

Dana M. Alhasan, Ph.D., M.P.H.

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Research Interests

- Investigate how differences in the social and physical environment contribute to racial/ethnic and socioeconomic disparities in sleep, dementia, and cardiovascular disease

Education

2020	Ph.D.	Epidemiology	University of South Carolina Columbia, SC
2014	M.P.H.	Epidemiology	University of Texas Health Science Center, School of Public Health Austin, TX
2012	B.A.	Biology Concentration: Social Inequality, Health and Policy	University of Texas at Austin Austin, TX

Postdoctoral Training

- 4/2020 to present **Intramural Research Training Award Fellow**
Epidemiology Branch, National Institute of Environmental Health
Sciences (NIEHS), National Institutes of Health, Department of Health
and Human Services, Research Triangle Park, NC
Principal Investigator: Dr. Chandra L. Jackson, Ph.D., M.S.,
Earl Stadtman Investigator, NIEHS
- Investigating social and environmental determinants of racial/ethnic and socioeconomic disparities in health behaviors and cardiometabolic health outcomes

Research Experience

- 8/2017 to 8/2018 **Graduate Research Assistant**
Division of Surveillance, Department of Health and Environmental Control
Columbia, SC

- Used large surveillance datasets (e.g., BRFSS) to create tables, graphs, and fact sheets regarding health outcomes in SC

8/2016 to 5/2017

Graduate Research Assistant

Department of Epidemiology, University of South Carolina
Columbia, SC

- Tested for spatial autocorrelation and other spatial relationships of dementia prevalence and incidence

1/2015 to 12/2015

Graduate Research Assistant

Office of Program Evaluations, Department of Health and Environmental Control, Columbia, SC

- Collected and analyzed qualitative data regarding active community environments among communities

6/2013 to 11/2013

Research Assistant

Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland-Medical University of Bahrain
Manama, Bahrain

- Completed a SWOT (Strengths, Weakness, Opportunity & Threat) analysis to suggest implementation of mobile health in Bahrain

Outreach and Additional Experience

1/2017-8/2017

Consulting Practicum

Palmetto Cycling Coalition
Columbia, SC

- Calculated excess number of bicycle crashes by race per county and wrote a white paper describing current trends
- Aggregated bicycle crash data to census tract and analyzed risk factors contributing to racial disparities in crashes

1/2014-6/2014

Data Collector

Texas Childhood Obesity Research Demonstration Project
University of Texas School of Public Health

- Measured and recorded anthropometric data among participants

10/2012 to 5/2013

Graduate Assistant

Alcohol Peer Education Program, University of Texas at Austin
Austin, TX

- Created and reviewed pre, post and follow-up tests to evaluate effectiveness of alcohol-sanction class

- Trained peer educators in creating a safe space for students, presenting sensitive information, and leading workshops around issues surrounding alcohol use

1/2012-5/2012

Intellectual Entrepreneurship

University of Texas at Austin

- Conducted personal research project regarding the high prevalence of diabetes in developing countries

Honors and Awards

2020-2021	2021 William G. Coleman Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Innovation Award	National Institute of Minority Health and Health Disparities, NIH	Competitive award offering \$15,000 towards supplies and services for 1-year innovative research projects that have the potential for high impact in any area of minority health and health disparities research.
2017	Graduate Scholar in Aging	Arnold School of Public Health, University of South Carolina	Offered \$1,000 in travel funds to attend a research conference
2017	Alzheimer's Disease and Public Health Scholarship for Graduate Students	Alzheimer's Association	Offered \$1,000 towards research supplies
2017	Lavender Graduation	University of South Carolina	Awarded for leading workshops regarding intersectionality and social justice
2017	Outstanding Achievement and Student Triumph	University of South Carolina	Awarded for lobbying local legislatures to protect free speech
2016	Best Position Paper	Mock World Health Organization, University	Awarded for writing most-researched

		of North Carolina Chapel Hill	paper on health in Bahrain
2016	Delta Omega Student Poster Competition	Delta Omega National Council	Awarded to present research at the National American Public Health Association Conference

Peer-reviewed Publications

Original Research

1. **Alhasan DM**, Hirsch JA, Jackson CL, Miller MM, Cai B and Lohman MC. (2021). Neighborhood characteristics and the mental health of caregivers cohabiting with care recipients diagnosed with Alzheimer's Disease. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*; Special Issue: Epidemiology and Mental Health Among Older Adults.
2. **Alhasan DM**, Gaston SA, Jackson II WB, Williams, CP, Kawachi I, and Jackson CL. (2020). Neighborhood social cohesion and sleep health by age, sex/gender, and race/ethnicity in the United States. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*; Special Issue: Advances in Sleep Behaviors Associated with Health Outcomes.
3. **Alhasan DM**, Brennehan CB, Lynes CL, and Callahan K. (2018). Factors that influence parental misperception of their child's actual weight status in South Carolina. *Maternal and Child Health Journal*.
4. **Alhasan DM** and Eberth JM. (2016). An ecological analysis of food outlet density and prevalence of type II diabetes in South Carolina Counties. *BMC Public Health*.
5. Resciniti NV, Tang W, Tabassum M, Pearson JL, Spencer SM, Lohman MC, Ehlers DK, **Al-Hasan D**, Miller MC, Teixeira A, Friedman DB (2020). Knowledge evaluation instruments for dementia caregiver education programs: A scoping review. *Geriatrics & Gerontology International*.

