I, Lydia Bazzano, make the following declaration based on my personal knowledge and declare under the penalty of perjury pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746 that the following is true and correct.

I. **Background**

1. I am Dr. Lydia Angela Louise Bazzano. I am a senior physician and Executive Chair of the Ochsner Institutional Review Board at Ochsner Health System (OHS), and Professor of Epidemiology at the Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, where I direct the Center for Lifespan Epidemiology Research. A fellow of the American College of Physicians and Diplomate of the American Board of Internal Medicine, I did my residency training at the Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center Internal Medicine Residency program in Boston, Massachusetts associated with the Harvard Medical School. I received my medical degree from Tulane University School of Medicine and a Master of Public Health Degree (MPH) as well as a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Epidemiology from the Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine.
2. As a professor of Epidemiology at Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, I teach classes in Clinical Epidemiology, which is a subfield of epidemiology focused on the issues relevant to clinical medicine. Epidemiology is commonly defined as the investigation and control of the distribution and determinants of disease in populations. Clinical epidemiology involves the application of population level principles of epidemiology to the individual care of patient in clinical medicine. In this capacity, I teach medical students in the dual degree MD/MPH and MD/PhD programs in Epidemiology, as well as students of public health in the MPH program.

3. As a Senior Physician in Department of Internal Medicine at Ochsner Health System, I supervise residents in the Internal Medicine in the ambulatory primary care clinic. Prior to this position, from 2012 to 2014, I served as a physician in the Department of Hospital Medicine attending patients admitted to medical units at the main campus of Ochsner Hospital located at 1514 Jefferson Highway in New Orleans, Louisiana. In addition, I currently serve as the Executive Chair of the Ochsner Institutional Review Board, which protects the rights of human participants in clinical research.

4. I have broad expertise in the fields of Epidemiology and Internal Medicine with more than 170 peer-reviewed publications in across a range of health outcomes including but not limited to infectious, cardiovascular and metabolic diseases.

5. My CV is attached as Exhibit A.

II. COVID-19 in Louisiana

6. The novel coronavirus, officially known as SARS-CoV-2 (Coronavirus), causes a disease known as COVID-19. COVID-19 has now reached pandemic status. At the time of this
declaration, 5,237 people have been diagnosed with COVID-19 in Louisiana, 38,967 people have been tested for SARS-CoV-2, 1,355 of those people have been hospitalized with 438 requiring mechanical ventilation, and 239 deaths reported. The numbers of infection and death in the United States as a whole, and in Louisiana specifically, are likely underestimated due to the lack of test kits available.

7. The growth rate of COVID-19 cases in Louisiana has been rapid and is expected to outpace hospital bed capacity and Intensive Care Unit (ICU) capacity across the state in both urban and rural parishes. Even the most conservative epidemiologic models of virus transmission in which only 20% of the population become infected with SARS CoV-2, indicate that the need for hospital beds, ICU beds, and ventilators for mechanical ventilation will far exceed the currently available supply, and even an augmented supply.

8. The population of Louisiana has a high prevalence of co-occurring underlying medical conditions that increase vulnerability to severe disease from the virus. The CDC identified underlying medical conditions that may increase the risk of serious COVID-19 for individuals of any age, including high blood pressure, metabolic disorders (such as diabetes), heart and lung disease, and neurologic conditions. States in the Mississippi Delta region, including Louisiana, and Mississippi, lead the nation in prevalence of chronic diseases such as hypertension with age standardized prevalence of 37.5% and 40.1% of the population of each

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4 How will hospitals accommodate a growing number of COVID-19 patients? Harvard Global Health Institute COVID-19 Hospital Capacity Estimates 2020 https://globalepidemics.org/
state, respectively, self-reporting hypertension compared to 28.9% nationally. Similarly for diabetes, Louisiana ranks 47th in the nation with prevalence of 14.1% of the population having diabetes compared to a national prevalence of 10.9%; for cardiovascular (heart) disease 6% of the population compared to 4.2% nationally, and 5.1% of Louisiana’s population has suffered stroke (neurologic disease) compared to only 3.4% nationally. The percentage of Medicare enrollees with four or more chronic conditions (multiple chronic conditions) in Louisiana is 43.7% compared to 37.8% nationally. Because of this high prevalence of co-morbid conditions in the population of Louisiana (as well as other states in the Southern Mississippi Delta), vulnerability to severe disease from SARS CoV-2, requiring hospitalization and ICU level of care, as well as mechanical ventilation, is likely to be greater than in other regions or states, diabetes, and cardiovascular diseases, further taxing the limited medical infrastructure

9. For the aforementioned reasons, the hospitalization rate and requirements for ICU level care due to severe COVID-19 are likely to be higher in Louisiana than in other states where co-occurring underlying conditions are less frequently manifested in the general population.

III. COVID-19 in Rural Louisiana

10. Rural medical infrastructure and capacity has been decreasing over time. Individuals in rural parishes of Louisiana and neighboring Southern states face more barriers to fast and efficient medical care than those in urban areas due to declining medical infrastructure. Most rural hospitals have very limited ICU capacity and few ventilators as compared to hospitals

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6 Data available at https://www.americashealthrankings.org/health-topics, accessed March 30th, 2020
and medical facilities in urban areas. Based on regional estimates of hospital capacity in Louisiana, towns in rural parishes such as Lake Charles in Calcasieu Parish and Alexandria in Rapides Parish demand for ICU and hospital beds will far outpace availability. For example, Alexandria has an estimated 20 ICU beds available regionally, however even using the best case scenario estimate of transmission (20% infected) approximately 2,002 individuals would need ICU level care due to infection which would require approximately 133 ICU beds needed in the next 6 months alone. More realistic models of transmission with a 40% or 60% rate of infection project a severely insufficient hospital and ICU bed capacity in rural areas which has a very strong potential to result in large number of excess deaths.

11. Severe COVID-19 cases that exceed rural medical capacity will require transfer to urban hospitals where ICU and mechanical ventilation capacity is expected to be higher. However, demand for hospital and ICU beds in urban areas is expected to far exceed supply as well, resulting in delays in transfer of care until beds become available, if at all.

12. Geographic transfer of patients who are infected and exhibiting severe signs of COVID-19, if possible, from rural to urban medical centers may require several days and could be associated with poorer outcomes due to the transfer itself. In addition, transfer of patients with an infectious respiratory organism that can remain airborne for significant lengths of time poses risks for transmission to medical staff and others.

