

Pietra Check, MPH

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

- Bilingual public health professional with more than 7 years leadership experience setting goals, developing strategies and measuring success for occupational safety and health programs.
- DrPH candidate. Dissertation proposal: Latina immigrant women workers: Exploring structural vulnerability at the intersection of work, gender, and health Chair: Fernando Ona, PhD, MPH, MSW

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Tufts University School of Medicine

Doctor of Public Health

Expected graduation: August 2019

Entered candidacy in June 2017; High Pass on qualifying exams

Area of focus: social determinants of health and health equity; *Practicum:* Politics in Public Health Policymaking;

Represented Tufts at Massachusetts Student Health Policy Forum, 2016

Boston, MA

Aug 2015 - present

Columbia University, Mailman School of Public Health

Master of Public Health, Population and Family Health

Capstone: *Integrating Physical Activity into the Curriculum: Demonstration at a NYC Public Elementary School in a Predominantly Latino Immigrant Neighborhood*

New York, NY

May 2003

University of Michigan

Bachelor of Science, Microbiology and Spanish Literature

Ann Arbor, MI

Dec 1999

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Tufts University School of Medicine

Department of Public Health and Community Medicine

Teaching Assistant

MPH program

Public Health & Health Care: Politics, Policies, & Programs

Occupational & Environmental Health

Public Health Methods of Inquiry

Small Group Leader

Medical School First-Year Curriculum

Health Care Systems

Epidemiology & Biostatistics

Guest Lecturer

Occupational & Environmental Health

Syllabus Development

Social Network Analysis using R in Public Health Theory and Practice

Boston, MA

Spring 2016

Summer 2016

Spring 2017

Spring 2016, 2017

Fall 2016

Summer 2017

Spring/Summer 2017

WORK EXPERIENCE

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health

Multiple promotions over a 10 year career

Contractor, Office of Agricultural Safety and Health (OASH), Oct 2015-present

Deputy Director, Office of Agricultural Safety and Health (OASH), Sept 2012-Sept 2015

Washington, DC

2007-present

Ensure a cohesive and integrated research and practice program to eliminate occupational injuries and illnesses among AgFF workers. Provide leadership, strategic direction, and management for NIOSH/OASH. Coordinate the NIOSH Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing (AgFF) Program internally and the national stakeholder program through the National Occupational Research Agenda (NORA). Share responsibility with the OASH Director for budget planning, performance, and reporting (\$22+ million); identifying priority areas to strengthen the NIOSH AgFF program; and preparing reports, analyses, and evaluations. Facilitate communication and coordination with partners: intramural; extramural; policymakers; other federal agencies; stakeholders in academia, labor, industry, government and civil society; and the public.

- Make recommendations to NIOSH Director about future directions for production agriculture surveillance, working with a team to compile evidence and public comment to inform decision-making.
- Improve annual grantee reporting mechanisms, dissemination of results, and enhance program evaluation capacity, including common outcome and impact measures across Center grantees, working with NIOSH Office of Extramural Programs and evaluation fellow. Reviewed and scored intramural research project proposals.
- Facilitate process to establish internal and external goals for next decade of the National Occupational Research Agenda (NORA); co-chair of Vulnerable Workers Working Group.
 - Coach evaluation fellow to develop feasible evaluation plan for NORA Agriculture, Forestry, & Fishing Sector Council and NIOSH contributions to achieving Agenda goals.
- Represented NIOSH at relevant external and internal meetings and conducted briefings with senior leadership, stakeholders, and partners, as necessary.
- Co-led cross-NIOSH partnership with Mexican Government to promote workplace safety and health through Mexican Consulates in the U.S.; developing 8-hour community health worker training curriculum about Spanish-speaking immigrant worker safety and health

Health Communication Specialist, Communications and Research Translation Office, Jan 2007-Sept 2012

- Specialized in communication and research translation activities with Spanish-speaking, Latino, and low-literacy audiences.
- Mentored several fellows, junior staff, and interns. Office Evaluation Team Coordinator, Jan-Sept 2012.
- Contributed to communication policy development and strategic planning. Reviewed and revised documents for use of plain language, compliance with good communication practice and Institute branding standards, and quality control.
- Provided communication guidance, recommendations, and support to the Office of Construction Safety and Health (OCSH). Communication lead for development, launch, and initial evaluation of a national campaign to prevent falls in construction and launch of the OCSH Twitter feed.

World Health Organization

Geneva, Switzerland

Consultant & Technical Officer, Prevention of Violence Team

April 2004-Dec 2006

- With Team Lead, developed concepts and initial operations for international, multi-stakeholder Violence Prevention Alliance; drafted document to mark Milestones 2005 meeting.
- Supported the implementation of recommendations of the *World report on violence and health* at the international and country levels.

Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons

New York, NY

Coordinator, Injury and Violence Prevention Center

May 2002-Feb 2004

- First coordinator of a new university-based, community focused pediatric injury prevention program, part of the national RWJF-funded *Injury Free Coalition for Kids*.
- Created relationships and partnerships with local government and non-governmental organizations. Planned, implemented, and evaluated program activities in a large, Spanish-speaking immigrant neighborhood. Reported to grant Coordinating Center.

Asociación pro-Desarrollo Humano de Culebra, Inc.

