

# Meridith PERATIKOS

A career researcher committed to contributing to an evidence-based understanding of high impact healthcare problems, Meridith has over 15 years of experience in healthcare research, study design, data analysis, and statistical programming. Her communication is excellent and proven in both writing ([nearly 100 academic publications](#)) and presentation (client interaction, consultation, conference presentations, teaching). Date prepared: November 10, 2021



## EXPERIENCE

2021  
|  
current

### **Biostatistical Specialist**

3M Healthcare Business Group

📍 Nashville, Tennessee (remote)

Large corporation manufacturing scientific devices to improve human health

- Provide statistical support for clinical studies from product development to launch across Medical, Oral Care, and Consumer Health and Safety Divisions.
- Act as statistical lead on clinical teams and lead analytical strategies for programs of major importance related to product development, regulatory approval or clearance, validation of product performance and competitive claims
- Contribute to clinical investigation plans, data management documents, develop and review statistical analysis plans, and author publications.
- Oversee the quality control of statistical deliverables

2019  
|  
2021

### **Director of Analytics**

Embold Health

📍 Nashville, Tennessee

Embold Health optimizes health networks based on physician performance.

- Managed analytics as a core function with key proficiencies in data science, data engineering, data analysis, and reporting. Data science activities included production and statistical analysis of nearly 150 quality and economic measurements across nine healthcare specialties. Data analysts supported clinical and economic analyses for client and provider engagement teams, as well as product research and development.
- Served as lead statistician and liaison to external scientific advisors, including deployment of a Bayesian model for physician evaluation and an actuarial model to determine Embold cost savings for prospective and current clients.
- Introduced reproducible reporting, implemented quality control procedures, documented analytics workflow, and built intuitive data products.

2017  
|  
2019

### **Senior Biostatistician → Director of Enterprise Research**

Axial Healthcare

📍 Nashville, Tennessee

axialHealthcare partners with health insurers nationwide to reduce opioid misuse.

- Led a multi-disciplinary team of two Data Scientists, one Clinical Pharmacist, one Healthcare Program Research Analyst, and three interns. Responsibilities included: statistical consultation, exploratory analysis, data tools (e.g. automated QC checks), program evaluation, strategic data acquisition, evidence-based library curation with research support, scientific advisory board administration, request for proposal (RFP) preparation, scientific publication, special research projects, and ad hoc analytics.
- As Senior Biostatistician: Integrated and analyzed administrative healthcare claims data from multiple sources (i.e. data wrangling) to identify aberrant prescribers, conduct risk stratification, prioritize clinical outreach, and test impact. Served as a statistical resource for data scientists and clinicians.

2009  
|  
2016

### **Biostatistician II → Biostatistician III → Assistant in (Faculty)**

Vanderbilt University Medical Center

📍 Nashville, Tennessee

Collaborated with investigators at Vanderbilt's Institute for Global Health on the design, implementation, statistical analysis, data visualization, and dissemination of research. Promotion and faculty appointment in 2010 and 2015, respectively.

## CONTACT

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📞 937-572-7674

## SKILLS

### Programming

R, SQL, SAS, SPSS, Stata, MATLAB, Markdown, LaTeX

### Statistical Analysis

Descriptive Statistics, Hypothesis Testing, Feature Engineering, Observational Research, Meta-Analyses, Regression Modeling Strategies, Machine Learning, Performance Characteristics, Diagnostic Accuracy

### Data Tools

Shiny (interactive dashboards), RMarkdown (reproducible reporting), Excel

### Development Tools

GitHub/GitLab, RStudio Server Pro, RStudio Connect Pro, JIRA, Trello, Confluence

### Data Platforms

Postgres, Amazon Redshift, Google Big Query, Hadoop, Hive, and Databricks (Spark) – with dbplyr and sparklyr in R

### Gallup CliftonStrengths

Ideation, Strategic, Learner, Includer, and Achiever

2006   2009	<b>Biostatistician and Protocol Manager</b> Brown University	📍 Providence, Rhode Island
Performed statistical analyses, database management, design and development of multi-center, phase III and IV radiological trials with endpoints related to diagnostic accuracy and survival sponsored by the National Cancer Institute.		
2005	<b>Summer Laboratory Intern</b> Pacific Northwest National Laboratory	📍 Richland, Washington
Within the Computational Biology and Bioinformatics Group, modified structure learning algorithms for publicly accessible 'Network Inference Testbed'.		
2003	<b>Summer Intern</b> General Motors Moraine Assembly Plant	📍 Moraine, Ohio
Provide support to the quality department, including installation of a quality tool and monitoring software for measuring gaps and flushness of automobile doors.		