IV. COVID-19 in ICE Detention Centers in Rural Louisiana

13. Community transmission is occurring across the state of Louisiana. Out of a total of 64 parishes, 60 have reported cases of COVID-19 including parishes where ICE detention

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facilities exist. Staff at detention facilities are likely to become infected and transmit the infection to other staff and detainees. Due to the lack of systematic nationwide testing, it is likely that infections will occur and go undetected during several days of incubation which are typically asymptomatic.

14. After SARS CoV-2 infection has occurred in a facility that is highly unlikely to be contained using the procedures outlined in the Interim Reference Sheet on 2019-Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). Many aspects of congregative environments such as ICE detention facilities make it difficult if not impossible to contain transmission. In Louisiana, 28 clusters of two or more linked cases have already occurred in congregative facilities, primarily nursing homes.

15. The protocol for detection and containment of COVID-19 in ICE facilities relies in part on questioning detainees about travel and sick contacts. These questions are likely to be unreliable and provide a false sense of security given the broad community-based transmission occurring in Louisiana. Staff themselves are likely exposed and bring the virus into the congregative environment during the asymptomatic period prior to fever and respiratory symptoms. Efforts to isolate detainees who have become infected are not likely to effectively contain infection because of the characteristics of the SARS CoV-2 virus and its long duration of airborne transmission due to small aerosolized particles. Only specialized negative pressure isolation rooms are documented to be effective against transmission do to small aerosolized particles.
V. Specific Cases

The 16 plaintiffs in this lawsuit present with personal health characteristics that put them at high to very high risk for complications from COVID-19 should they be exposed to the virus in detention.

a. Mr. Jose Ruben Lira Arias (46 yo male) Suffers from Diabetes and high blood pressure. This person is at a higher risk for complications due to his diagnosis of diabetes.

b. Ms. Leyanis Tamayo Espinoza (46 yo female) suffers from Diabetes, hypertension, chronic renal issues. This person is at a very high risk for complications related to the novel coronavirus due to her co-occurring multiple chronic conditions (multi-morbidity). Kidney disease renders one more susceptible to infections. Chronic renal (kidney) issues also limit the use of many medications to treat symptoms because most medications are cleared through the kidneys.

c. Ms. Edilia Del Carmen (53, F), suffers from Diabetes, kidney issues. She is at a very high risk for complications related to the novel coronavirus due to her co-occurring multiple chronic conditions (multi-morbidity). Chronic renal (kidney) issues also limit the use of many medications to treat symptoms because most medications are cleared through the kidneys. Kidney disease renders one more susceptible to infections, and may also limit the use of many medications to treat symptoms because most medications are cleared through the kidneys.
d. Ms. Viankis Maria Yanes Pardillo (59, F) suffers from a seizure disorder. Her age puts her at a high risk for complications from COVID-19. While available data suggest that epilepsy alone does not increase the risk of getting coronavirus, covid-19 or that it increases the risk for more severe disease, however some medications used to treat seizures may affect a person’s immune system.

e. Mr. Arnaldo Alexis Mujica Rangle (63, M) suffers from Diabetes, hypertension. This person is at a very high risk for complications related to the novel coronavirus due to his co-occurring multiple chronic conditions (multi-morbidity). This person’s age also increases the risk for complications.

f. Ms. Rosabel Carrera (59, F) suffers from Diabetes, hypertension, unspecified heart issues, obesity. This person is at a very high risk for complications related to the novel coronavirus due to her co-occurring multiple chronic conditions (multi-morbidity) and obesity. Her age may increase the risk for complications. This person’s age also increases the risk for complications.

g. Ms. Tatalu Helen Dada (40, F). She suffers from Asthma; Hypothyroidism, Grave’s Disease, compromised immune system; Her asthma diagnosis puts her at a high risk for complications from COVID-19. The treatment for her Grave’s Disease (an auto-immune condition in which the body attacks itself) may make a person immunocompromised and predispose a person for certain cancers.

h. Ms. Sonia Lemus Tejada-Dejaso (53, F) suffers from Hypertension, unspecified heart issues. This person is at a very high risk for complications related to the
novel coronavirus due to her co-occurring multiple chronic conditions (multi-morbidity).

i. Ms. Matilde Flores de Saavedra (78, F). She suffers from Diabetes, hypertension. This person is at a very high risk for complications related to the novel coronavirus due to her co-occurring multiple chronic conditions (multi-morbidity). This person is at an extremely high risk for complications due to her age.

j. Mr. Diego Carrillo Och (65, M) who has no known medical problems is at a high risk for complications due to his age.

k. Mr. Suresh Kumar (37 M) is malnourished, immunocompromised, and suffers from Hep C, liver infections. This person is at a very high risk for complications related to the novel coronavirus due to his immunocompromised status. Being malnourished significantly lowers one’s immunity and would render one much more susceptible to acquiring an infection and having a harder time fighting it off.

l. Mr. Pardeep Kumar (28, M). He is malnourished, immunocompromised, and has failing kidneys. This person is at a very high risk for complications related to the novel coronavirus due to his immunocompromised status. Being malnourished lowers one’s immunity and would render one much more susceptible to acquiring an infection and having a harder time fighting it off. Kidney failure in and of itself puts a person in the extremely high risk category for morbidity and mortality. Failing kidneys complicate every known medical condition and make it very difficult to treat and manage any/all medical conditions.
m. Ms. Nadira Sampath Grant (53, F) suffers from Diabetes, diabetic neuropathy. This person is at a very high risk for complications related to the novel coronavirus due to her diabetes and the diabetes complications (neuropathy) which suggest her diabetes is not under good control.

n. Ms. Griselda del Bosque (F, 59) suffers from asthma. She is at a high risk for complications related to her lung disease. This person is also at a high risk for complications due to her age.

o. Mr. Alex Hernandez (49, M). He suffers from Barrett’s esophagus, hypertension. This person is at a high risk for complications related to the novel coronavirus due to his high-blood pressure.

p. Mr. Antonio Lopez Agustin (36, M). He suffers from unspecified heart condition, hypertension. This person is at a high risk for complications related to the novel coronavirus due to his high-blood pressure and heart condition.

q. Mr. Sirous Asgari (59, M). He suffers from hypertension and an unspecified respiratory condition with a history of repeat episodes of pulmonary pneumonia. This person is at high risk for complications related to the novel coronavirus due to his high-blood pressure and lung condition.

VI. Conclusion and Recommendations

16. For the reasons above, it is my professional judgment that the plaintiffs, currently in ICE’s immigration detention centers in rural areas of Louisiana are at high risk of contracting SARS CoV-2 due to living in a congregative environment, and that they are much more likely to
experience poor outcomes including multiorgan failure and death if they do become infected because of the shortage of rural hospital infrastructure and capacity.