Technical Report

1. J Devlin, A Broadway, **D Alhasan**, C Lynes, and S McDermott. 2018. Disability and Health in South Carolina A 2016 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System Report. Columbia, SC: South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control, Bureau of Health Improvement and Equity, Division of Surveillance. Available at: http://www.scdhec.gov/library/CR-010034_2016.pdf.

Class Lectures

Cross Sectional and Ecologic Study Designs. Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, University of South Carolina, Columbia, South Carolina, November, 2016.

Public Health Policy. Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, University of South Carolina, Columbia, South Carolina, October, 2016.

Chronic Disease Epidemiology. Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, University of South Carolina, Columbia, South Carolina, October, 2016.

Food Environment and Chronic Diseases. Department of Health Behavior and Promotion, University of South Carolina, Columbia, South Carolina, March, 2016.

Limitations in Ecological Analyses: An Example. Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, University of South Carolina, Columbia, South Carolina, November, 2016.

Oral Presentations

Presenter. Using INLA-SPDE Spatial Modeling to Examine Associations Between Neighborhood Characteristics and Dementia. Society for Epidemiological Research, June, 2021.

Riley, NM (*Presenting Author*), **Alhasan DM**, Jackson II WB, and Jackson CL. Food Insecurity and Sleep Health by Race/Ethnicity in the United States. 20th Annual New England Science Symposium, Virtual, April, 2021.

Presenter. Maternal Healthcare Needs Identified in South Carolina: A Qualitative Analysis of the 2015 Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System. CityMatCH Leadership and MCH Epidemiology Conference, Portland, Oregon, September, 2018.

Poster Presentations

Gullett LR, **Alhasan DM**, Jackson II WB, Gaston SA, Kawachi SA, Jackson CL (October 2021). *Neighborhood Social Cohesion and Serious Psychological Distress among Asian, Black, Hispanic/Latinx, and White Men and Women in the United States.* Poster presented virtually at 2021 Conference of the Interdisciplinary Association for Population Health Science.

Alhasan DM, Gaston SA, Jackson II WB, Williams, CP, Kawachi I, and Jackson CL (June 2021). *Neighborhood Social Cohesion and Obesity by Race/Ethnicity.* Poster presented at Society for Epidemiologic Research.

Riley, NM, **Alhasan DM**, Jackson II WB, and Jackson CL (June 2021). *Food Insecurity and Sleep Health by Race/Ethnicity in the United States. Break the Cycle of Health Disparities*. Poster presented virtually at SLEEP.

Gullett LR, **Alhasan DM**, Jackson II WB, Gaston SA, Kawachi SA, and Jackson CL (April 2021). *Neighborhood Social Cohesion and Serious Psychological Distress among Asian, Black, Hispanic/Latinx, and White Men and Women in the United States*. Poster presented virtually at 20th Annual New England Science Symposium.

Alhasan DM, Lohman MC, Hirsch JA, Miller MM, Cai B, and Jackson CL (December 2020). *Association Between Neighborhood Characteristics and Neuropsychiatric Symptoms among Community-Dwelling Older Adults with Alzheimer's Disease*. Poster presented at Society for Epidemiologic Research.

Alhasan DM, Lohman MC, Hirsch JA, Miller MM, and Cai B (November 2019). *Neighborhood Characteristics and Dementia Incidence*. Poster presented at Gerontological Society of Aging, Austin TX.

Alhasan DM, Lynes CL, Miller MC, Sulkowski BM, and Davis HT (November 2018). *Differences between dementia, cancer and other caregivers in South Carolina*. Poster presented at Women's Health Forum, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC.

Leedom O, Smiley M, **Alhasan DM**, Davis HT, Jenkins K, Zielke K and Harris M (November 2018). *Racial Disparities in Care and Outcomes of Neural Tube Defects in South Carolina*. Poster presented at Women's Health Forum, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC.

Leedom O, Smiley M, **Alhasan DM**, Davis HT, Jenkins K, Zielke K and Harris M (November 2018). *Disparities in Prevalence of Neural Tube Defects: Evidence from South Carolina's Active Surveillance Program*. Poster presented at Women's Health Forum, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC.

