



# The University of Utah

Department of Family and Preventive Medicine  
Division of Public Health

## Student Project Opportunities

The following Department of Family and Preventive Medicine faculty and research associates have indicated that they are interested in working with medical or public health students on the indicated projects or topics. Projects or topics in this list may be suitable for summer medical student projects, public health practicum experiences, MSPH projects, PhD projects, or independent study. Projects that are ongoing or that involve analysis of existing data sets are identified. Other faculty in Department of Family and Preventive Medicine may also be available for other project areas.

If you are a student who is interested in working on a project in a related area, please contact one or more faculty who have interest or expertise in your area. If you need help identifying which faculty to contact, please contact one of the following:

Joseph Stanford, MD, MSPH, Director, Summer Medical Student Research Program and Public Health Faculty, 7-3331, [Joseph.Stanford@utah.edu](mailto:Joseph.Stanford@utah.edu)

Rholinda Lange, Coordinator, Summer Medical Student Research Program, 1-3967, [Rholinda.Lange@hsc.utah.edu](mailto:Rholinda.Lange@hsc.utah.edu)

Student Project	Faculty Advisor
Linking Primary Care and Public Health in a Geographically Defined Population in Ghana, Africa. <i>Ongoing project</i>	Stephen Alder, PhD
Cancer Health Disparities among American Indian Populations. <i>Ongoing project</i>	Stephen Alder, PhD
Implement evaluation of a "medical student as MA in the clinic" early clinical experience for first and second year medical students in the community clinics.	Susan Cochella, MD, MPH
Community-based participatory research in Kumasi, Ghana	Ben Crookston, PhD, MPH
Adolescent girls' health issues in West Bengal, India	Ben Crookston, PhD, MPH
Maternal and neonatal health among the Tarahumara in Mexico	Ben Crookston, PhD, MPH
Maternal and neonatal health in Nepal	Ben Crookston, PhD, MPH
Undernutrition and cognitive development of children in Peru	Ben Crookston, PhD, MPH
Electronic Medical Records and medical culture. <i>Ongoing project</i>	Peter de Schweinitz, MD, MSPH
Student impressions of social medicine. <i>Ongoing project</i>	Peter de Schweinitz, MD, MSPH

Obstetrical care in Maya Guatemala (other projects possible)	Peter de Schweinitz, MD, MSPH
What do patients and primary care providers value in the provider-patient relationship? <i>Ongoing projects involving both qualitative and quantitative research methods</i>	Marlene Egger, PhD, MS, Debra Scammon, PhD, MS, Michael Magill, MD
Reliability and validity of measurement of strenuous physical activity among women with stress urinary incontinence and pelvic organ prolapse. <i>Ongoing statistical analysis projects</i>	Marlene Egger, PhD, MS, Ingrid Nygaard, MD, MS, Janet Shaw, PhD
Statistical issues in the assessment of the relationship between atrial fibrillation and blood pressure.	Marlene Egger, PhD, MS, Mohamed Hamdan, MD, MBA, Steve Wasmund, PhD
Assessing Adult Body Mass Index: A Quality Improvement Project. <i>Ongoing project</i>	Jessica Greenwood, MD, MSPH
Eating Behaviors and the Energy Balance: Dietary Patterns associated with Overweight and Obesity. <i>Ongoing project</i>	Jessica Greenwood, MD, MSPH
Expanding global health efforts to Arequipa, Peru. <i>Ongoing project</i>	Jessica Greenwood, MD, MSPH
Health Behavior Change.	Leonard Haas, PhD
Health Literacy.	Leonard Haas, PhD
Medical Student Stress.	Leonard Haas, PhD
Distal Upper Extremity Musculoskeletal Disorders Prospective Cohort Study. <i>Ongoing project; MS or PhD student projects</i>	Kurt T. Hegmann, MD, MPH
Low Back Pain Prospective Cohort Study. <i>Ongoing project; MS or PhD student projects</i>	Kurt T. Hegmann, MD, MPH
Truckers' Health Study. <i>Ongoing project; MS or PhD student projects</i>	Kurt T. Hegmann, MD, MPH
Evidence-Based Guidelines for Occupational Musculoskeletal Disorders. <i>Ongoing project; MD student projects</i>	Kurt T. Hegmann, MD, MPH
Mental Health Education and Knowledge of Team Physicians and Athletic Trainers	Elizabeth Joy, MD, MPH
Prevalence of Physician-Diagnosed Exercise Induced Asthma in Division I College Athletes	Elizabeth Joy, MD, MPH
Factors Predicting Implementation of ACL Injury Protection Programs By Girls'	Elizabeth Joy, MD, MPH