17. Given transmission rates based on even the most conservative epidemiologic models, bed capacity in urban areas is likely to be far exceeded thus transfer to those hospitals will be improbable or impossible and poses risks to both the patient, health care workers, and others.

18. The recommendations of the ICE Health Service Corps embodied in Interim Reference Sheet on 2019-Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) will not be sufficient to prevent infection in ICE detainment facilities in Louisiana where community transmission is occurring in nearly all parishes.

VII. Expert Disclosures

None.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Signature: Date: March 31st, 2020

Location: Metairie, LA

Lydia Bazzano
Exhibit A
CURRICULUM VITAE

Lydia Angela Louise Bazzano, MD, PhD, MPH
*Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine*
Full Professor of Epidemiology
*Ochsner Clinic Foundation*
Senior Physician, Internal Medicine

CONTACT INFORMATION

**Business Address:** Tulane University Health Sciences Center
School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine
Department of Epidemiology
1440 Canal St., Suite 2034
New Orleans, LA 70112

Ochsner Clinic Foundation
Center for Primary Care and Wellness
1401-A Jefferson Hwy, 2nd Floor
New Orleans, LA 70121

**Business Telephone and fax:** (504) 988-7323 – T office; (504) 842-3535 - O office
(504) 988-1568 - T fax; (504) 842-4248 - O fax
(504) 450-2066 – cell

**Business email Address:** lbazzano@tulane.edu
lbazzano@ochsner.org

**Home Address:** 4401 Avron Blvd.
Metairie, LA 70006

**Citizenship:** USA

**Gender:** Female

**Marital Status:** Married

**Number of Children:** 1

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Science Summa cum Laude (Ecology and Environmental Biology), May 1996
Newcomb College, Tulane University, New Orleans, Louisiana
Doctor of Philosophy (Epidemiology), December 2000  
Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, New Orleans, Louisiana  

Doctor of Medicine, May 2002  
Tulane University School of Medicine, New Orleans, Louisiana  

Master of Public Health (Epidemiology), May 2002  
Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, New Orleans, Louisiana  

POST-DOCTORAL TRAINING  

June, 2002- July, 2003  
Internship in Internal Medicine  
Department of Medicine  
Beth Israel Deaconess Hospital  
Harvard School of Medicine  
Boston, Massachusetts  

June, 2003- July, 2005  
Residency in Internal Medicine  
Department of Medicine  
Beth Israel Deaconess Hospital  
Harvard School of Medicine  
Boston, Massachusetts  

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATIONS  

1996-present  
Basic Life Support Certification (BLS)  

2002-present  
Advanced Cardiac Life Support Certification (ACLS)  

2003-present  
United States Medical Licensure Examination Certification  

2002-2009  
Massachusetts Medical Licensure  

2005-present  
Louisiana Medical Licensure  

2005-present  
Diplomate, American Board of Internal Medicine Certification  

2015-present  
Certified Institutional Review Board Professional (CIP)  

2017-present  
Diplomate, American Board of Obesity Medicine Certification
**ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS**

July, 2019- Professor of Epidemiology, Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine

July, 2014- Lynda B & H Leighton Steward Professorship in Nutrition Research Director, Center for Lifespan Epidemiology Research Department of Epidemiology, Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine

January, 2013- Senior Lecturer, University of Queensland School of Medicine Ochsner Clinical School

July, 2012 Associate Professor of Epidemiology (with Tenure), Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine

July, 2005-2012 Assistant Professor of Epidemiology, Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine

July, 2005-2013 Clinical Assistant Professor of Medicine, Tulane University School of Medicine

June, 2007 Adjunct Assistant Professor, Pennington Biomedical Research Center, Louisiana State University

**CLINICAL PRIVILEGES AND APPOINTMENTS**

2019- Senior Staff Physician, Internal Medicine, Ochsner Medical Center, Jefferson, LA

2012 -2019 Active Staff Physician, Internal Medicine, Ochsner Medical Center, Jefferson, LA

2005-2012 Active Staff Physician, Internal Medicine, Tulane Lakeside Hospital, Metairie, LA

2005-2012 Active Staff Physician, Internal Medicine, Tulane HCA Hospital, New Orleans, LA

2006-2012 Active Staff Physician, Internal Medicine, Medical Center of Louisiana at New Orleans, New Orleans, LA

**HONORS AND AWARDS**

1996 Phi Beta Kappa National Honor Society Newcomb College, Tulane University

1996 Fred R. Cagel Memorial Award in Biology Newcomb College, Tulane University

2000 Population Research Award in Epidemiology Tulane University School of Public health and Tropical Medicine
2002 Jeremiah and Rose Stamler Research Award, Finalist
American Heart Association, Council on Epidemiology and Prevention

2002 Janet M. Glasgow Memorial Achievement Citation
American Medical Women’s Association
Tulane University School of Medicine

2002 Medical Student Award
American Federation for Medical Research
Tulane University School of Medicine

2002 Alpha Omega Alpha Medical Honor Society
Tulane University School of Medicine

PUBLIC POLICY ACTIVITY

2020-2025 Dietary Guidelines for Americans Advisory Committee I have been appointed to the 2020 Committee, https://www.cnpp.usda.gov/dietary-guidelines

2005-2015 Dietary Guidelines for Americans My work has been cited in the Scientific Report from the Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committee in each year (2005, 2010, 2015) of guidelines over the past 15 years


United States Preventive Services Task Force My work has been referenced in the following.

American Heart Association/American College of Cardiology, Guidelines and Statements

My work has been referenced in all of the following guidelines and statements:


World Health Organization

I was invited to give a presentation at a joint conference of the World Health Organization and the food and Agriculture Organization on “Effects of Fruits and Vegetables on Risk of CVD and Diabetes.”

