

PROFILE

Doctoral candidate in Epidemiology at Emory University focusing on Infectious Disease and HIV prevention and transmission dynamics in vulnerable populations

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Infectious disease | HIV | Health Disparities | Marginalized Populations | Epidemiological Methodology

EDUCATION

Emory University, Atlanta, GA

PhD, Epidemiology

2020 – Present

- Dissertation: Gaps and Determinants in PrEP Uptake and Need: Understanding Disparities in PrEP Among Women in the United States
 - Committee: Dr. Jodie Guest (Chair), Dr. Patrick Sullivan (co-Chair), Dr. Jeb Jones, Dr. Lance Waller
 - Fellowships: Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award (NRSA) F31, National Institute of Minority Health and Health Disparities, 2023-2025

Brown University, Providence, RI

Master of Public Health, Global Health and Epidemiology

2013-2015

- Thesis: Global Infectious Disease in Developing Countries
 - Paper 1: Patterns of HIV incidence prior to, during, and after violent conflict in 36 sub-Saharan African nations, 1990-2012: An ecological study
 - Paper 2: Biomarkers to define the etiology of anemia at 6 and 12 months of age in a cohort of infants in Leyte, The Philippines
- Advisors: Dr. Jennifer Friedman & Dr. Mark Lurie

Berry College, Rome, GA

Bachelor of Science, Biochemistry

2006-2010

- Advisor: Dr. Gary Breton

ACADEMIC RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Prof. Patrick Sullivan, Emory University

Graduate Research Assistant

Aug 2022—Aug 2023

- Estimating the number of Men who have sex with Men (MSM) in the United States
- Updating denominators for population estimates of HIV and Preexposure Prophylaxis metrics in the United States

Prof. Julie Gazmararian, Emory University

Graduate Research Assistant

May 2021—May 2023

- COVID-19 Outcomes in Veterans accessing Healthcare at the VA

Prof. Jodie Guest, Emory University

Graduate Research Assistant

Jan 2021 – July 2021

- COVID-19 Antibody Study
 - Manage data collection and analysis for university-based COVID-19 antibody study
 - Administer consent, baseline, and bi-weekly behavioral surveys to participants
 - Utilize SAS and Alchemer survey tools for managing data and administering surveys
- PrEP Uptake Among Females in the US
 - Update analysis on PrEP uptake among females in the US, focused upon racial-ethnic and spatially dependent disparities

Prof. Ben Lopman, Emory University

Graduate Research Assistant

Oct 2020-Apr 2021

- Manage data collection and quality assurance for Nursing Home-based COVID-19 study
- Utilize REDCap to administer Contact Diary surveys to participants

Prof. Mark Lurie, Brown University School of Public Health

Research Assistant

Jan 2014-May 2014

- Identify patterns of HIV incidence within violent conflict in 36 sub-Saharan African nations

- Utilize large complex datasets from UNAIDS, Uppsala Conflict Data Program (UCDP), and the World Bank
- Perform Mixed Effect Linear Regression modeling with random slopes and intercepts to determine across and within country patterns of association using SAS v9.4

Dr. Jennifer Friedman, Lifespan/Brown University

Research Intern

Oct 2014-May 2015

- Determine the iron biomarker that best defines and predicts iron deficiency anemia and non-iron deficiency anemia in infants at 6 and 12 months of age
- Utilize five-year longitudinal data collected in Leyte, the Philippines as a part of an NIH-funded study to determine the effects of Praziquantel treatment of pregnant women with *S. japonicum* infection
- Perform Receiver Operator Curve analysis to determine iron biomarker concentration cut-off values for clinical diagnosis of different types of anemia in infants using JMP v11

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor

- Epidemiologic Methods I Fall 2024

Teaching Assistant

- Principles of Epidemiology (Professor Mark Lurie) Fall 2014
- Anthropology and Global Social Problems: (Professor Daniel Jordan Smith) Spring 2015
- Epidemiologic Methods I (Professor Jodie L. Guest) Fall 2020
- Epidemiologic Methods II (Professors Kristin Wall and Jeb Jones) Spring 2022
- Epidemiologic Methods III (Professor Lauren Christiansen-Lindquist) Fall 2022
- Master of Public Health Capstone (Professor Julie Gazmararian) Spring 2023
- Master of Public Health Capstone (Professor Julie Gazmararian) Spring 2024

