

ASISA Fellowship

Update on fellows from 2011 to 2021

Since 2011, the ASISA Fellowship has supported six outstanding students and postdoctoral research fellows at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, advancing their careers and cutting-edge clinical research. Below is a list of these fellows, their research focus during the fellowship, and publications they worked on during the fellowship. The Harvard Chan School community is deeply grateful for ASISA's generous support.

Geetha Iyer, PhD '21

ASISA Fellow 2020–2021 (current fellow)

Dr. Geetha Iyer is an ASISA Fellow during the final year of her doctoral program at the Harvard Chan School. She has successfully defended her thesis and will graduate in May 2021. She is currently working as a postdoctoral research fellow. Dr. Iyer conducts research on optimal medication use, including medication adherence and medication safety and effectiveness in vulnerable populations.

Mats Stendrud

ASISA Fellow 2019–2020

Dr. Mats Stendrud was an ASISA Fellow while working as a postdoctoral research fellow at the Harvard Chan School. During this time, Dr. Stendrud developed methods for causal inference in medicine. Specifically, he worked to develop methods to analyze longitudinal data, which is particularly valuable—as diseases develop over time, environmental exposures change over time, and treatment regimens are given for certain lengths of time.

- 1. Stensrud, Mats J., and Miguel A. Hernán. "Why test for proportional hazards?." Jama 323, no. 14 (2020): 1401-1402.
- 2. Chiu, Yu-Han, Mats J. Stensrud, Issa J. Dahabreh, Paolo Rinaudo, Michael P. Diamond, John Hsu, Sonia Hernández-Díaz, and Miguel A. Hernán. "The effect of prenatal treatments on offspring events in the presence of competing events: an application to a randomized trial of fertility therapies." Epidemiology 31, no. 5 (2020): 636-643.
- 3. Sarvet, Aaron L., Kerollos Nashat Wanis, Mats J. Stensrud, and Miguel A. Hernán. "A graphical description of partial exchangeability." Epidemiology 31, no. 3 (2020): 365-368.



Barbra Dickerman, SM '16, PhD '18

ASISA Fellow 2017–2018, 2018–2019

Dr. Barbra Dickerman was an ASISA Fellow during the final years of her doctoral program and while she worked as a postdoctoral research fellow at the Harvard Chan School. During this time, Dr. Dickerman's research focused on identifying optimal strategies for cancer prevention, detection, and treatment.

- Dickerman, Barbra A., Edward Giovannucci, Claire H. Pernar, Lorelei A. Mucci, and Miguel A. Hernán. "Guideline-based physical activity and survival among US men with nonmetastatic prostate cancer." American journal of epidemiology 188, no. 3 (2019): 579-586.
- 2. Dickerman, Barbra A., Johanna E. Torfadottir, Unnur A. Valdimarsdottir, Edward Giovannucci, Kathryn M. Wilson, Thor Aspelund, Laufey Tryggvadottir et al. "Body fat distribution on computed tomography imaging and prostate cancer risk and mortality in the AGES-Reykjavik study." Cancer 125, no. 16 (2019): 2877-2885.
- 3. Dickerman BA, García-Albéniz X, Logan RW, Denaxas S, Hernán MA. Avoidable flaws in observational analyses: an application to statins and cancer. Nat Med. 2019;25(10):1601-1606.
- 4. Barbra A Dickerman, Xabier García-Albéniz, Roger W Logan, Spiros Denaxas, Miguel A Hernán, Emulating a target trial in case-control designs: an application to statins and colorectal cancer, International Journal of Epidemiology. 2020;49(5):1637–1646
- 5. Dickerman BA, Hernán MA. Counterfactual prediction is not only for causal inference. Eur J Epidemiol. 2020;35(7):615-617
- 6. Dickerman BA, Mucci LA. Obesity, height, and advanced prostate cancer: extending current evidence toward precision prevention. Ann Oncol. 2020;31(1):7-8.
- 7. Dickerman BA, Ebot EM, Healy BC, Wilson KM, Eliassen AH, Ascherio A, Pernar CH, Zeleznik OA, Vander Heiden MG, Clish CB, Giovannucci E, Mucci LA. A Metabolomics Analysis of Adiposity and Advanced Prostate Cancer Risk in the Health Professionals Follow-Up Study. Metabolites. 2020;10(3):99



Justin Bohn, SM '14, SD'17

ASISA Fellow 2015–2016, 2016–2017

Dr. Justin Bohn was an ASISA Fellow during the final two years of his doctoral program at the Harvard Chan School. During this time, Dr. Bohn's research focused on the use of generics in clinical practice, their comparative safety and effectiveness versus branded medications, and methods for distributed drug surveillance.