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND OFFICES

1997- Member of the American Medical Association
2003-2009 Member of the Massachusetts Medical Society
2005- Member of the Louisiana State Medical Society
2005- Member of the Society of General Internal Medicine
2005- Member of the Nutrition and Epidemiology Councils, American Heart Association
2007 Fellow, American College of Nutrition
2008-2011 Elected Member, Evidence Based Medicine Task Force, Society of General Internal Medicine
2012 Member, Southern Society for Clinical Investigation
2013 Fellow, American College of Physicians
2016- Member, American Association of University Professors
2017-2018 Board Member, American Association of University Professors, Tulane Chapter
2017-present Elected Councilor, Executive Council, Southern Society for Clinical Investigation

NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEES

Study Section and Scientific Reviews

NIHR-CCF (National Institute for Health Research Central Commissioning Facility for UK Department of Health) Peer review for Department of Health Applied Research Program—“Delivering the Diabetes Prevention Program in a UK Community Setting,” 2006

Member, National Board of Public Health Examiners 2008 Item-Writing Committee, Meetings September 28-29th, 2006 and September 10-11th, 2007

Office of Dietary Supplements, National Institutes of Health, Reviewer for 2007 Annual Bibliography of Significant Advances in Dietary Supplements Research, 2007
Ad-hoc Member, Health Services Organization and Delivery (HSOD) Study Section, National Institute of Health, Center for Scientific Review, February 5-6th, 2009

Member, External Advisory Panel, Peer review for Dry Grain Pulses Collaborative Research Support Program (CRSP), Office of Agriculture, EGAT, United States Agency for International Development (USAID), October 16th, 2009

Member, Special Emphasis Panel, National Institutes of Health, Center for Scientific Review, Internet Assisted Review, February 16-18th, 2011

Member, Special Emphasis Panel reviewing applications for the RFA HL-12-004 entitled “Maximizing the scientific value of the NHLBI biologic specimen repository: Scientific opportunities (R21)”, National Institutes of Health, Center for Scientific Review, November 7, 2012

Ad-hoc Member, Neurological, Aging and Musculoskeletal Epidemiology Study Section, National Institute of Health, Center for Scientific Review, June 13th-14th, 2013

Ad-hoc Member, Neurological, Aging and Musculoskeletal Epidemiology Study Section, National Institute of Health, Center for Scientific Review, October 15th-16th, 2015


Ad hoc Member, Cancer, Heart, and Sleep Epidemiology Study Section - A (CHSA), National Institute of Health, Center for Scientific Review, October 27th-29th, 2016

Ad hoc Member, Neurological, Aging and Musculoskeletal Epidemiology Study Section, National Institute of Health, Center for Scientific Review, February 5th-6th, 2018

Regular Appointed Member, Neurological, Aging and Musculoskeletal Epidemiology Study Section, National Institute of Health, Center for Scientific Review, July 1, 2018 - 2022

SERVICE

Journal Reviewer

American Journal of Clinical Nutrition
British Journal of Nutrition
Nutrition, Metabolism & Cardiovascular Disease
American Journal of Epidemiology
Annals of Neurology
Annals of Internal Medicine
Canadian Medical Association Journal
Circulation
Diabetes Care
Epidemiology
Hypertension
JAMA (Journal of the American Medical Association)
JAMA Internal Medicine
Journal of the American College of Nutrition
Kidney International
Lancet
Nature
Public Library of Science (PLoS) One
Public Library of Science (PLoS) Medicine
Stroke
Science

**Journal Editorial Boards**

2011-present Nutrition Metabolism and Cardiovascular Disease

**Academic Committees**

2005-present Member, Tulane MD/MPH Advisory Committee

2008-2010 Chair, Tulane MD/MPH Advisory Committee

2006-2008 Member, Tulane SPH&TM Culminating Exam Committee

2008, 2017 Chair, Tulane Epidemiology Faculty Search Committee (Cardiovascular Epidemiology)

2009-2012 Member, Program Committee, Tulane Interdisciplinary PhD in Aging Studies

2009-2014 Alternate Member, Tulane University Biomedical Institutional Review Board

2017-2018 Secretary, General Faculty, Tulane School of Public Health & Tropical Medicine

2018-2021 Senator, Tulane University Senate (3 year term)

2012-present Steering Committee Member, Building Interdisciplinary Research Careers in Women’s Health (BIRCWH)

2014-present Ochsner Institutional Review Board, Chair Panel A

2014-present Chair, Bogalusa Heart Study Steering Committee, Tulane University

2019-present Advancement, Promotion and Tenure Committee, Tulane School of Public Health & Tropical Medicine
Other Committees

2011-2012  Alternate Member, New Orleans VA Institutional Review Board

CONSULTANCIES

2017-2020  Mizkan Ltd – consultancy to provide scientific and clinical input in the design and operation of a clinical trial examining the effects of a vinegar beverage on blood pressure in black and white men and women with pre-hypertension as defined in the most recent national guidelines.

2015-2016  Wellness and Nutrition Advisory Board (WNAB) – consultancy organized by Sabra Dipping Company to advise the company regarding scientific advances in nutrition which provide a strategic opportunity to promote healthy dietary patterns incorporating hummus and other Sabra products.

2007-2009  Bean Expert Advisory Panel (BEAN) – consultancy organized by Bush Beans. The Panel is composed of 11 nationally renowned food and nutrition, health, and culinary experts who advise on ways to help Americans achieve the 2005 Dietary Guidelines recommendation to consume 3 cups per week of legumes, such as beans, as part of a healthy diet

TEACHING

Current

Course Director  EPID 6420 Clinical Epidemiology (Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, 2007-present)

Course Director  EPID 6430 Clinical and Translational Research Methods (Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, 2018-present)

Lecturer  EPID 790 Advanced Epidemiology Methods (Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, 2008-2011)

Lecturer  EPID 6220 Cardiovascular Disease Epidemiology (Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, 2000-2002, 2005-present)

Lecturer  EPID 6500 Nutritional Epidemiology (Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, 2017-present)
Lecturer  SPHU 3200 Nutrition and Chronic Disease (Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, 2015-present)

Past

Course Director  EPID 6220 Cardiovascular Disease Epidemiology (Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, 2009-2012)

Lecturer  EPID 6430 Clinical and Translational Research Methods (Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, 2015-2017)

Students Advised Each Year by Level of Degree

Master Students (by year of graduation or expected)

2007
Kristina Lewis (MD/MPH)
Jeffrey Wolters (MD/MPH)
Hannan Natalia (MD/MPH)
Ulana Pogribna (MD/MPH)

2008
Melissa DeVito (MD/MPH)
Kyle Fargen (MD/MPH)
Mary McDonald (MD/MPH)
Jeannie Rhee (MD/MPH)
Ajay Tejwani (MD/MPH)
Michael Tees (MD/MPH)

2009
Eduardo Castro-Echeverry (MD/MPH)
Joseph Prows (MD/MPH)
James Lukens (MPH)
Margaret Jones (MD/MPH)
Katherine Kerisit (MD/MPH)
Jason Collins (MPH)
Bridgette Collins-Burrow (MPH)
Nedret Copur (MPH)
Houman Dahi (MPH)
Christiane Hadi (MPH)
Julie Kumata (MPH)
T C Narumanchi (MPH)
Supat Thammasitboon (MPH)
Aggarwal, Shivang (MPH)

2010
Jordan Awerbach (MD/MPH)
Kelly Lafaro (MD/MPH)
Oni Olirunde (MS)
Eric Richter (MS-CR)
Sindjuja Marupudi (MPH)
Alina D. Fotino (MPH)