OTHER WORK EXPERIENCE

CARE USA, Atlanta, GA

Summer 2023

Summer Graduate Intern

CARE USA, Atlanta, GA

May 2024 - Present

Independent Consultant

REFEREED JOURNAL ARTICLES

- 1) **Bennett BW**, Marshall BDL, Gjelsvik A, McGarvey ST, Lurie MN. 2015. HIV Incidence Prior to, during, and after Violent Conflict in 36 Sub-Saharan African Nations, 1990-2012: An Ecological Study. *PLoS ONE* 10(11): e0142343. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0142343
- 2) Park S, Bellinger D, Adamo M, **Bennett BW**, Choi, NK, Baltazar P, et al. 2016. Mechanistic Pathways from Early Gestation through Infancy and Neurodevelopment. *Pediatrics*. 138(6): e20161843.
- 3) Escudero DJ, **Bennet BW**, Kenneally S, Darrow WW, Mayer KH, Seage GR. Progress and Challenges in “Getting to Zero” New HIV Infections in Miami, Florida. *Journal of the International Association of Providers of AIDS Care*. 2019. 18(1-9): 10.1177/232595821985212.
- 4) Abioye, A, McDonald EA, Park, S, Ripp, K, **Bennett, BW**, Pond-Tor S, Sagliba, MJ, Amoylen, AJ, Baltazar, PI, Tallo, V, Acosta, LP, Olveda, RM, Kurtis, JD, Friedman, JF.(2019) Maternal anemia type during pregnancy is associated with anemia risk among offspring during infancy. *Pediatric Research*, Vol 86(3), p. 396-402
- 5) Gurley S, **Bennett BW**, Sullivan P, Kiley M, Linde J, Szczerbacki D, Guest J. COVID-19 Vaccine Perceptions, Intentions, and Uptake: A Prospective College-based Cohort Study. *JMIR Public Health and Surveillance*. 19/11/2021:33739
- 6) Zissette S, Kiti MC, **Bennet BW**, Liu CY, Nelson KN, Zelaya A, et al. Social contact patterns among employees in U.S. long-term care facilities during the COVID-19 pandemic, December 2020 to June 2021. *BMC Res Notes*.
- 7) **Bennett BW**, Phillips LS, Gazmararian JA. The association of vaccination for common adult infectious diseases and uptake of COVID-19 vaccines among 5,006,851 Veterans, 20 December 2020-31 October 2021. *Vaccines* 2024, 12, 145. <https://doi.org/10.3390/vaccines12020145>
- 8) **Bennett BW**, Dubose S, Huang YA, Johnson C, Hoover KW, Wiener J, Purcell DW, Sullivan PS. Population Percentage and Population Size of Men who Have Sex with Men in the United States, 2017-2021: Meta-Analysis of 5 Population-Based Surveys. *JMIR Public Health and Surveill* 2024; 10:e56643. doi: [10.2196/56643](https://doi.org/10.2196/56643)

PUBLISHED ABSTRACTS

- 1) **Bennett BW**, Baltazar P, Acosta L, Olveda R, Tallo V, Caraballo B, Ripp K, Blake R, Wu H, Friedman JF. Biomarkers to better distinguish types of anemia at 6 and 12 months of age in a cohort of infants in Leyte, The Philippines. American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene; New Orleans, LA: ASTMH; 2014. Abstract no. LB-3088
- 2) **Bennett BW**, Marshall BDL, Gjelsvik A, McGarvey ST, Lurie MN. Patterns of HIV incidence prior to, during, and after violent conflict in 36 sub Saharan African nations, 1990-2012: An ecological study. 143rd APHA Annual Meeting and Exposition, Chicago, IL: APHA; 2015. Abstract no. 330888
- 3) **Bennett BW**, Pampati S, Valenzuela-Lara M, Sullivan PS, Guest JL. Geographic clustering and progress in PrEP use among women in the US: 2012-2019. Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections; Denver, CO: CROI; 2022. Abstract no. 00847

