

TARLISE N. TOWNSEND, PHD

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EMPLOYMENT

2020-2022 **NYU Grossman School of Medicine**, New York, NY
Postdoctoral Fellow
Center for Opioid Epidemiology & Policy, Epidemiology Division, Dept. of Population Health
Behavioral Sciences Training Program, Rory Meyers College of Nursing

EDUCATION

2016-2020 **University of Michigan**, Ann Arbor, MI
Joint PhD: Health Services Organization and Policy | Sociology
Committee: Neil Mehta (co-chair), Sarah Burgard (co-chair), Paula Lantz, Barbara Anderson, Magdalena Cerdá

2008-2012 **Indiana University**, Bloomington, IN (*summa cum laude*, general honors; Phi Beta Kappa)
B.S. Neuroscience; B.A. Germanic Studies (departmental honors)

PUBLICATIONS

1. **Townsend, T.**, Salz, T., Haffajee, R.L., Caram, M.E.V, Chino, F., Bohnert, A.S.B. (Forthcoming.) Are declines in opioid dispensing to patients with cancer concentrated in patients at risk? *Journal of Pain and Symptom Management*.
2. **Townsend, T.**, Cerdá, M., Bohnert, A.S.B., Lagisetty, P., Haffajee, R.L. (Forthcoming.) Effects of the CDC Guideline for opioid prescribing in patients with select chronic pain conditions. *Health Affairs*.
3. Santaella-Tenorio, J., **Townsend, T.**, Krawczyk, N., Frank, D., & Friedman, S. R. (2021). Letter on Rockett's et al., manuscript: Fatal self-injury in the United States, 1999–2018: Unmasking a national mental health crisis. *EClinicalMedicine*, 34.
4. Friedman, S.F., Mateu-Gelabert, P., Nikolopoulos, G.K., Cerdá, M., Rossi, D., Jordan, A.E., **Townsend, T.**, Khan, M.R. & Perlman, D.C. (2021) Big Events theory and measures may help explain emerging long-term effects of current crises, *Global Public Health*, DOI: [10.1080/17441692.2021.1903528](https://doi.org/10.1080/17441692.2021.1903528)
5. **Townsend, T.**, Blostein, F., Doan, T., Madson-Olson, S., Galecki, P., & Hutton, D. W. (2020). Cost-effectiveness analysis of alternative naloxone distribution strategies: First responder and lay distribution in the United States. *International Journal of Drug Policy*, 75, 102536. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.drugpo.2019.07.031>
6. Mauri, A. I., **Townsend, T.N.**, & Haffajee, R. L. (2020). The association of state opioid misuse prevention policies with patient-and provider-related outcomes: A scoping review. *The Milbank Quarterly*, 98(1), 57-105. <https://doi.org/10.1111/1468-0009.12436>
7. **Townsend, T. N.**, & Mehta, N. K. (2020). Contributions of obesity and cigarette smoking to incident disability: A longitudinal analysis. *Preventive Medicine*, 106226. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ypmed.2020.106226>
8. **Townsend, T.**, & Mehta, N. (2020). Pathways to educational disparities in disability incidence: The contributions of excess body mass index, smoking, and manual labor involvement. *The Journals of Gerontology: Series B*. <https://doi.org/10.1093/geronb/gbaa085>
9. Cliff, B. Q., **Townsend, T.**, & Wolfson, J. A. (2019). Examining household changes in produce purchases among new parents. *Journal of Nutrition Education and Behavior*, 51(7), 798-805. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jneb.2019.04.010>

PUBLICATIONS, continued

10. Kause, A., **Townsend, T.**, and Gaissmaier, W. (2019). Framing climate uncertainty: Frame choices reveal and influence climate change beliefs. *Weather, Climate, and Society*, 11(1), 199-215. <https://doi.org/10.1175/WCAS-D-18-0002.1>

FIRST-AUTHOR WORKING PAPERS

Townsend, T., Rudolph, K., Hamilton, L., Rivera-Aguirre, A., Davis, C., Pamplin II, J., Cerdá, M. Inverted synthetic control method for evaluating effects of common policies: Effects of Good Samaritan Laws by race/ethnicity. (R&R, *American Journal of Epidemiology*)

Townsend, T., Kline, D. (joint first author), Rivera-Aguirre, A., Bunting, A., Mauro, P., Martins, S., Marshall, B., Cerdá, M., Racial/ethnic and geographic trends in combined stimulant/opioid overdoses, 2007-2019. (Under review, *American Journal of Epidemiology*.)