2011
Aaron Boojindasum (MD/MPH)
Jordan Hoffman (MD/MPH)
Edward Mannina (MD/MPH)
Ashley Nitschke (MD/MPH)
Snow Petersen (MD/MPH)
Tina Wang (MD)
Brian Zwecker (MD/MPH)
Jerome Crowley (MD/MPH)
Supat Thommasitboon (MPH)

2012
David Bateman (MD/MPH)
Daniel Bourgeois III (MD/MPH)
Joanne So (MD/MPH)
Thomas Jan (MD/MPH)
Kutaiba Al-Shebeeb (MPH)
Palwasha Anwari (MPH)
Cassandra J. Heiselman (MPH)

2013
Kayleen Bailey (MD/MPH)
David German (MD/MPH)
Michael R. Halstead (MD/MPH)
Marsha Smith (MD/MPH)

2014
Mohamed H. Eloustaz (MD/MPH)
Cary T. Grayson (MD/MPH)
Nicole Jackson (MD/MPH)
Erica Jones (MD/MPH)
Jessica Langston (MD/MPH)
Simon Christopher Lim (MD/MPH)
Tianming Liu (MD/MPH)
Daniel Reid (MD/MPH)
Rebecca Reimers (MD/MPH)
Lucy Witt (MD/MPH)
Elliot S. Brannon (MPH/PeaceCorp)
Kenny L. Wang (MPH)
Babalola Olayiwola (MPH)

2015
Maeh Al-Shawaf (MPH)
Nkechi Mbaebie (MPH)
Oduche Igboechi (MD/MPH)
Anita Madison (MD/MPH)
William (Cameron) McGuire (MD/MPH)
Brigid Avendido (MD/MPH)
Ngoc Ly (MD/MPH)

2016
Brian Burkett (MD/MPH)
Chad Bush (MD/MPH)
Erin Dawson (MD/MPH)
Brian Duffell (MD/MPH)
Michelle Fleshner (MD/MPH)
Emily Harkins (MD/MPH)
Haley Johnson (MD/MPH)
Jason Ohlstein (MD/MPH)
Stacey Ullman (MD/MPH)
Aktar Faisal (MPH)
Sarah Ali (MPH)

2017
Alexandra Haugh (MD/MPH)
Kelly Jensen (MD/MPH)
Meghan McGwier (MD/MPH)
Shoshana Newman-Gerhardt (MD/MPH)
Hunter Smith (MD/MPH)

2018
Brigid Adviento (MD/MPH)
Christopher Carr (MD/MPH)
Thomas Flowers (MD/MPH)
Zachary Koretz (MD/MPH)
Gregory Minutillo (MD/MPH)
William Preston (MD/MPH)
Christopher Schmitt (MD/MPH)
David Swift (MD/MPH)
Natalie Fortune (MS)

2019
Kionna Henderson (MPH)
Peng Cheng (MPH)

2020
Kyle Arnold (MD/MPH)
Hannah Bernstein (MD/MPH)

Doctoral Dissertation Committees (Member and Chaired)

Dissertation Committees (Chair)

Angela M. Thompson, MPH
PhD in Epidemiology 2012
“Impact of Hurricane Katrina on Medication Adherence and Health Care Facility Utilization among Hypertensive Veterans”
Current Position: Epidemiologist at Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta, Georgia

Tian Hu, BM, MPH
PhD in Epidemiology 2015
“Nutritional Factors in the Progression of Chronic Kidney Disease”
Current Position: Post-doctoral fellow at University of Minnesota, School of Public Health, Division of Epidemiology and Community Health, Minneapolis, Minnesota

Ben Pollock, MPH  
PhD in Epidemiology 2017  
“Cardiovascular Risk Mobility: A Novel Application of Economic Theory to Characterize Life Course Cardiovascular Risk”  
Current Position: Epidemiologist, Mayo Clinic, Jacksonville, Florida

Patrick Stuchlik, MS  
PhD in Epidemiology 2018  
“Childhood and Young Adult Predictors of Cognitive Function in Middle Age: Evidence from the Bogalusa Heart Study”  
Current Position: Post-doctoral Fellow, University of California San Francisco, San Francisco, California

Dissertation Committee (Member)

Tanika Kelly, MPH 2008  
PhD in Epidemiology: Chair, Jiang He, MD, PhD  
“Genetic Variants and the Salt-Sensitivity of Blood Pressure in the Genetic Epidemiology Network of Salt-Sensitivity”  
Current Position: Associate Professor of Epidemiology, Tulane University SPHTM

Angela Shen, MPH 2011  
Executive ScD in Health Systems Management: Chair, Mahmud Khan, PhD  
“An Economic Evaluation for the Introduction of a Future HIV Vaccine”  
Current Position: Affiliate Faculty, Drexel University, Dornsife School of Public Health, Consultant - Vaccines and Immunizations, Captain (retired) US Public Health Service

Christopher Anderson, MPH, Expected 2020  
PhD in Epidemiology: Chair, Jeanette Gustat, PhD  
“The Built Environment, Health Contexts and Health States in the Bogalusa Heart Study Population”

Xiang Li, MPH Expected 2020  
PhD in Epidemiology: Chair, Lu Qi, MD, PhD

Jovia Nierenberg, MPH Expected 2020  
PhD in Epidemiology: Chair, Tanika Kelly, PhD

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-reviewed Publications


Metabolic syndrome and salt sensitivity of blood pressure in non-diabetic people in China: a

Relationship between plasma antioxidant concentrations and carotid intima-media thickness:
the Asymptomatic Carotid Atherosclerotic Disease In Manfredonia Study. Eur J Cardiovasc

Gu CC, Huang J, Hamm LL, He J. Novel genetic variants in the alpha-adducin and guanine
nucleotide binding protein beta-polypeptide 3 genes and salt sensitivity of blood pressure.