Soccer Coaches	
Relationship Between Sleep and Musculoskeletal Injury In College Athletes	Elizabeth Joy, MD, MPH
Epidemiology of Musculoskeletal Injury in Athletes Participating in the Huntsmans World Senior Games	Elizabeth Joy, MD, MPH Christy Porucznik, PhD, MSPH
Influenza Surveillance in the University of Utah Community Clinics	Elizabeth Joy, MD, MPH Lisa Gren, MSPH (PhD candidate)
Generic , area of interest – Health service Research (Economic Evaluations, Health-related quality of life)	JaeWhan Kim, PhD
Generic areas of interest – Disparities in health	JaeWhan Kim, PhD
Generic areas of interest – Obesity	JaeWhan Kim, PhD
Generic areas of interest – Statistical Modeling	JaeWhan Kim, PhD
Generic areas of interest – Hypertension	JaeWhan Kim, PhD
Data analysis of primary care clinical quality improvement projects	Jennifer Leiser MD, Richard Backman, MD, Marlene Egger, PhD (contact person is Marlene Egger)
Health Care Patterns DMBA database -- health in a non smoking, non drinking population, including infectious disease, chronic disease and prescription studies. <i>Existing dataset</i>	J. Lynn Lyon, MD, MPH
Implementation of Patient Centered Medical Home to improve primary care	Michael Magill, MD
Development of Family Medicine in Russia.	Michael Magill, MD
Implementation of primary care practice redesign to improve access, satisfaction and viability: 'Patient Centered Medical Home' and 'Care by Design'. <i>Several quantitative projects ongoing.</i>	Michael Magill MD, Marlene Egger PhD
Primary Care Practice Redesign in Real Time: "Thick Description" of the Community Clinics and their Transformation to the Patient-Centered Medical Home. <i>Ongoing project, primarily qualitative data.</i>	Michael Magill MD, Marlene Egger PhD
Total costs of care in the Patient-Centered Medical Home	Michael Magill, Marlene Egger PhD, Debra Scammon, PhD, MS

Projects available at rural health departments, clinics and other agencies. Focused is based on student interest and agency needs.	Sandra Marsh, MS
Impact of health professions student international medicine rotations on subsequent specialty choice and practice location of graduates.	Don Pedersen, PhD, PA-C
Validating PEAK DAY method with fertility monitors.	Christy Porucznik, PhD, MSPH
Use of pain medication among athletes -- help with literature review and data analysis. <i>Ongoing project</i>	Christy Porucznik, PhD, MSPH
Medication for chronic pain in UHRN -- how do patients progress from NSAIDS to narcotics?	Christy Porucznik, PhD, MSPH
Prescription drug-related fatalities in UT. <i>Help writing papers</i>	Christy Porucznik, PhD, MSPH
Injury surveillance at a ski resort. Need students to help collect, enter, and analyze data for 2009-2010 winter season.	Christy Porucznik, PhD, MSPH
Chronic Disease Self Management in the Geriatric Population.	Susan Saffel-Shrier, MS, RD
Nutrition Behavioral Change using the Plate Method.	Susan Saffel-Shrier, MS, RD
Practice-based evaluation of Natural Procreative Technology for infertility and miscarriage. <i>Ongoing project</i>	Joseph Stanford, MD, MSPH
Fertility patterns in National Survey of Family Growth. <i>Existing dataset</i>	Joseph Stanford, MD, MSPH
Intendedness of pregnancy. <i>Existing dataset</i>	Joseph Stanford, MD, MSPH
Population and clinic cohort studies in infertility. <i>Ongoing project</i>	Joseph Stanford, MD, MSPH Sara Simonsen, RN, BSN, MSPH
Natural family planning teaching, utilization, and effectiveness. <i>Existing dataset</i>	Joseph Stanford, MD, MSPH
Time to pregnancy and menstrual cycle characteristics. Epidemiologic methods development. <i>Existing datasets</i>	Joseph Stanford, MD, MSPH
Creighton Model Effectiveness, Intentions Behaviors Assessment. <i>Ongoing Project</i>	Joseph Stanford, MD, MSPH
Endometriosis and Environmental Chemicals. <i>Existing dataset</i>	Joseph Stanford, MD, MSPH

Identifying Risks Factors for Non-Compliant Restaurant Inspections, Salt lake Valley Health Department. <i>Existing database</i>	Jim VanDerslice, PhD
Dietary Exposure to PCB Among Women of Reproductive Age. <i>Existing database</i>	Jim VanDerslice, PhD