
Priya Patel, Ph.D.

Curriculum Vitae

Department of Kinesiology
California State University, Fullerton
800 North State College Blvd., KHS 222
Fullerton, CA 92831

priya.patel@fullerton.edu

Tel: (657) 278-3433

[Google scholar](#)

EDUCATION

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| 2016 – 2022 | PhD Kinesiology, <i>Cognitive Motor Neuroscience</i>
Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI, USA |
| 2014 – 2015 | MS Kinesiology, <i>Motor Neuroscience</i>
Texas A&M University, College Station, TX, USA |
| 2008 – 2013 | Bachelor of Physiotherapy, <i>Physical Therapy</i>
Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, Vadodara, Gujarat, India |

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

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| 2024 – Present | Co-Director
Motor Behavior Lab, California State University, Fullerton, CA |
| 2022 – Present | Assistant Professor
Department of Kinesiology, California State University, Fullerton, CA |
| 2022 – Present | Faculty
Center for Successful Ageing, California State University, Fullerton, CA |
| 2016 – 2021 | Graduate Assistant
Department of Kinesiology, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI |
| 2014 – 2015 | Graduate Assistant
Department of Health and Kinesiology, Texas A&M University |

CURRENT RESEARCH PROJECTS

1. Characterization of movements and motor skills during early childhood

Role: Principal Investigator

IRB #: HSR-23-24-30

This study analyzes biomechanics of motor skills in early childhood by quantifying movement patterns and their relation to the motor milestones, with the goal of establishing normative data to inform early diagnosis and intervention for motor delays.

2. Spontaneous Physical Activity during the first year of life

Role: Co-Principal Investigator

IRB #: HSR-18-19-99

This study uses wearable sensors to evaluate spontaneous physical activity in infants within a naturalistic, home environment, aiming to understand how early, unstructured movements contribute to motor development during the first year of life.

3. FunDoRoo Adaptation for Group Physical Activity Settings

Role: Co-Principal Investigator

IRB #: HSR-23-24-236

This project adapts the FunDoRoo program for group physical activity settings at the Center for Healthy Neighborhoods, focusing on promoting motor skill development in children from low-income groups through structured, interactive play.

SCHOLARSHIP

Refereed Publications:

1. Lee, S., Ahn, S., **Patel, P.**, & Myers, N. D. (2025). A meta-analysis of eHealth interventions to promote physical activity in young, middle-aged, and late middle-aged adults with obesity or overweight. *Obesity Reviews*. e13898. <https://doi.org/10.1111/obr.13898>
2. **Patel, P.**, Pandya, H., Ranganathan, R., & Lee, M-H. (2024). Automated classification of manual exploratory behaviors seen during early childhood using machine learning. *Journal of Motor Learning and Development*, 12(2), 386-411. <https://doi.org/10.1123/jmld.2023-0045>
3. Lee, S., **Patel, P.**, Myers, N. D., Pfeiffer, K. A., Smith, A. L., & Kelly, K. S. (2023). A Systematic Review of eHealth Interventions to Promote Physical Activity in Adults with Obesity or Overweight. *Behavioral Medicine*, 49(3), 213-230. <https://doi.org/10.1080/08964289.2022.2065239>
4. Lee, M. H., **Patel, P.**, & Ranganathan, R. (2022). Children are suboptimal in adapting motor exploration to task dimensionality during motor learning. *Neuroscience Letters*, 770, 136355. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.neulet.2021.136355>
5. **Patel, P.**, Lee, S., Myers, N.D., & Lee, M-H. (2021). Missing Data Reporting and Analysis in Motor Learning and Development: A Systematic Review of Past and Present Practices. *Journal of Motor Learning and Development*, 9(1), 109-128. <https://doi.org/10.1123/jmld.2020-0018>
6. Ranganathan, R., Tomlinson, A. D., Lokesh, R., Lin, T. H., & **Patel, P.** (2020). A tale of too many tasks: task fragmentation in motor learning and a call for model task paradigms. *Experimental Brain Research*, 1-19. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00221-020-05908-6>
7. Aspelund, S., **Patel, P.**, Lee, M-H., Kagerer, F.A., Ranganathan, R., & Mukherjee, R. (2020). Controlling a robotic arm for functional tasks using a wireless head-joystick: A case study of a child with congenital absence of upper and lower limbs. *PLoS ONE* 15(8): e0226052. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0226052>
8. **Patel, P.**, Shi, Y., Hajiaghajani, F., Biswas, S., & Lee, M-H. (2019). A novel two-body sensor system to study spontaneous movements in infants during caregiver physical contact. *Infant Behavior and Development*, 57, 101383. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.infbeh.2019.101383>
9. **Patel, P.**, & Gabbard, C. (2017). Adaptation and Preliminary Testing of the Developmental Coordination Disorder Questionnaire (DCDQ) for Children in India. *Physical & occupational therapy in pediatrics*, 37(2), 170-182. <https://doi.org/10.3109/01942638.2016.1150383>

