Julia Whitman

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Education

Vanderbilt University
Nashville, Tennessee

M.S. in Biostatistics — *2024*

- Thesis title: Properties of variance estimators in finite sample sizes
- Advisors: Andrew Spieker, Jonathan Schildcrout

Imperial College London
London, England

M.Sc. in Epidemiology — *2014*

- Thesis title: Haem iron intake and risk of lung cancer in the European Prospective Investigation into Cancer and Nutrition (EPIC) cohort
- Advisor: Amanda Cross

University of St Andrews
St Andrews, Scotland

B.A. in English & Spanish — *2011*

Professional Experience

Meta
Seattle, WA

Senior Data Scientist (Contract) — *Sept 2024-present*

- Leads experimentation design and analysis for new generative AI onboarding tool across product development stages.
- Develops performance evaluation frameworks to assess key agent attributes, including groundedness, objectivity, and completeness.
- Supports data analytics efforts across onboarding, recruitment, and scheduling initiatives.
- Conducts statistical reviews for cross-functional data science team members, ensuring accuracy and robustness of analyses.

Vanderbilt University
Nashville, TN

Biostatistician - Graduate Research Assistant — *2022-2024*

- Worked as part of analytics team for "Accelerating COVID-19 Therapeutic Interventions and Vaccines" (ACTIV-6) trial under the supervision of Thomas Stewart, PhD.
- Led a quality of life analysis comparing patient symptoms between study arms. Presented this research at the 2024 Association of Clinical and Translational Science (ACTS) conference in Las Vegas, NV.
- Standardized data cleaning and analysis pipelines across trial arms.
- Conducted site-wide data quality checks for Data and Safety Monitoring Board and clinical review meetings.
- Contributed statistical support for study of health literacy and all-cause mortality among cancer patients. Generated manuscript tables and figures, and performed analytic revisions in response to reviewer comments.

University of California, San Francisco
San Francisco, CA

Data Manager — *2019-2021*

- Designed and managed database of cases seen at the UCSF Center for Neuroendocrine Tumors.
- Conducted meta-analysis of novel hyperparathyroid-localization technique for FDA new drug application.
- Led quality improvement study on genetic counseling, helping to standardize long-term patient follow up. This work motivated a pilot study in which patients with pancreatic neuroendocrine tumors were re-screened on expanded genetic panels to establish modern treatment options and consistent familial genetic testing.
- Supervised three trainees who presented their research at national conferences.

University of California, San Francisco
San Francisco, CA

Clinical Research Coordinator — *2017-2019*

- Managed several investigator-initiated and industry-sponsored studies.
- Oversaw protocol adherence, adverse event reporting, and compliance with FDA regulations.
- Screened patients for eligibility and managed patient participation over study duration.
- Established workflows between participating clinical departments, industry sponsors and laboratories.

Roache Orthopedics *San Francisco, CA*

Research Associate *2015-2016*

- Established prospective study on patient outcomes following orthopedic procedures.

Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center *Seattle, WA*

Research Intern *2014*

- Performed data mapping and cleaning for international study on colorectal cancer.

United Nations Development Programme *London, England*

Editor (Contract) *2014*

- Edited, proofread, and compiled reports for the Sustainable Health Financing & HIV Prevention Program.

Skills

Coding: R (dplyr, survival, Stan, etc.), Stata, SAS, Markdown, git, LaTeX, Presto (SQL)

Tools: GitHub, Posit Workbench, Tableau, RMarkdown, Quarto, REDCap

Awards & Recognition

2024	Vanderbilt Biostatistics Travel Award	*ACTS Conference*
2022	Alavi-Mandell Award	*JNM*
2018	Featured Speaker	*NANETS*
2014	Thesis with distinction	*Imperial College*

Conference Presentations

ACTS	(Poster) Impact of ACTIV-6 treatment on PROMIS-29 at 7, 14, 28, and 90 days	*Apr 2024*
GI ASCO	(Poster, contributing author) Phase II study of pembrolizumab plus capecitabine and bevacizumab in microsatellite stable (MSS) metastatic colorectal cancer	*Jun 2022*
NANETS	(Poster) Emerging Value of Multigene Panels for Germline Testing in Patients with Neuroendocrine Tumors	*Oct 2018*
NANETS	(Oral) Genomic profiling of extrapulmonary high-grade neuroendocrine neoplasms reveals 'actionable' mutations	*Oct 2018*

