In 2023, IPUR will continue its efforts to focus on ongoing work in Mongolia as well as other new initiatives which include improving safety in mines and increasing digital access for nomadic people. Read more.



Two new exciting seed grants commencing

IPUR is excited to support two new seed grant projects to contribute to the Institute's ongoing efforts to achieve translational impact. The first <u>project</u> led by <u>Asst Prof Seow Wei Jie</u> from the NUS Saw Swee Hock School of Public Health, aims to understand the cardiorespiratory health impact of secondhand smoke exposure in multi-unit housing in Singapore.

The second <u>project</u> explores how financial constraints influence patients' choice of medical treatments - specifically, patients facing financial constraints might favour aggressive treatments over conservative options. This project is led by <u>Prof Leonard Lee</u> and collaborators from the University of Melbourne.

INSIGHTS & EVENTS

Commentary: How prepared would you be in the face of a disaster?

In light of some of the tragic disasters around the world, being prepared could prevent panic and save lives in an emergency. Our recent study shows that only 31% of households in Singapore have a plan for what to do in the event of a disaster. In this commentary, IPUR explains why preparedness and vigilance against external threats is important. Read more.

IPUR participating in Choice Symposium 2023

IPUR will be participating in the 12th Triennial Invitational Choice Symposium which will take place this August at Fontainebleau, France. The IPUR team will convene a three-day workshop and work with leading scholars and experts to discuss the topic "Consuming (and Communicating) Risk-Related Information for a Better World". Find out more about the symposium.

Risk comes in all shapes and sizes

Jacqueline Kurz, a PhD Candidate at Maastricht University, shares about her research attachment at IPUR which included working on a project with Prof Leonard Lee, IPUR Deputy Director. Their project looked at using the wisdom of the crowd to forecast health trends and outcomes for policymakers and practitioners. From attending insightful talks, participating in a symposium, to learning about the different facets of risk communication, read more about what she had to say!

IPUR Scientist recognised by the Association for Psychological Science

Congratulations to <u>Asst Prof Reuben Ng</u>, IPUR Lead Scientist (Data and Technology) for being recognised by the Association for Psychological Science (APS) for his research and academic contributions. Asst Prof Ng was named a APS Rising Star, which honours researchers whose innovative work has already advanced the field and signal potential for their future contributions. <u>Read more</u>.







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