## 💻 MEMBERSHIPS/AFFILIATIONS

2005   current	<b>Member</b> American Statistical Association	📍 ASA
2017   present	<b>Instructor in Biostatistics (Adjunct Faculty)</b> Vanderbilt University Medical Center	📍 Nashville, Tennessee
Recruit and mentor past Vanderbilt students, including nine graduate student interns from biostatistics, biomedical research, and public health; guest lectures.		

## 🎓 EDUCATION

2006	<b>M.S., Statistics and B.A., Sociology</b> Case Western Reserve University	📍 Cleveland, Ohio
2005	<b>B.S., Statistics</b> Case Western Reserve University	📍 Cleveland, Ohio
2004	<b>Semester Abroad</b> University of Amsterdam	📍 Amsterdam, The Netherlands

## 📘 COURSEWORK

2021	<b>Propensity Score Matching, Adjustment, and Randomized Experiments</b> SAS Education	📍 Virtual
2019	<b>Advanced R Markdown</b> RStudio Conference	📍 Austin, Texas
2018	<b>Mobile Health RCTs and Medical Studies Using EHR Data</b> ENAR Spring Meeting	📍 Atlanta, Georgia
2010	<b>Regression Modeling Strategies</b> Vanderbilt University	📍 Nashville, Tennessee
2009	<b>Missing Data and Causal Inference</b> Brown University	📍 Providence, Rhode Island

## PUBLICATIONS

Toledano AY, **Blevins Peratikos M.** Statistical Considerations in Clinical Trials for In Vitro Diagnostic Medical Devices. In: Gibbs JN, Mullen AB, eds. *Diagnostics at a Crossroads: Navigating IVD Regulation in a Changing Environment*. FDLI; 2021.

**Blevins Peratikos M**, Weeks HL, Pisansky A, Yong RJ, Stringer EA. Effect of Preoperative Opioid Use on Adverse Outcomes, Medical Spending, and Persistent Opioid Use Following Elective Total Joint Arthroplasty in the United States: A Large Retrospective Cohort Study of Administrative Claims Data. *Pain Med*. 2019.

Watson AR, Simon DM, **Blevins Peratikos M**, Stringer EA. Medical utilization surrounding initial opioid related diagnoses by coding method. *Am J Manag Care*. 2020.

Bravo MP, **Blevins Peratikos M**, Muicha AS, Mahagaja E, Alvim MFS, Green AF, Wester CW, Vermund SH. Monitoring Pharmacy and Test Kit Stocks in Rural Mozambique: U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief Surveillance to Help Prevent Ministry of Health Shortages. AIDS research and human retroviruses, 2020

Martin-Willett R, **Blevins M**, Bailey, L, McCormick, Z, Aliyu, MH, Interdisciplinary wellbeing construct developed among resettled refugees *Journal of International Migration and Integration* 20:1, 15-30; 2019.

Muller C, Watson AR, **Blevins Peratikos M**, Morris LC, Stringer EA, The Association of Preoperative Opioid Tapering with Postoperative Opioid Use and Health Care Utilization. *Pain Medicine* 20:3, 595-596; 2019.

Audet CM, Wainberg ML, Oquendo MA, Yu Q, **Blevins Peratikos M**, Duarte, CS, Martinho S, Green AF, González-Calvo L, Moon TD, Depression among female heads-of-household in rural Mozambique: A cross-sectional population-based survey. *Journal of affective disorders* 227, 48-55; 2018.

De Boni RB, **Blevins Peratikos M**, Shepherd BE, Grinsztejn B, Cortes C, Padgett D, Gotuzzo E, Belaunzaran-Zamudio PF, Rebeiro PF, Duda SN. Is substance use associated with HIV cascade outcomes in Latin America? *PLoS one* 13(3) e0194228; 2018.

Wainberg M, Oquendo MA, **Blevins Peratikos M**, Gonzalez-Calvo L, Pinsky I, Duarte CS, Yu Q, Green AF, Martinho S, Moon TD. Hazardous alcohol use among female heads-of-household in rural Mozambique. *Alcohol* 73, 37-44 2018.

Yin L, Zhao Y, **Blevins Peratikos M**, Song L, Zhang X, Xin R, Sun Z, Xu Y, Zhang Li, Hu Y. Risk prediction score for HIV infection: development and internal validation with cross-sectional data from men who have sex with men in China. *AIDS and Behavior* 22:7 2267-2276; 2018.