Townsend, T., Bohnert, A., Merlin, J. Opioid prescribing to patients with advanced cancer: Unanswered questions. (Under review, *Journal of Clinical Oncology*)

Townsend, T., Bohnert, A., Lagisetty, P., Haffajee, R. Racial disparities in the effects of PDMP and pain management clinic laws: An event study analysis (Invited article under review, *Health Services Research*)

Townsend, T., Chino, F., Cerdá, M. Clinician and patient predictors of national trends in opioid dispensing in oncology, 2006-2018. (In progress.)

Townsend, T., Merlin, J., Woo, C., Salz, T. Predictors of opioid prescribing to patients with cancer: A scoping review. (In progress.)

TALKS

1. **Townsend, T.**, Rudolph, K., Hamilton, L., Rivera, A., Davis, C., Pamplin, J., Cerdá, M. "Effects of overdose Good Samaritan Laws by Black/white race: Proposing the inverted synthetic control method" Society for Epidemiologic Research Annual Meeting. 23 June 2021. Oral (virtual).
2. **Townsend, T.**, Salz, T., Haffajee, R., Chino, F., Caram, M., Bohnert, A. "Is opioid dispensing declining in cancer patients at risk of opioid-related harms?" Society for Epidemiologic Research Annual Meeting. 22 June 2021. Oral (virtual).
3. **Townsend, T.**, Bohnert, A., Lagisetty, P., Haffajee, R. "Responding to the Overdose Crisis: Did Policies to Curb Opioid Prescribing Exacerbate Racial Disparities?" AcademyHealth Annual Research Meeting. 15 June 2021. Oral (virtual).
4. **Townsend, T.**, Salz, T., Haffajee, R., Chino, F., Caram, M., Bohnert, A. "Is opioid dispensing declining in cancer patients at risk of opioid-related harms?" AcademyHealth Annual Research Meeting. 14 June 2021. Oral (virtual).
5. **Townsend, T.**, Rudolph, K., Hamilton, L., Rivera, A., Davis, C., Pamplin, J., Cerdá, M. "Racial disparities in the effects of Good Samaritan Laws on overdose mortality: Evidence from Ohio and Michigan." Legal Epidemiology in Law Enforcement and Public Health Conference. 18 March 2021. Oral (virtual).
6. **Townsend, T.** "Racial disparities and the opioid crisis: Emerging research and implications". Maryland Opioid Operational Command Center Annual Best Practices Conference. 16 March 2021. Oral (virtual).
7. **Townsend, T.**, Hamilton, L., Rivera, A., Davis, C., Pamplin, J., Rudolph, K., Cerdá, M. "Racial disparities and substance use: The impact of policy change". Department of Population Health, NYU School of Medicine. 20 January 2021. Oral (virtual).
8. **Townsend, T.**, Haffajee, R., Salz, T., Chino, F., Caram, M., Bohnert, A. "Trends in opioid prescribing to cancer patients receiving treatment: 2008-2018." Memorial Sloan Kettering Health Outcomes Research Group. 18 December 2020. Oral (virtual).