Culebra, Puerto Rico

Assistant Director

June 2000-Aug 2001

- Shared with the Director overall responsibility for operations of a small community-based organization that delivers health and social services to children and families.
- Liaised with funding agencies, managed \$100,000 operating budget, supervised staff and volunteers, and conducted fundraising including writing grants.
- Developed health education and information materials and programs, conducted home visits, and provided case management services to families with special health needs.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Swanberg J, Clouser J, Nichols H, Padilla Y, Edwards L, Bush A, **Check P.** (In revision) Systematic Review of Community Health Workers' Role in Occupational Health and Safety Research. *Journal of Immigrant and Minority Health*.

Schulte PA, Cunningham T, Nickels L, Felknor S, Guerin R, Blosser F, Chang CC, **Check P**, Eggerth D, Flynn M, Forrester C, Hard D, Hudson H, Lincoln J, McKernan LT, Pratap P, Stephenson CM, Menger, Van Bogaert D (in press) Translation Research in Occupational Safety and Health: A Proposed Framework *Am J Ind Med* DOI: 10.1002/ajim.22780

Flynn M, **Check P**, Tonda J, Eggerth D. (2013) Improving Occupational Safety and Health Among Mexican Immigrant Workers: A Binational Collaboration. *Public Health Reports Supplement 3: Applying Social Determinants of Health to Public Health Practice* 128:33-38.

Castaneda DE, Organista KC, Rodriguez L, **Check P.** (2013) Evaluating an Entertainment-Education Telenovela to Promote Workplace Safety. *SAGE Open* July-Sept 2013:1-12.

Schneider S & **Check P.** (2010) Read all about it: the role of the media in improving construction safety and health. *Journal of Safety Research* June;41(3):283-7.

Check P, Butchart A, Sminkey L. *Milestones of A Global Campaign for Violence Prevention 2005: Changing the Face of Violence Prevention*. Department of Injuries and Violence Prevention, WHO, Geneva, 2005.

Butchart A, Phinney A, **Check P**, Villaveces, A. *Preventing violence: a guide to implementing the recommendations of the World report on violence and health*. Department of Injuries and Violence Prevention, WHO, Geneva, 2004.

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

Check P, Flynn M, Sadehpour N, Filko A. (2012) Increasing Health Equity Among Spanish-speaking Immigrant Workers: A Binational Partnership. Poster Presentation, Dec 18. Summit on the Science of Eliminating Health Disparities, National Harbor, MD.

Das M, **Check P**, Zhu J, Gillen M, Romano N, Branche C. (2012) Leveraging Twitter to Engage the Construction Safety and Health Community. Roundtable Presentation by P. Check, October 31. American Public Health Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA.

Check P, Das M, Gillen M, Branche C. (2012) Connecting with Construction Contractors: Active Dissemination of Nail Gun Safety Materials. Poster Presentation, Oct 28. American Public Health Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA.

Check P & Sadehpour, N. (2012) Trabajando con trabajadores: Hablando de la salud y seguridad. Half-day workshop with community health and outreach workers, October 18. East Coast Migrant Stream Forum, Virginia Beach, VA.

Check P. (2012) Contextualizing Interventions: New Approaches to Helping Workers Address Structural Barriers to Safety and Health. Oral Presentation, June 7. Workshop on Research Translation with Vulnerable Worker Populations Conference, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO.

Check P, Flynn M. (2012) Promoting Occupational Safety and Health among Mexican Immigrant Workers in the US: A Model for Binational Collaboration. Oral Presentation and Panel Moderator, March 20. International Commission on Occupational Health Congress 2012, Cancun, Mexico.

Check P, Castaneda D, Nahm S, Rodriguez L, Woodley P, Buffington SD, Watters M, Platner J. (2010) Health communication for Spanish-speakers in the 21st century: Multi-media entertainment education in a workplace safety intervention. Oral Presentation, November 16. National Communication Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA.

SERVICE

Community Health Network Area (CHNA) 17 Board Member

Tufts Jumbo Hurricane Relief Response Board Member

Tufts University DrPH Steering Committee Student Representative, February 2016-July 2017

NIOSH Program Portfolio Advisory Committee, July 2014-August 2015

NORA Evaluation Task Force, August 2013-August 2015

National Tractor Safety Coalition Steering Committee, June 2013-August 2015

CDC Latino/Hispanic Health Workgroup, January 2013-August 2015

CDC Healthy Food and Farm Policy Workgroup, December 2012-August 2015

US Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Healthy Eating Promotores Training Initiative, National Project Advisory Committee, April 2012-August 2015

CDC Office of Minority Health and Healthy Equity Migrant Health Committee, January 2012-August 2015

CDC Cultural Competence and Language Access Sub-committee, January-December 2012

Mentor for student interns, Summer 2011; January-June 2011; Summer 2010 (5 students total)

Federal Interagency Partnership for Colonias, Farmworkers, and Rural Communities, October 2011-August 2015

NIOSH Communications Metrics Work Group Steering Committee member, June 2011-August 2015

NIOSH Twitter Work Group, October 2011-September 2012

US Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Promotores Initiative, Federal Work Group, April 2011-August 2015

AWARDS

Morton A. Madoff Public Health Fellowship, 2016

NIOSH Bullard-Sherwood Award for Research to Practice, Knowledge Category, 2016

NIOSH Bullard-Sherwood Award for Research to Practice, Intervention Category, Honorable Mention, 2016

NIOSH Diversity Award, 2015; 2011

CDC Honor Award Nominee, Partnership category, March 24, 2015

NIOSH Leadership Award, Combined Federal Campaign, National Capital Region Keyworker, 2008

NIOSH Diversity Steering Council, 2007-2010

Public Health Fellowship, Mailman School of Public Health, 2001-2002

LANGUAGES

Fluent and literate in Spanish: passed United Nations Proficiency Exam January 2005