Fritz CQ, **Blevins M**, Lindegren ML, Wools-Kaloutsian K, Musick BS, Cornell M, Goodwin K, Addison D, Dusingize JC, Messou E. 2017 Comprehensiveness of HIV care provided at global HIV treatment sites in the IeDEA consortium: 2009 and 2014. *JIAS*. 20(1):20933.

Clouse K, **Blevins M**, Lindegren ML, Yotebieng M, Nguyen DT, Omondi A, Michael D, Zannou DM, Carriquiry G, Pettit A. 2017. Low implementation of Xpert MTB/RIF among HIV/TB co-infected adults in the International epidemiologic Databases to Evaluate AIDS (IeDEA) program. *PLoS One*. 12(2):e0171384

Carlucci JG, **Blevins M**, Kipp AM, Lindegren ML, Du QT, Renner L, Reubenson G, Ssali J, Yotebieng M; Mandalakas AM. 2017. Tuberculosis treatment outcomes among HIV/TB co-infected children in the International Epidemiology Databases to Evaluate AIDS (IeDEA) network. *JAIDS* 75(2):156.

Silvestri DM, **Blevins M**, Wallston KA, Afzal AR Alam N, Andrews B, Derbew M, Kaur S, Mipando M, Mkony CA; 2017. Nonacademic Attributes Predict Medical and Nursing Student Intentions to Emigrate or to Work Rurally: An Eight-Country Survey in Asia and Africa The American journal of tropical medicine and hygiene 96(6):1512-1520

Sarko, Kidane A, **Blevins M**, Ahonkhai AA, Audet CM, Moon TD, Gebi UI, Gana AM, Wester CW, Vermund SH, Aliyu MH. 2017 HIV status disclosure, facility-based delivery and postpartum retention of mothers in a prevention clinical trial in rural Nigeria. *International health*. 9(4):243-251.

Shepherd BE; **Blevins Peratikos M**, Rebeiro PF, Duda SN, McGowan CC. 2017. A pragmatic approach for reproducible research with sensitive data AJE 186(4):387-392.

Shemwell SA, **Blevins Peratikos M**, Gonzalez-Calvo L, Renom-Llonch M, Boon A, Martinho S, Cherry CB, Green AF, Moon TD. 2017. Determinants of full vaccination status in children aged 12-23 months in Gurue and Milange districts, Mozambique: results of a population-based cross-sectional survey International health. 9(4):234-242

Carlucci JG, **Blevins Peratikos M**, Cherry CB, Lopez ML, Green AF, Gonzalez-Calvo L, Moon TD. 2017. Ogumaniha-SCIP Zambezia Consortium; Prevalence and determinants of malaria among children in Zambezia Province, Mozambique. Malaria journal. 16(1):108.

Audet CM, **Blevins M**, Cherry CB, Gonzalez-Calvo L, Green AF, Moon TD. Understanding intra-vaginal and labia minora elongation practices among women heads-of-households in Zambezia Province, Mozambique. Culture, Health & Sexuality. 2017.

Bayham M, **Blevins M**, Lopez M, Olupona O, Gonzalez-Calvo L, Ndatimana E, Green AF, Moon TD, Ogumaniha-SCIP Zambezia Consortium. Predictors of Health-Care Utilization Among Children 6-59 Months of Age in Zambezia Province, Mozambique. The American Journal of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene. 2017.

Kipp AM, **Blevins M**, Haley CA, Mwinga K, Habimana P, Shepherd BE, Aliyu MH, Ketsela T, Vermund SH. 2016. Factors associated with declining under-five mortality rates from 2000 to 2013: an ecological analysis of 46 African countries. BMJ Open: 6(1):e007675.

Samo RN, Agha A, Shah SA, Altaf A, Memon A, **Blevins M**, Qian HZ, Vermund SH. 2016. Risk Factors for Loss to Follow-Up among People Who Inject Drugs in a Risk Reduction Program at Karachi, Pakistan. A Case-Cohort Study. PLoS One: 11(2):e0147912.

Audet CM, **Blevins M**, Chire YM, Aliyu MH, Vaz LM, Antonio E, Alvim F, Bechtel R, Wester CW, Vermund SH. Engagement of Men in Antenatal Care Services: Increased HIV Testing and Treatment Uptake in a Community Participatory Action Program in Mozambique. AIDS and Behavior. 2016 Feb 23:1-1.

Moon TD, Hayes CB, **Blevins M**, Lopez ML, Green AF, Gonzalez-Calvo L, Olupona O. Factors associated with the use of mosquito bed nets: results from two cross-sectional household surveys in Zambia Province, Mozambique. Malaria journal. 2016 Apr 11;15(1):1.