39. Bazzano LA, Gu D, Reynolds K, Chen J, Wu X, Chen CS, Duan X, Chen J, He J. Alcohol
135: 78-85.

40. Bazzano LA. Folic acid supplementation and cardiovascular disease: the state of the art. Am

41. Kelly TN, Bazzano LA, Fonseca VA, Thethi TK, Reynolds K, He J. Systematic review:
394-403.

42. Zhao Q, Gu D, Chen J, Bazzano LA, Rao DC, Hixson JE, Jaquish CE, Cao J, Chen J, Li J,
Rice T, He J. Correlation between blood pressure responses to dietary sodium and potassium

43. He J, Gu D, Chen J, Wu X, Kelly TN, Huang JF, Chen JC, Chen CS, Bazzano LA, Reynolds
K, Whelton PK, Klag MJ. Premature deaths attributable to blood pressure in China: a

44. Bazzano LA, Thompson AM, Tees MT, Nguyen CH, Winham D. Non-soy legume
consumption lowers cholesterol levels: A meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials. Nutr

45. Bazzano LA, Gu D, Whelton MR, Wu X, Chen CS, Duan X, Chen J, Chen JC, He J. Body

46. Thompson AM, Zhang Y, Tong W, Xu T, Chen J, Zhao L, Kelly TN, Chen C-S, Bazzano
LA, He J. Association of obesity and biomarkers of inflammation and endothelial
dysfunction in adults in Inner Mongolia, China. Int J Cardiol.. 2011;150:247-252.

47. Soliman EZ, Prineas RJ, Go AS, Xie D, Lash JP, Rahman M, Ojo A, Teal VL, Jensvold NG,
Robinson NL, Dries DL, Bazzano L, Mohler ER, Wright JT, Feldman HI; Chronic Renal
Insufficiency Cohort (CRIC) Study Group. Chronic kidney disease and prevalent atrial


medications among participants in the Chronic Renal Insufficiency Cohort (CRIC) and Hispanic-CRIC Studies. Am J Kidney Dis. 2012;60:27-38.


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Books and Book Chapters


Editorial, Commentary and Letters


6. **Bazzano LA.** No effect of folic acid supplementation on cardiovascular events, cancer or mortality after 5 years in people at increased cardiovascular risk, although homocysteine levels are reduced. (invited commentary) *Evid Based Med.* 2011;16:117-8


Meeting Proceedings and Statements


Published Abstracts

Follow-Up Study. Presented at the 40th Annual Conference on Cardiovascular Disease Epidemiology and Prevention. La Jolla, CA, March 2000.


10. **Bazzano LA**. Relationship between smoking status and apolipoprotein A-I, apolipoprotein B, and lipoprotein(a) in a representative sample of U.S. men and women. Presented at the 44th Annual Conference on Cardiovascular Disease Epidemiology and Prevention of American


27. Thompson AM, Zhang Y, Tong W, Xu T, Chen J, Zhao L, Kelly TN, Chen C-S, Bazzano L.A, He J. Association of Obesity and Biomarkers of Inflammation and Endothelial Dysfunction in Adults in Inner Mongolia, China. Presented at the 50th Annual Conference on Cardiovascular


CKD: The Chronic Renal Insufficiency Cohort Study. American Society of Nephrology, Renal Week 2011, November 10-13, Philadelphia, PA. Abstract #21730, Poster #TH-PO302


61. Pollock BD, Chen W, Harville EW, Zhao Q, **Bazzano LA.** Anger during young adulthood increases coronary heart disease risk. *Circulation.* 2016;133:AP208


63. Kelly T, Ajami NJ, **Bazzano LA,** Zhao J, Petrosino J, He J. Gut Microbiota Diversity and Specific Microbial Genera Associate with Cardiovascular Disease Risk. *Circulation.* 2016;133(Suppl_1):AP255


blood glucose and body mass index affects mid-adulthood physical performance. ADA 76th Scientific Sessions 2016. Abstract #198-LB (Late Breaking Poster Session, June 12th, 2016)


Other - Doctoral Dissertation

Bazzano LA. Diet and the Risk of Cardiovascular Disease among U.S. Adults. Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, New Orleans, LA. Doctor of Philosophy, 2000.

PRESENTATIONS

Invited Presentations and Workshops


5. “Epidemiological Evidence for the Effects of Fruits and Vegetables on Cardiovascular Disease and Diabetes”. Seminar presented to faculty and staff of Pennington Biomedical Research Center, Baton Rouge, LA, May 9, 2007.


8. “Folic Acid Supplementation in Cardiovascular Disease” Invited presentation: Cardiology Grand Rounds, Tulane University Department of Medicine, Division of Cardiology, New Orleans, LA, March 4, 2009.


18. Moderator, American Heart Association Epidemiology Conference, Life-course Epidemiology Session, Thursday, March 22nd, 2018, New Orleans, LA.

CURRENT RESEARCH GRANT PARTICIPATION

| Role: Site PI (Subcontract from Northwestern University at Chicago) |
| Project: PROmote weight loss in obese PAD patients to preVEnt mobility loss: the PROVE Trial |
| Period of Support: 04/01/2019- 03/31/2024 |
| Funding Source: NIH/NHLBI (UG3HL141729) |
| Funding Level: $3,019,993 |
| Principal Investigator: Mary McGrae McDermott, MD |
| Objectives: The proposed study will randomize 212 participants with peripheral arterial disease (PAD) and BMI > 28 kg/m² to one of two groups: weight loss + exercise (WL+EX) vs. exercise alone (EX). Participants will be randomized at three field centers: Northwestern University, University of Minnesota, and Tulane. Our primary outcome is change in six-minute walk distance at 12-month follow-up. Secondary outcomes are change in six-minute walk distance at 6-month follow-up, walking exercise adherence, and change in physical activity, patient-reported walking ability (measured by the Walking Impairment Questionnaire), and quality of life (measured by the SF12 Physical Component Score). |

| Role: Principal Investigator |
| Project: Lifespan Cardiovascular Risk Exposures and Alzheimer-related Brain Health: The Bogalusa Heart Study |
| Period of Support: 07/01/2019-06/30/2024 |
| Funding Source: NIH/NIA (2R01AG041200) |
| Funding Level: $3,715,021.00 |
| Principal Investigator: Lydia Bazzano, MD, PhD (contact PI) MPI: Owen Carmichael, PhD |
| Objectives: The proposed study will examine how cardiovascular risk factors (CVRF) and cumulative exposure to CVRF across the life-course influence Alzheimer-related indicators of brain health including performance on a standardized neurocognitive battery, transcranial doppler ultrasound, cerebral blood flow and oxygenation, 3T brain MRI and, in a subset, amyloid PET scanning, among participants in the Bogalusa Heart Study. |
Role: Principal Investigator

Project: **Early Life Glycemic Status and Alzheimer's Disease Neuroimaging Markers in Middle Age: The Bogalusa Heart Study**

Period of Support: 12/01/2018-11/30/2023

Funding Source: NIH/NIA (R01AG062309)

Funding Level: $3,608,663

Principal Investigator: Lydia Bazzano, MD, PhD (contact PI) MPI: Owen Carmichael, PhD

Objectives: This project will use neuroimaging and cognitive testing to explore long-term cognitive outcomes among Bogalusa Heart Study participants associated with high-normal early-life mean fasting plasma glucose, as well as Alzheimer’s Disease-related neurobiological substrates for these outcomes in a subset of participants will also undergo 3T brain MRI and amyloid PET.