Publications while ASISA Fellow:

1. Bohn, Justin, Wesley Eddings, and Sebastian Schneeweiss. "Conducting Privacy-Preserving Multivariable Propensity Score Analysis When Patient Covariate Information Is Stored in Separate Locations." American journal of epidemiology 185, no. 6 (2017): 501-510.

Xabier Garcia-De-Albeniz, SM '12

ASISA Fellow 2012–2013, 2013–2014

Dr. Xabier Garcia-De-Albeniz was an ASISA Fellow while working as a postdoctoral research fellow at the Harvard Chan School. During this time, Dr. Garcia-De-Albeniz's clinical research projects provided novel methodologies that may overcome biases and provided estimates of comparative therapeutic effectiveness and safety.

- Maclean, Edd N., Ian S. Stone, Felix Ceelen, Xabier Garcia-Albeniz, Wieland H. Sommer, and Steffen E. Petersen. "Reporting standards in cardiac MRI, CT, and SPECT diagnostic accuracy studies: analysis of the impact of STARD criteria." European Heart Journal– Cardiovascular Imaging 15, no. 6 (2014): 691-700.
- 2. Martin-Richard, M., R. Gallego, C. Pericay, J. Garcia Foncillas, B. Queralt, E. Casado, J. Barriuso, X. García-Albéniz et al. "Multicenter phase II study of oxaliplatin and sorafenib in advanced gastric adenocarcinoma after failure of cisplatin and fluoropyrimidine treatment. A GEMCAD study." Investigational new drugs 31, no. 6 (2013): 1573-1579.
- Sommer, Wieland H., Felix Ceelen, Xabier García-Albéniz, Philipp M. Paprottka, Christoph J. Auernhammer, Marco Armbruster, Konstantin Nikolaou, Alexander R. Haug, Maximilian F. Reiser, and Daniel Theisen. "Defining predictors for long progression-free survival after radioembolisation of hepatic metastases of neuroendocrine origin." European radiology 23, no. 11 (2013): 3094-3103.



- 4. Codony-Servat, Jordi, Xabier Garcia-Albeniz, Carles Pericay, Vicente Alonso, Pilar Escudero, Carlos Fernández-Martos, Rosa Gallego, Anna Martínez-Cardús, Eva Martinez-Balibrea, and Joan Maurel. "Soluble FAS in the prediction of benefit from cetuximab and irinotecan for patients with advanced colorectal cancer." Medical Oncology 30, no. 1 (2013): 428.
- 5. Garcia-Albeniz, Xabier, Hongmei Nan, Linda Valeri, Teppei Morikawa, Aya Kuchiba, Amanda I. Phipps, Carolyn M. Hutter et al. "Phenotypic and tumor molecular characterization of colorectal cancer in relation to a susceptibility SMAD7 variant associated with survival." Carcinogenesis 34, no. 2 (2013): 292-298.
- 6. Codony-Servat, Jordi, Mercedes Marín-Aguilera, Laura Visa, Xabier García-Albéniz, Estela Pineda, Pedro L. Fernández, Xavier Filella, Pere Gascón, and Begoña Mellado. "Nuclear factor-kappa B and interleukin-6 related docetaxel resistance in castration-resistant prostate cancer." The Prostate 73, no. 5 (2013): 512-521.

Gabriel Sanfelix

ASISA Fellow 2011–2012

Dr. Gabriel Sanfelix was an ASISA Fellow while working as a postdoctoral research fellow at the Harvard Chan School. During this time, Dr. Sanfelix conducted two studies—the first study sought to demonstrate that inferences obtained from policy intervention trials and interrupted time series analysis are comparable and the second study aimed to identify factors associated with medication adherence.

- Franklin, Jessica M., William H. Shrank, Juliana Pakes, Gabriel Sanfélix-Gimeno, Olga S. Matlin, Troyen A. Brennan, and Niteesh K. Choudhry. "Group-based trajectory models: a new approach to classifying and predicting long-term medication adherence." Medical care (2013): 789-796.
- Sanfélix-Gimeno, Gabriel, José Sanfélix-Genovés, Clara L. Rodriguez-Bernal, Salvador Peiró, and Isabel Hurtado. "Prevalence, determinants, and inappropriateness of calcium supplementation among men and women in a Spanish Mediterranean area: Cross-sectional data from the ESOSVAL cohort." Journal of Bone and Mineral Research 28, no. 11 (2013): 2286-2294.