Conference Presentations: (* indicates student presentations mentored by me)

1. Lee, DK., & **Patel, P.**, (June 2025). Transition from spontaneous movements to walking onset through behavioral and movement analysis. *North American Society for the Psychology of Sport and Physical Activity (NASPSPA)*, Tahoe, USA.
2. **Patel, P.**, Pandya, H., & Lee, DK., (June 2025). Automating infant posture detection using deep neural network-based classification. *North American Society for the Psychology of Sport and Physical Activity (NASPSPA)*, Tahoe, USA.
3. *Galdamez, B., Santonil, F., Ramos, Jocelyn., & **Patel, P.**, (April 2025). Socioeconomic Status and Its Effect on Language Development: A Systematic Review. *National Conference for Undergraduate Research (NCUR-2025)*, Pittsburgh, USA.
4. *Galdamez, B., Santonil, F., Ramos, Jocelyn., & **Patel, P.**, (November 2024). Socioeconomic Status and Its Effect on Language Development: A Systematic Review. *Southern California Conferences for Undergraduate Research (SCCUR-2024)*, San Bernardino, USA.
5. **Patel, P.**, Razo-Castaneda, A., Rodriguez, B., & Deiro, G., (June 2024). Environmental and individual influences on infant motor development: a systematic review. *International Motor Development Research Consortium meeting (I-MDRC)*, Ghent, Belgium.
6. **Patel, P.**, & Lee, DK., (June 2024). A longitudinal case study: transition from spontaneous movements to motor milestones through behavioral and movement analysis. *International Motor Development Research Consortium meeting (I-MDRC)*, Ghent, Belgium.
7. * Razo-Castaneda, A., Rodriguez, B., Deiro, G., & **Patel, P.**, (April 2024). GROWTH: Global Review of Factors in Whole-child Motor Development. *National Conference on Undergraduate Research (NCUR-2024)*, Long beach, USA.
8. * Razo-Castaneda, A., Rodriguez, B., Deiro, G., & **Patel, P.**, (November 2023). GROWTH: Global Review of Factors in Whole-child Motor Development. *Southern California Conferences for Undergraduate Research (SCCUR-2023)*, Fullerton, USA.
9. **Patel, P.**, Pandya, H., & Lee, M-H., (May 2022). Effect of Age on the Kinematic Characteristics of Commonly Observed Manual Exploratory Behaviors in Preschoolers. *North American Society for the Psychology of Sport and Physical Activity (NASPSPA)*, Hawaii, USA. (Verbal)
10. Lee, S., **Patel, P.**, Myers, N. D., Pfeiffer, K. A., Smith, A. L., & Kelly, K. S. (May 2022). A Systematic Review of eHealth Interventions to Promote Physical Activity in Adults with Obesity or Overweight. *North American Society for the Psychology of Sport and Physical Activity (NASPSPA)*, Hawaii, USA. (Poster)
11. **Patel, P.**, & Lee, M-H., (September 2021). Qualitative characterization of manual exploratory behaviors in early childhood as a function of object properties. *International Motor Development Research Consortium meeting (I-MDRC)*. (Virtual Verbal Presentation, *claimed Oral Presentation Student Award*)
12. **Patel, P.**, Pandya, H., Ranganathan, R., & Lee, M-H., (June 2021). Automated classification of manual exploratory behaviors seen during early childhood using machine learning. *North American Society for the Psychology of Sport and Physical Activity (NASPSPA)*. (Virtual Verbal Presentation)
13. Lee, M-H., **Patel, P.**, & Ranganathan, R., (May 2021). Children Show Differences in Motor Exploration When Learning to Control Body-Machine Interfaces Even When Task Dimensionality Is Reduced. *10th International IEEE/EMBS Conference on Neural Engineering (NER)*. (Minisymposium- Virtual Lecture Presentation)
14. **Patel, P.**, & Lee, M-H., (June 2020). Quantitative and Qualitative assessment of manual exploratory behaviors in early childhood as a function of object properties. *North American Society for the Psychology of Sport and Physical Activity (NASPSPA)*. (Virtual Verbal Presentation)