OTHER PRESENTATIONS

- 1) **Bennett BW**, Marshall BDL, Gjelsvik A, McGarvey ST, Lurie MN. Patterns of HIV incidence prior to, during, and after violent conflict in 36 sub Saharan African nations, 1990-2012: An ecological study. Brown University Public Health Research Day, Providence, RI. Apr 16, 2015.
- 2) **Bennett BW**, Guest JL, Lefkove B, Alexander C, Sanders R, Luyai A, del Rio C. SARS-CoV-2 positivity rates and cycle threshold values at testing sites in Georgia during Delta transmission. Emory University COVID-19 Response: Celebrating the Contributions of Emory Graduate Students, Atlanta, GA. Nov 12, 2021
- 3) **Bennett BW**, Pampati S, Valenzuela-Lara M, Sullivan PS, Guest JL. Geographic clustering and progress in PrEP need among women in the US: 2012-2019. International Workshop on HIV and Hepatitis Observational Databases; Sevilla, Spain: IWHOD; 2022.
- 4) **Bennett BW**, Guest FL, Sullivan PS. Disparities in PrEP Utilization by Race, Gender, and Geography – Progress and Opportunities for Improvement. International Workshop on HIV and Hepatitis Observational Databases; Athens, Greece: IWHOD; 2023.

AWARDS

- International Workshop of HIV and Hepatitis Observational Databases (IWHOD), Young Investigator Award Nominee, 2024
- Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections (CROI), Young Investigator Award, 2022
- Emory University Rollins School of Public Health, Outstanding TA Award, PhD Students, 2020-2021
- Brown University Public Health Research Day, Runner-up Poster Presentation, Master's Students. Providence, RI. Apr 16, 2015.

SKILL SET

Analytical

- R-studio, STATA, SAS, JMP, Microsoft Excel, SPSS, ArcGIS, MySQL, Microsoft PowerBI

Qualitative

- REDCap, Alchemer, Survey Monkey, Microsoft Word, Powerpoint, Vizio

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS & SOCIETIES

- Society for Epidemiologic Research 2020-Present
- Emory Center for AIDS Research (CFAR) 2020-Present
- American Public Health Association 2015-2017
- Rhode Island Public Health Association 2013-2015

SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

- 1) UNIVERSITY
 - a. Emory University
 - i. Woodruff Health Sciences Center IPE-ACTS Team Advisors Spring 2024
 - ii. Department of Epidemiology Student Mentor 2022-Present
 - iii. COVID-19 Outbreak Response Team 2020-2022
 - b. Brown University
 - i. Alumni Interviewer, Brown University Alumni Association 2017-2020
 - ii. MPH Program Representative, Brown University School of Public Health Curriculum Committee 2014-2015
- 2) JOURNAL REVIEW

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| a. | Conflict and Health | 2019-Present |
| b. | The Lancet HIV | 2019-Present |
| c. | Demography | 2021-Present |
| d. | JMIR Public Health and Surveillance | 2024-Present |
| 3) | EXTRAMURAL | |
| a. | Miami-Dade County District Wellness Advisory Committee | 2018-2019 |
| b. | Prevention Representative, District 11a, Florida Comprehensive HIV/AIDS Planning Network | 2017-2019 |
| c. | Mentor, Berry College Young Alumni Partner Program | 2017-Present |
| d. | Board Member, Miami-Dade County HIV/AIDS Partnership | 2016-2019 |
| e. | Prevention Committee, Miami-Dade County HIV/AIDS Partnership | 2016-2019 |
| | i. Vice-Chair | 2019 |
| f. | Miami-Dade County HIV/AIDS “Getting to Zero” Taskforce | 2016-2017 |
| | i. Chair, Social and Support Services Committee | |