



Erin Robinson

Social Work

University of Missouri-Columbia

Dr. Erin Robinson is a public health social worker and gerontologist. Dr. Robinson's primary research focus is on older adult health, health communication, eldertechnology, and social support networks. Did you know that people aged 50+ account for 50% of people living with HIV/AIDS, and almost 20% of new infections in the U.S.? These statistics drive Dr. Robinson to be a part of the solution to the greying of HIV. Her primary area of research focuses on how healthcare providers communicate with older adult patients to assess for risk factors, increase preventive behaviors, and reduce transmission of the disease. Through her research, Dr. Robinson has identified that intentional conversations with older adult patients about issues related to HIV/AIDS and sexual health is associated with increasing one's knowledge of the disease, their perceived susceptibility, and their likelihood of talking with their sexual partners about prevention.



Dr. Robinson also collaborates with investigators from engineering, nursing, and medicine to develop a state-of-the-art monitoring technology for older adults, which uses in-home sensors to detect early signs of illness and functional decline. This technology has the ability to track falls, fall risk, and other indicators to empower older adults living at home to take control of their health. This technology also assists family members and friends in providing care supports to their loved ones.

A member of the MU faculty since 2016, Dr. Robinson is the Director of the Gerontology Certificate program and she teaches macro-level social work practice courses, aging courses, and qualitative research.

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