Charles MK, Lindegren ML, Wester CW, **Blevins M**, Sterling TR, Dung NT, Dusingize JC, Avit-Edi D, Durier N, Castelnovo B, Nakigozi G. Implementation of Tuberculosis Intensive Case Finding, Isoniazid Preventive Therapy, and Infection Control ("Three I's") and HIV-Tuberculosis Service Integration in Lower Income Countries. PloS one. 2016 Apr 13;11(4):e0153243.

Aliyu MH, **Blevins M**, Audet CM, Kalish M, Gebi UI, Onwujekwe O, Lindegren ML, Shepherd BE, Wester CW, Vermund SH. Integrated prevention of mother-to-child HIV transmission services, antiretroviral therapy initiation, and maternal and infant retention in care in rural north-central Nigeria: a cluster-randomised controlled trial. The Lancet HIV. 2016 May 31;3(5):e202-11.

**Blevins M**, Wehbe FH, Rebeiro PF, Caro-Vega Y, McGowan CC, Shepherd BE. Interactive Data Visualization for HIV Cohorts: Leveraging Data Exchange Standards to Share and Reuse Research Tools. PloS one. 2016 Mar 10;11(3):e0151201.

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Audet CM, Salato J, **Blevins M**, Silva W, Gonzalez-Calvo L, Vermund SH, Gaspar F. Occupational hazards of traditional healers: repeated unprotected blood exposures risk infectious disease transmission. Trop Med & Int Health. 2016 Sep 1.

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Qian HZ; Ruan Y, Tao J, Yin L, Amico KR, Shepherd BE, Liu H, **Blevins M**, Simoni JM, Shao Y. 2016. Impact of Text Messaging and Peer Counseling on Initiation and Adherence of HIV Antiretroviral Therapy among Newly-diagnosed MSM. ARHR. 32:367-367

Sivasubramaniam P, Quinn CE, **Blevins M**, Hajajra AA, Khuri-Bulos N, Faouri S, Halasa N. 2015. Neonatal Outcomes of Infants Admitted to a Large Government Hospital in Amman, Jordan. Global Journal of Health Science 7(4):p217.

Paulin HN, **Blevins M**, Koethe JR, Hinton N, Vaz LME, Vergara AE, Mukolo A, Ndatisimana E, Moon TD, Vermund SH, Wester CW. 2015. HIV testing service awareness and service uptake among female heads of household in rural Mozambique: results from a province-wide survey. BMC Public Health:1:p132.

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Aliyu MH, **Blevins M**, Arinze F, Megazzini KM, Bussell S, Dunlap J, Odoh C, Gebi UI, Muhammad MY, Shepherd BE, Audet CM, Vermund SH, Wester CW. 2015. Enrolment trends in a comprehensive HIV programme in rural north-central Nigeria: improved care indices, but declining quality of clinical data over time. Pathogens and global health 109(2):75-83.

Bestawros M, Chidumayo T, **Blevins M**, Canipe A, Bala J, Kelly P, Filteau S, Shepherd BE, Heimbigner DC, Koethe JR. 2015. Increased Systemic Inflammation is Associated with Cardiac and Vascular Dysfunction over the First 12 Weeks of Antiretroviral Therapy among Undernourished, HIV-Infected Adults in Southern Africa. J AIDS Clin Res 6(3).

Aliyu MH, **Blevins M**, Megazzini KM, Parrish DD, Audet CM, Chan N, Odoh C, Gebi UI, Muhammad MY, Shepherd BE, Wester CW, Vermund SH. 2015. Pregnant women with HIV in rural Nigeria have higher rates of antiretroviral treatment initiation, but similar loss to follow-up as non-pregnant women and men. International Health: ihv032.

Nyirenda CK, Kabagambe EK, Koethe JR, Kiage JN, Chi BH, Musonda P, **Blevins M**, Bosire CN, Tsai MY, Heimbigner DC. 2015. Plasma Fatty Acids in Zambian Adults with HIV/AIDS: Relation to Dietary Intake and Cardiovascular Risk Factors. Journal of Nutrition and Metabolism.

Audet CM, Gutin SA, **Blevins M**, Chiau E, Alvim F, Jose E, Vaz LME, Shepherd BE, Rose CD. 2015. The Impact of Visual Aids and Enhanced Training on the Delivery of Positive Health, Dignity, and Prevention Messages to Adult Patients Living with HIV in Rural North Central Mozambique. PLoS One 10(7): e0130676.