Role: Principal Investigator

Project: **A Novel Research Infrastructure Enabling Life-course Studies of Healthy Aging**

Period of Support: 08/15/2018-07/31/2023

Funding Source: NIH/NIA R21/R33 Phased Innovation Award (R21AG057983)

Funding Level: $2,743,499

Principal Investigator: Lydia Bazzano, MD, PhD (contact PI) MPI: Elaine Urbina, Jessica Woo

Objectives: The overall objective of this proposal is to develop and enhance a novel research infrastructure that will advance the science of aging in the area of early life and childhood protective factors that contribute to “successful” aging. In the R21 phase, we will catalog and consolidate biorepositories across three cohorts, and in the R33 phase, we will demonstrate the feasibility of remote measurement methods.

Role: Principal Investigator

Project: **The Role of Vascular Aging in Cognitive and Physical Function**

Period of Support: 09/01/2012-11/30/2018 No Cost Extension

Funding Source: NIA (R01AG041200)

Funding Level: $2,399,927

Principal Investigator: Lydia A. Bazzano, MD, PhD

Objectives: This project will examine the role of vascular aging, lifestyle and diet in maintenance of cognitive and physical performance by recruiting 1,257 participants in the Bogalusa Heart Study who will undergo cognitive function, physical function and cardiovascular risk factor examination at baseline and again 2 years later at follow-up.

Role: Principal Investigator

Project: **A tRial of the idEal proteiN systEm versus loW fAt diet for weight Loss: RENEWAL**

Period of Support: 01/01/2018-12/31/2019

Funding Source: Ideal Protein of America, Inc.

Funding Level: $432,125
### RENEWAL

**Principal Investigator:** Lydia A. Bazzano, MD, PhD  
**Objectives:** RENEWAL is a randomized controlled clinical trial examining the effects of a restricted carbohydrate, optimal protein (Ideal Protein) diet as compared to a guideline-based, low-fat, restricted calorie diet on changes in body weight, composition, traditional and CVD risk factors.

**Role:** Co-Investigator  
**Project:** *Tulane Building Interdisciplinary Research Careers in Women's Health (BIRCHW)*  
**Period of Support:** 09/26/2002-07/31/2023  
**Funding Source:** NIH/ K12HD043451  
**Funding Level:** $2,693,710

### Tulane BIRCWH Program

**Principal Investigator:** Marie Krousel-Wood, MD  
**Objectives:** The Tulane BIRCWH Program provides mentored career development for junior faculty to increase the number of highly trained independent investigators in sex/gender differences and women's health in the field of cardiovascular and related diseases.

**Role:** Co-Investigator (Subcontract from Children’s Hospital Medical Center)  
**Project:** *Childhood CV Risk and Adult CVD Outcomes: an International Long-term Follow-up*  
**Period of Support:** 12/01/2014-11/30/2019  
**Funding Source:** NIH/NHLBI (R01HL121230)  
**Funding Level:** $10,561,912

### Tulane COBRE for Clinical and Translational Research in Cardiometabolic Diseases

**Principal Investigator:** Jiang He, MD, PhD  
**Objectives:** The overall objective of this COBRE application is to increase the quality and quantity of clinical, translational and implementation research in cardiometabolic diseases at Tulane University. Role:

**Role:** Site PI (Subcontract from Northwestern University at Chicago)  
**Project:** *Improve PAD Performance with Metformin: The PERMET Trial*  
**Period of Support:** 03/01/2018-11/30/2019  
**Funding Source:** NIH/NHLBI (R01HL131771)  
**Funding Level:** $2,974,184
Principal Investigator: Mary McGrae McDermott
Objectives: The PERMET trial is a placebo controlled double-blind randomized clinical trial to establish whether metformin (2,000 mgs daily) improves and/or prevents decline in walking performance in people with peripheral artery disease (PAD).

Role: Site PI (Subcontract from Northwestern University at Chicago)
Project: TELmisartan plus EXercise to improve functioning in PAD: The TELEX Trial
Period of Support: 03/01/2018-04/30/2019
Funding Source: NIH/NHLBI (R01HL126117)
Funding Level: $2,933,532
Principal Investigator: Mary McGrae McDermott
Objectives: TELEX is a randomized controlled clinical trial designed to establish whether telmisartan improves walking performance in people with peripheral artery disease (PAD). The TELEX trial will also determine whether telmisartan plus supervised exercise improves walking performance more than either therapy alone.

Role: Co-investigator
Project: The Roles of the Microbiome and Metabolome in Vascular Aging
Period of Support: 09/01/2016-05/31/2019 (NCE)
Funding Source: NIH/NIA (R21AG051914)
Funding Level: $263,375
Principal Investigator: Tanika Kelly, PhD
Objectives: To identify gut bacterial communities and metabolites influencing vascular aging among 300 Bogalusa Heart Study participants. These findings may also be used to advance clinical and public health practice through the development of novel therapies for CVD and promotion of healthy aging.

PAST RESEARCH GRANT PARTICIPATION

Role: Principal Investigator
Project: Lifespan Cardiovascular Exposures and Risk of Brain Injury in the Bogalusa Heart Study
Period of Support: 1/01/2017 – 12/31/2018
Funding Source: Louisiana Clinical and Translational Science Center - Pilot Project
Funding Level: $50,000
Principal Investigator: Lydia Bazzano, MD, PhD
Objectives: The goals of this project are to collect 3TMRI measures of brain health from members of the Bogalusa Heart Study, and to assess relationships between lifespan exposures to cardiovascular risk

Role: Co-Investigator
Project: Linking Health and Environmental Outcomes to Dietary Behaviours in the United States
Period of Support: 10/01/2015-08/31/2017
Funding Source: Wellcome Trust (106854/Z/15/Z)
Funding Level: $624,997
Principal Investigator: Diego Rose, PhD
Objectives: The project aims to improve our understanding of how dietary choices influence health and environmental outcomes, and how such choices can be modified through public policy.

Role: Co-Investigator (Subcontract via Louisiana Public Health Institute)

Project: PCORnet Bariatric Study
Period of Support: 10/01/2015-09/30/2017
Funding Source: PCORI OBS150530683
Funding Level: $4,568,390
Principal Investigator: David Arterburn, MD, MPH
Objectives: The main goal of this comparative effectiveness research study is to provide accurate estimates of the 1-, 3-, and 5-year benefits and risks of the three main surgical treatment options for severe obesity.