TALKS, continued

9. **Townsend, T.**, Hamilton, L., Rivera, A., Davis, C., Pamplin, J., Rudolph, K., Cerdá, M. “Racial disparities in the effects of Good Samaritan Laws on overdose mortality.” 2020 Symposium on Substance Use Research (hosted jointly by RDAR COBRE, COBRE on Opioids and Overdose, and WVCTSI). 9 November 2020. Oral (virtual).
10. **Townsend, T.**, Mehta, N. “Pathways to educational disparities in disability: The effects of excess BMI, smoking, and manual labor.” Interdisciplinary Association for Population Health Science (IAPHS). 27 September 2020. Oral (virtual).
11. **Townsend, T.**, Mehta, N. “Pathways to educational disparities in disability: The effects of excess BMI, smoking, and manual labor.” DemSemX. 29 May 2020. Oral (virtual).
12. **Townsend, T.**, Mehta, N. “Pathways to educational disparities in disability: The effects of excess BMI, smoking, and manual labor.” Population Association of America Annual Meeting. 22 April 2020. Cancelled (COVID-19). Poster.
13. **Townsend, T.**, Mehta, N. “Upstream determinants of educational disparities in disability: The contribution of weight, smoking, and manual labor.” Panel Study of Income Dynamics Annual User Conference. Ann Arbor, MI. 12 September 2019. Oral.
14. Cliff, B., **Townsend, T.**, Wolfson, J. “Baby Bump? Parenthood predicts increased produce purchases, but only in wealthier households.” American Public Health Association Annual Meeting. San Diego, CA. 14 November 2018. (Also presented by a coauthor at the 2018 AcademyHealth Annual Research Meeting.)
15. **Townsend, T.**, Blostein, F., Doan, T., Madson-Olson, S., Galecki, P., Hutton, D. “Cost-effectiveness of alternative naloxone distribution strategies: First responder and layperson distribution.” H2D2 Research Day 2018 Poster Session. Ann Arbor, MI. 20 April 2018.
16. **Townsend, T.**, Blostein, F., Doan, T., Madson-Olson, S., Galecki, P., Hutton, D. “Cost-effectiveness of alternative naloxone distribution strategies: First responder and layperson distribution.” AcademyHealth Annual Research Meeting. New Orleans, LA. 27 June 2017. (Also presented by a coauthor at the 2017 Society for Medical Decision Making Annual Meeting.)
17. **Townsend, T.** “Communicating climate uncertainty; Helping students become smart information consumers.” National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Association (NOAA) Climate Stewards Education Project. Webinar. 6 November 2015
18. **Townsend, T.** “Communicating uncertainty in climate and weather forecasts.” National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Association (NOAA) Central Library Brown Bag Seminar. Washington, D.C. 4 August 2015
19. **Townsend, T.** “The role of uncertainty in risk perception, decision-making, and communicator credibility.” National Institute for Science and Technology Policy and Strategic Studies, Ministry of Science and Technology. Hanoi, Vietnam. 23 September 2013.
20. **Townsend, T.** “Communicating climate change: How do communicators frame climate risk, and how do listeners interpret it?” Max Planck Institute for Human Development, Center for Adaptive Behavior and Cognition. Berlin, Germany. 15 April 2013.

HONORS AND AWARDS

Fellowships and training

2020-2022	National Institute on Drug Abuse T32, Behavioral Sciences Training Program, NYU
2018-2020	National Institute on Aging T32, Population Studies Center, University of Michigan
2016-2018	UM Rackham Regents Fellowship: Two years of full funding for graduate studies
2013-2014	Henry Luce Scholarship: Nationally competitive fellowship providing one year of immersive research and professional development in Asia

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HONORS AND AWARDS, continued

Fellowships and training, continued

- 2012-2013 DAAD Study Scholarship: Nationally competitive fellowship supporting one year of research in Germany
- 2015 Distinguished Alumna, Indiana University Herman B Wells Scholars Program
- 2012 Indiana University Provost's Award for Undergraduate Research

Research grants

- 2021 Center for Opioid Epidemiology and Policy Pilot Award (\$7,000)
Project title: Pathways to racial disparities in the effects of Good Samaritan Laws: A mixed methods study.
- 2019 Martha & Ernest Hammel Graduate Student Research Award (\$1,000)
- 2019 Marshall Weinberg Summer Research Prize (\$2,299)
- 2018 UM Injury Prevention Center Summer Research Internship (\$4,500)
- 2018 University of Michigan Rackham Graduate Student Research Grant (\$1,440)
- 2017 ISR Rackham Summer Training Award (\$2,770)
- 2017 University of Michigan Library Mini-Grant (\$1,000)
- 2016 Rackham International Research Award (\$3,000)
- 2016 Menakka and Essel Bailey Graduate Fellowship (\$1,000)

SELECTED MEDIA COVERAGE AND PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

Michigan News (2020, August 31). *Disability disparities may be explained by obesity, smoking, physical labor* [Press release]. Retrieved from <https://news.umich.edu/disability-disparities-may-be-explained-by-obesity-smoking-physical-labor/>

Townsend, T., Blostein, F. (2019, October 18). This overdose-reversal medicine could reduce opioid deaths – so why don't more people carry it? *The Conversation*. Retrieved from <https://theconversation.com/this-overdose-reversal-medicine-could-reduce-opioid-deaths-so-why-dont-more-people-carry-it-121928>. Picked up by *The Chicago Tribune*, *The Baltimore Sun*, *Popular Science*, and other outlets via the Associated Press.