Alhasan DM, Miller MC, Rahimi G, and Hirsch JA (April 2017). *Spatial distribution of Alzheimer's disease prevalence in South Carolina counties*. Poster presented at Aging Research Day, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC.

Alhasan DM, Miller MC, Rahimi G, and Hirsch JA (November 2017). *Prevalence of Alzheimer's Disease by sex and age in South Carolina counties*. Poster presented at Women's Health Forum, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC.

Alhasan DM, Brenneman CB, Lynes CL, and Callahan K (October 2016; April 2016). *Factors that influence parental misperception of child's weight status in South Carolina*. Poster presented at American Public Health Association Conference, Denver, Colorado; Graduate Student Day, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC.

Alhasan DM, Callahan K, and Eberth JM (April 2016; September 2015). *An ecological analysis of food outlet density and prevalence of type II diabetes in South Carolina counties*. Poster

presented at James Clyburn Health Disparities Lecture, University of South Carolina; Diabetes Symposium, Charleston, South Carolina.

Callahan K, **Alhasan DM**, and Heidari K (September 2015). *Childhood diabetes in South Carolina: past, present and future*. Poster presented at Diabetes Symposium, Charleston, SC.

Alhasan DM, and Cavanagh S (May 2012). *Double burden of disease: Growing prevalence of type II diabetes in developing countries*. Poster presented at University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX.

Teaching Experience

Spring 2016 & 2017

Teaching Assistant

Course: Epidemiologic Methods, Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC

- Assisted teaching of MPH & doctoral epidemiology required course
 - Prepared lab material and led biweekly discussions
 - Assisted with developing exam questions
 - Evaluated homework assignments and final projects

Summer 2016 & 2017

Teaching Assistant

Course: Introduction to Epidemiology, Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC

- Assisted teaching of introductory course to MPH students
 - Reviewed weekly discussion boards to assist student engagement
 - Maintained course website on Blackboard
 - Held weekly office hours

Fall 2014 & 2018

Spring-Summer 2019

Teaching Assistant

Course: Principles of Epidemiology, Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC

- Assisted teaching of introductory course to ≥ 100 students
 - Conducted weekly lab sessions
 - Developed eleven homework assignments and three exams
 - Communicated with students and dealt with issues in conjunction with instructor

Mentorship Experience

5/2020-present	Primary Mentor to NIEHS Postbaccalaureate Fellow: Lauren Gullet, BA (University of North Carolina Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, North Carolina)
6/2021-present	Co-mentor to NIH Summer Opportunities to Advance Research Undergraduate Student: Amy Chen (John Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland)

Programming and Analytic Skills

- Statistical packages: SAS (expert); Stata (intermediate); ArcGIS (intermediate); R (beginner)

Professional and Committee Memberships

2017-2019	Curriculum Committee Division of Epidemiology, University of South Carolina	Student Member
	Office for the Study of Aging, Arnold School of Public Health, University of South Carolina	Student Member
2016-2019	Palestine Health Justice Working Group, American Public Health Association	Member

Professional Service

Ad-hoc Journal Reviewer

2021-present	Plos One
2021-present	Social Science and Medicine
2020-present	Diabetes, Obesity and Metabolism
2020-present	Sleep Health: Journal of the National Sleep Foundation
2020-present	Journal of Gerontology: Medical Science
2020-present	Alzheimer's & Dementia
2020-present	Annals of Epidemiology
2017-present	Alzheimer's Association Journal

Abstract Reviewer

2017	American Public Health Association
2016-2018	Discover UofSC, University of South Carolina Reviewed oral and poster presentations for undergraduate

Community Service

November 10, 2020	Speaker & Volunteer	Delivered a community talk to high school students about personal career trajectory in science
2016-2019	Mentor University of South Carolina Columbia, SC	Helped international, graduate students from the Middle East transition to the graduate student life
2017-2018	Student/Faculty Journal Club University of South Carolina Columbia, SC	Established and coordinated monthly journal club for students and faculty in the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics
2017-2018	Student Research Seminar University of South Carolina Columbia, SC	Established and coordinated monthly research seminar for graduate students in Epidemiology
November, 2017	Panelist for International Students Teaching Assistant University of South Carolina Columbia, SC	Served as panelist for incoming international teaching assistant students
August, 2017	Panelist for Teaching Assistants University of South Carolina Columbia, SC	Served as panelist for incoming teaching assistant students
October, 2017	Panelist for Seminar on Immigration Structural Racism Impact on Women of Color Charlotte, NC	Served as panelist for incoming international teaching assistant students
October, 2016	Bahrain Delegate Mock World Health Organization University of North Carolina Chapel Hill Chapel Hill, NC	Represented a WHO ambassador to debate universal health coverage