Carriquiry G, Fink V, Koethe JR, Giganti MJ, Jayathilake K, **Blevins M**, Cahn P, Grinsztejn B, Wolff M, Pape JW, Padgett D, Madero JS, Gotuzzo E, McGowan CC, Shepherd BE. 2015. Mortality and loss to follow-up among HIV-infected persons on long-term antiretroviral therapy in Latin America and the Caribbean. JIAS 18(1).

Luz PM, Belaunzarán-Zamudio PF, Crabtree-Ramirez B, Caro-Vega Y, Hoces D, Rebeiro PF, **Blevins M**, Pape JW, Cortes CP, Padgett D, Cahn P, Veloso VG, McGowan CC, Grinsztejn B, Shepherd BE. 2015. CD4 Response Up to 5 Years After Combination Antiretroviral Therapy in Human Immunodeficiency Virus-Infected Patients in Latin America and the Caribbean. Open Forum Infect Dis. 2(2):ofv079.

Heimbigner DC, Carothers CL, **Blevins M**, Warner TL, Vermund SH. 2015. Impact of Global Health Research Training on Career Trajectories: The Fogarty International Clinical Research Scholars and Fellows Program. Am J Trop Med Hyg: 14-0705.

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Rose, ES, **Blevins, M**, Gonzalez-Calvo L, Ndatimana E, Green AF, Lopez M, Olupona O, Vermund SH, Moon TD. 2015. Determinants of undernutrition among children aged 6 to 59 months in rural Zambezia Province, Mozambique: Results of two population-based serial cross-sectional surveys. *BMC nutrition*: 1:1(41).

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Parrish DD, **Blevins M**, Megazzini KM, Shepherd BE, Mohammed MY, Wester CW, Vermund SH, and Aliyu MH. 2013. Haemoglobin recovery among HIV-1 infected patients on zidovudine-based antiretroviral therapy and other regimens in north-central Nigeria. *International journal of STD & AIDS* 25(5):355-9.

Lou J, **Blevins M**, Ruan Y, Vermund SH, Tang S, Webb GF, Shepherd BE, He X, Lu H, Shao Y, Qian H. 2014. Modeling the Impact on HIV Incidence of Combination Prevention Strategies among Men Who Have Sex with Men in Beijing, China. *PLoS One* 9:3.

✉ Mwanahamuntu MH✉, Sahasrabuddhe VV✉, **Blevins M✉**, Kapambwe S, Shepherd BE, Chibwesha C, Pfaendler KS, Mkumba G, Vwalika B, Hicks ML, Vermund SH, Stringer JSA, Parham GP. 2014. Monitoring the performance of ``screen-and-treat'' cervical cancer prevention programs. *International Journal of Gynecology & Obstetrics*.

Audet, CM, **Blevins M**, Rosenberg C, Farnsworth S, Salato J, Fernandez J, Vermund SH. 2014. Symptomatic HIV-positive persons in rural Mozambique who first consult a traditional healer have delays in HIV testing: A cross-sectional study. *Journal of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndromes*.

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Heimburger DC, Warner TL, Carothers CL, **Blevins M**, Thomas Y, Gardner P, Primack A, and Vermund SH. 2014. Recruiting Post-Doctoral Fellows into Global Health Research: Selecting NIH Fogarty International Clinical Research Fellows. *The American Journal of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene*: 13-0741.

da Silva M, **Blevins M**, Wester CW, Manjolo J, Jose E, Gonzalez LC, Shepherd BE, Moon TD, Vaz LME. 2014. Patient Loss to Follow-Up Before Antiretroviral Therapy Initiation in Rural Mozambique. *AIDS and behavior*, 1-13.

Canipe A, Chidumayo T, **Blevins M**, Bestawros M, Bala J, Kelly P, Filteau S, Shepherd BE, Heimburger DC, Koethe JR. 2014. A 12 week longitudinal study of microbial translocation and systemic inflammation in undernourished HIV-infected Zambians initiating antiretroviral therapy. *BMC infectious diseases* 14 (1), 521.

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Yinyang Mwanahamuntu MH, Sahasrabuddhe VV, **Blevins M**, Kapambwe S, Shepherd BE, Chibwesha C, Pfaendler KS, Mkumba G, Vwalika B, Hicks ML, Vermund SH, Stringer JS, Parham GP. 2013. Utilization of Cervical Cancer Screening Services and Trends in Screening Positivity Rates in a 'Screen-And-Treat' Program Integrated with HIV/AIDS Care in Zambia. *PloS One* 8:9.

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