

Name of project	THE PATHWAY OF EARLY LIFE SOCIAL ECONOMIC STATUS TO MIDLIFE ALCOHOL USE TO LATELIFE ILL HEALTH				
Funding agency	THE EUROPEAN FOUNDATION FOR ALCOHOL RESEARCH				
Research members	Min Yang, Adrian Byrne, Mary Mcurran, Boliang Guo, Katy Jones				
PI	Min Yang	Duration	2013.1-2014.6	The amount of grants	€70000
Abstract	<p>The relationship between socioeconomic status (SES), alcohol use and health problems is a topic of considerable importance. One paradoxical observation is that people from lower socioeconomic groups are more likely to suffer alcohol-related harm than those from higher socioeconomic groups, even though they drink less. This paradoxical finding may be artifactual, since most studies are cross-sectional. There is a need for a life course approach to studying the inter-relationships of these domains. This research aims to address this gap rigorously and efficiently using data from the 1958 British National Birth Cohort, which has repeated measures on SES, alcohol use, and health on over 17,000 people across a life span from birth to 50 years. The project will examine the relationships between early-life family SES, adolescent drinking, early adult drinking problems, changes in SES, and later-life health using life course analysis that involves structural equation modelling and multilevel modelling. This will provide information about the interactions of these important variables across the life course and describe different trajectories. This information will be of use in identifying valid targets at different life stages for prevention of adverse health outcomes.</p>				