Publications

* Indicates co-authorship

1. Al Hussein, B., **Whitman, J.**,Kripalani, S., Idrees, K., Moses, K., Stewart, T. (2025) Health Literacy and All-Cause Mortality Among Cancer Patients. *Cancer,* p. Accepted.
2. Pacriorek, A., Mulvey, C., McKinley, M., Zhang, L., Cheng, I., Moon, F., Khuong, B. L., Shih, B., **Whitman, J.**, Bergsland, E. (2025) Burdens of gastroenteropancreatic neuroendocrine neoplasm by diverse race and ethnicities; a rigorous structural equation modeling. *Journal of the National Comprehensive Cancer Network,* p. Accepted.
3. **Whitman, J.** (2024). Properties of Variance Estimators in Finite Sample Sizes. *Electronic Theses and Dissertations, Vanderbilt University* – MS Thesis.
4. Le, B. K., McGarrah, P., Paciorek, A., Mohamed, A., Apolo, A. B., Chan, D. L., Reidy-Lagunes, D., Hauser, H., Del Rivero, J., & **Whitman, J.** (2023). Urinary Neuroendocrine Neoplasms Treated in the "Modern Era": A Multicenter Retrospective Review. *Clinical Genitourinary Cancer*, *21*(3), 403–414.
5. Umetsu, S. E., Kakar, S., Basturk, O., Kim, G. E., Chatterjee, D., Wen, K. W., Hale, G., Shafizadeh, N., Cho, S.-J., & **Whitman, J.** (2023). Integrated genomic and clinicopathologic approach distinguishes pancreatic grade 3 neuroendocrine tumor from neuroendocrine carcinoma and identifies a subset with molecular overlap. *Modern Pathology*, *36*(3), 100065.
6. Wang, S. J., **Whitman, J.**, Paciorek, A., Le, B. K., Nakakura, E. K., Behr, S. C., Joseph, N., Zhang, L., Hope, T. A., & Bergsland, E. K. (2023). Baseline tumor growth rate highlights the heterogeneity of well differentiated

gastroenteropancreatic neuroendocrine tumors and predicts for increases in Ki67 index over time. *Journal of Neuroendocrinology*, *35*(4), e13260.

7. Kasai, Y., Masui, T., Nakakura, E. K., Nakano, K., Sato, A., Uchida, Y., Yogo, A., Nagai, K., Anazawa, T., **Whitman, J.**, Le, B., & Hope, T. A. (2022). Preoperative risk stratification of lymph node metastasis for non-functional pancreatic neuroendocrine neoplasm: an international dual-institutional study. *Pancreatology*, *22*(1), 123–129.
8. **Whitman, J.**, Allen, I. E., Bergsland, E. K., Suh, I., & Hope, T. A. (2021). Assessment and comparison of 18F-Fluorocholine PET and 99mTc-sestamibi scans in identifying parathyroid adenomas: a metaanalysis. *Journal of Nuclear Medicine*, *62*(9), 1285–1291.
9. Chan, D. L., Bergsland, E. K., Chan, J. A., Gadgil, R., Halfdanarson, T. R., Hornbacker, K., Kelly, V., Kunz, P. L., McGarrah, P. W., & Raj, N. P., Reidy, D., Thawer, Al., **Whitman, J.**, Wu, L., Becker, C., Singh, S. (2021). Temozolomide in grade 3 gastroenteropancreatic neuroendocrine neoplasms: a multicenter retrospective review. *The Oncologist*, *26*(11), 950–955.
10. Chen, K. S., Lawhn-Heath, C., Behr, S., Juarez, R., **Whitman, J**., Paciorek, A., Nakakura, E. K., Fidelman, N., Feng, M. U.-S., & Bergsland, E. K. (2021). Outcomes after high-dose radiation in the management of neuroendocrine neoplasms. *Plos One*, *16*(6), e0252574.
11. **Whitman, J.**, Kardosh, A., Diaz Jr, L., Fong, L., Hope, T., Onodera, C., Joseph, N., Le, D., Fisher, G., & Bergsland, E. (2019). Complete response and immune-mediated adverse effects with checkpoint blockade: treatment of mismatch repair-deficient colorectal neuroendocrine carcinoma. *JCO Precision Oncology*, *3*, 1–7.
12. Ward, H. A.*, **Whitman, J.***, Muller, D. C., Johansson, M., Jakszyn, P., Weiderpass, E., Palli, D., Fanidi, A., Vermeulen, R., & Tjønneland, A. (2019). Haem iron intake and risk of lung cancer in the European Prospective Investigation into Cancer and Nutrition (EPIC) cohort. *European Journal of Clinical Nutrition*, *73*(8), 1122–1132.

Manuscripts in progress

13. **Whitman, J.**, Sulkowski, M., Rothman, R., Lindsell, C., Barrett, J., Stewart, T. Impact of ACTIV-6 treatment on PROMIS-29 at 7, 14, 28, and 90 days (In progress).
14. Bocobo, A. G., **Whitman, J.**, Wang, R., Behr, S., Carnevale, J. C., Cinar, P., Collisson, E. A., Fong, L., Keenan, B. P., Kidder, W. A., & Ko, A. H.. Phase II study of pembrolizumab plus capecitabine and bevacizumab in microsatellite stable metastatic colorectal cancer (In progress).