Role: Co-Investigator

Project: Long-Term Burden of Maternal Cardiovascular Risk Factors and Birth Outcomes
Period of Support: 08/05/2012-06/30/2017
Funding Source: NIH/NICHD (R01HD069587)
Funding Level: $1,538,429
Principal Investigator: Emily Harville, PhD
Objectives: The overall objective with this project is to determine the relationship between pre-pregnancy cardiovascular risk, from childhood through early adulthood, and birth outcomes.

Role: Co-Investigator

Project: Childhood Secondhand Smoke and Longitudinal Cardiovascular Risk Profile
Period of Support: 09/17/2012-06/30/2015
Funding Source: NIEHS (R01ES021724)
Funding Level: $1,203,299
Principal Investigator: Wei Chen, MD, PhD
Objectives: The major goal is to study childhood secondhand smoke exposure and its impact on cardiovascular disease risk from childhood to adulthood within a black-white population using a longitudinal cohort.

Role: Subcontract, Co-Investigator

Project: South American Center of Excellence in Cardiovascular Health
Period of Support: 06/08/2009-06/07/2014
Funding Source: NHLBI (HHSN268200900029C)
Funding Level: $5,270,206
Principal Investigator: Adolpho Rubenstein, MD
Objectives: The objective of the South American Center of Excellence in Cardiovascular Health (SACECH) is to establish a cohort in the Southern Cone of Latin America in order to (1) estimate the prevalence, distribution, and secular trend of major CVD and risk factors in the Southern Cone, (2) examine the association between traditional and novel CVD risk factors and incidence, (3) assess the burden of CVD, and (4) identify future interventions.

Role: Co-Investigator
Project: Clinical Center for Prospective Cohort Study of CRI
Period of Support: 09/28/2001-04/30/2013
Funding Source: NIDDK (U01DK060963)
Funding Level: $4,402,718
Principal Investigator: Jiang He, MD, PhD
Objectives: The major goals of this project are to examine risk factors for the progression of renal disease and development of cardiovascular disease in patients with chronic renal insufficiency.

Role: Co-Investigator
Project: Research Training in Gene-Environment Interaction in China
Period of Support: 07/01/2012-06/30/2017
Funding Source: Fogarty International Center (D43 TW009107)
Funding Level: $1,343,470
Principal Investigator: Jiang He, MD, PhD
Objectives: This joint training program of the Tulane University and Tropical Medicine and the Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences and Peking Union Medical College, and the National Center for Cardiovascular Diseases of China aimed to provide research training in gene-environment interaction in chronic diseases across the lifespan in China.

Role: Co-Investigator
Project: Comprehensive Approach for Hypertension Prevention and Control in Argentina
Period of Support: 04/01/2012 –03/31/2017
Funding Source: NHLBI (1U01HL114197-01)
Funding Level: $2,218,017
Principal Investigator: Jiang He, MD, PhD
Objectives: The overall objectives of the proposed cluster randomized trial are to test whether a comprehensive intervention program within a national public primary care system will improve hypertension prevention and control among uninsured hypertensive patients and their families in Argentina.

Role: Principal Investigator
Project: Heritability and Genome-wide Linkage of Lipid Phenotypes
Period of Support: 09/15/2008-06/30/2012
Funding Source: NHLBI (K08HL091108)
Funding Level: $458,800  
Principal Investigator: Lydia A. Bazzano, MD, PhD  
Objectives: The overall objectives of the proposed study are to investigate familial correlations, heritability, and major gene effects for serum lipid and lipoprotein phenotypes and investigate the role of quantitative trait loci by conducting genome-wide linkage analyses using 407 microsatellite markers.

Role: Junior Faculty Investigator  
Project: Tulane COBRE in Hypertension and Renal Biology  
Period of Support: 09/2007-08/2012  
Funding Source: NCRR (P20RR017659)  
Funding Level: $12 million  
Principal Investigator: Louis Gabriel Navar, PhD  
Objectives: The objectives are to provide an enriched mentoring environment to junior faculty investigators so that they can achieve independent status and national competitiveness and to augment and strengthen biomedical research capacity at Tulane University Health Sciences Center and the State of Louisiana in hypertension and associated renal and cardiovascular disease.

Role: Co-Investigator  
Project: Sodium Sensitivity and Risk of Hypertension  
Period of Support: 07/01/2007-07/31/2012  
Funding Source: NHLBI (R01HL087263)  
Funding Level: $2,834,971  
Principal Investigator: Jiang He, MD, PhD  
Objectives: The major objectives are to examine the relationship between blood pressure responses to dietary sodium and the risk of hypertension and to examine the association between biological candidate genes and the risk of hypertension.

Role: Principal Investigator  
Project: Impact of Hurricane Katrina on Medication Adherence and Health Care Facility Utilization among Veterans  
Funding Source: Tulane University Research Enhancement Fund-Phase II  
Funding Level: $45,000  
Principal Investigator: Lydia A. Bazzano, MD, PhD  
Objectives: This project evaluates adherence of hypertensive veterans to medication regimens and use of health care facilities before and after Hurricane Katrina.

Role: Primary Care Physician  
Project: Primary Care Access Stabilization Grant  
Period of Support: 09/2007-09/2010  
Funding Source: Louisiana Public Health Institute
| Funding Level: | $1,962,232 |
| Principal Investigator: | L. Lee Hamm, MD |
| Objectives: | The objective of this project is to restore and expand access to primary care in the greater New Orleans area in the wake of Hurricane Katrina and its aftermath. |

| Role: | Co-Principal Investigator |
| Project: | **Comparison of Efficacy and Safety of NPH Insulin and Glargine Insulin** |
| Period of Support: | 03/15/2007-06/15/2007 |
| Funding Source: | Eli Lilly & Co. |
| Funding Level: | $22,452 |
| Principal Investigator: | Lydia A. Bazzano, MD, PhD and Lizheng Shi, PharmD, PhD |
| Objectives: | The major objective of this project is to perform meta-analysis to examine treatment effects, hypoglycemia, glycosylated hemoglobin, weight gain and doses between Neutral Protamine Hagedorn (NPH) insulin and glargine insulin among person with type II diabetes. |

| Role: | Junior Faculty Scholar |
| Project: | **Building Interdisciplinary Research Careers in Women’s Health** |
| Period of Support: | 07/01/2005-06/30/2007 |
| Funding Source: | ODS/NICHD (K12HD43451) |
| Funding Level: | $449,993 |
| Principal Investigator: | Paul K. Whelton, MD, MSc. |
| Objectives: | This grant is designed to promote research and the transfer of research findings to clinical care that will benefit the health of women. |