Townsend, T. (2019, August 22). Interviewed by Jorge Avellan regarding cost-effectiveness analysis of naloxone distribution to laypeople and first responders (published in *IJDP*). Radio interview: WEMU-FM (NPR Affiliate).

Michigan News (2019, August 20). *Naloxone: Wide distribution effective in preventing deaths* [Press release]. Retrieved from <https://news.umich.edu/naloxone-wide-distribution-effective-in-preventing-deaths/>

AcademyHealth. (2017, June 27). *Studies identify new risk factors for long-term opioid use, cost-effectiveness of naloxone distribution* [Press release]. Retrieved from www.academyhealth.org/blog/2017-06/studies-identify-new-risk-factors-long-term-opioid-use-cost-effectiveness-naloxone

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OTHER EXPERIENCE

- Sum. 2016 **United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)**, Hanoi; *Population & Development Intern*
Identified gaps in Vietnam's climate change adaptation policy related to population health in vulnerable communities.
- 2013-2015 **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)**, Washington, DC; *Consultant*
Designed serious games to teach resilient climate change resilience; provided on NOAA website and used in workshops with policymakers and educators in four countries.
- 2013-2014 **Ministry of Science and Technology**, Hanoi; *Research Fellow, Henry Luce Scholar*
Designed and managed implementation of field experiments and qualitative research to investigate climate uncertainty communication and gender disparities in the health impacts of climate change.
- 2012-2013 **Max Planck Institute for Human Development**, Berlin, Germany, *DAAD Scholar*
Mentors: Wolfgang Gaissmaier, Gerd Gigerenzer
Studied medical decision making and risk communication on health and climate change.

SUPPLEMENTAL TRAINING

- Fall 2020 **Grant Writing for Translational Scientists**; Clinical and Translational Science Institute, NYU Langone
- Summer 2019 **Introduction to the Health and Retirement Study (HRS) Workshop**; Summer Institute in Survey Research Techniques; University of Michigan
- Fall 2018 **Introduction to the Analysis of Life History Data Using Sequence Analysis**; Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan
- Summer 2018 **Exploring and Analyzing Monitoring the Future Data**; Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research, University of Michigan
- Fall 2017 **Issues in Analysis of Complex Sample Survey Data**; Center for Statistics, Computing, and Analytics Research, University of Michigan
- Fall 2017 **Microsimulation Modeling in R**; Society for Medical Decision Making Annual Meeting
- Fall 2017 **Qualifying and Valuing Health Inequality Impacts in Economic Evaluation**; Society for Medical Decision Making Annual Meeting
- Summer 2017 **ICPSR Summer Program in Quantitative Methods of Social Research**, Ann Arbor
Courses in Structural Equation Modeling, Scaling and Dimensional Analysis

TEACHING

- 2015, 2018 *Graduate Student Instructor*: Introduction to Cognitive Science, University of Michigan
Taught three weekly sections of 25 students each. Invited to return as head GSI in 2019.

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MENTORING

New York University: Research mentor, Adetayo Fawole, MD; Emmanuella Kobara, BA; Steven Yu-Heng Chen, MSc; Christina Woo, BS

University of Michigan Undergraduate Mentorship Programs: Morgan Suntken, BS; Julia Berthel, BA

PEER REVIEW

Epidemiology; Annals of Internal Medicine; International Journal of Drug Policy; Addiction; Drug and Alcohol Dependence; Value in Health; Addiction Science and Clinical Practice; Substance Abuse: Research and Treatment; Cancer Epidemiology, Biomarkers, and Prevention.

OTHER SERVICE

2021-present Patient representative, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center Opioid Task Force

2020-present Member, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center Patient and Family Advisory Council on Quality (PFACQ)

2020-present Associate Faculty Member, Faculty Opinions

2018-2020 Coordinator, University of Michigan Health Services Organization & Policy Weekly Seminar Series (WIDTH)

2018 Facilitator, University of Michigan English Language Institute Conversation Circle

2016-2017 Steward, University of Michigan Graduate Employees' Organization, Schools of Public Policy and Public Health