15. **Patel, P.,** Shi, Y., Hajiaghajani, F., Biswas, S., & Lee, M-H. (October 2019). A novel two-body sensor system to study spontaneous movements in infants during caregiver physical contact. *Society for Neuroscience (SfN)*, Chicago, USA. (Poster)
16. **Patel, P.,** Myers, N. D., Lee, M-H. & Lee, S., (June 2019). Missing Data Practices: A Systematic Review in Motor Learning and Development. *North American Society for the Psychology of Sport and Physical Activity (NASPSPA)*, Baltimore, USA. (Poster)
17. **Patel, P.,** Hajiaghajani, F., Biswas, S., & Lee, M-H., (June 2018). Effect of caregiver physical interaction on characteristics of spontaneous movements in infants. *North American Society for the Psychology of Sport and Physical Activity (NASPSPA)*, Denver, USA. (Verbal)
18. **Patel, P.** & Lee, M-H., (April 2018). Motor exploration in children and adults when learning a novel motor task. *Neural Control of Movement (NCM)*, Santa Fe, USA. (Poster)
19. **Patel, P.,** Padmanabhan, M., Hajiaghajani, F., Biswas, S., & Lee, M-H., (June 2017). Spontaneous Movements during Caregiver Contacts as an Early Window into ASD. *North American Society for the Psychology of Sport and Physical Activity (NASPSPA)*, San Deigo, USA. (Poster)
20. **Patel, P.,** Gabbard, C., & Wilson, B. (July 2015). Adaptation and Preliminary Testing of the Developmental Coordination Disorder Questionnaire (DCDQ) for Children in India. *International Conference on Developmental Coordination Disorder (DCD-11)*, Toulouse, France. (Poster)

Service Publications:

1. **Patel, P.,** & Gabbard, C. (2014). Developmental coordination disorder - What physical therapists need to know. *Physiotimes (India)* 6(2): 20-23

Invited Talks

1. **Patel, P.,** (November 2022). Movements show us how we learn: Insights on motor skill acquisition from biomechanical and behavioral perspectives. *Keynote Speaker at the Western Association for Sport Psychology and Physical Activity (WASPPA – 2022)*
2. **Patel, P.,** & Lee, M-H., (February 2022). Effect of age and object properties on the characteristics of manual exploratory behaviors in early childhood. *Presented to the Journal Club by International Motor Development Research Consortium meeting (I-MDRC).*

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Assistant Professor, California State University, Fullerton

2025 – Present KNES 461: Biomechanical Analysis of Human Movement

2022 – Present KNES 360: Movement Anatomy

2022 – Present KNES 361: Principles of Human Movement

Graduate Teaching Assistant, Michigan State University

2020 – 2021 KIN 251: Principles of Human Movement

2017 – 2018 KIN 360: Physical Growth and Motor Development

2016 – 2017 KIN 251: Principles of Human Movement

Guest Lecturer, Michigan State University

2021 KIN 860: Growth and Motor Behavior (*graduate class*)

2020 KIN 360: Physical Growth and Motor development (*undergraduate class*)

2019 KIN 860: Growth and Motor Behavior (*graduate class*)

2017 KIN 251: Principles of Human Movement (*undergraduate class*)

2016 KIN 360: Physical Growth and Motor Development (*undergraduate class*)

2016 KIN 251: Principles of Human Movement (*undergraduate class*)

MENTORSHIP AND ADVISING

Graduate level

1. Justin Castillo Fall 2024 – Present

Undergraduate level

1. Faith Santonil, Public Health, CSUF	Summer 2024 – Present
2. Jocelyn Ramos, Communicative Sciences and Disorder, CSUF	Summer 2024 – Present
3. Brittany Merino Galdamez, Communicative Sciences and Disorder, CSUF	Summer 2024 – Present
4. Jo-Chen Shih, Kinesiology, CSUF	Spring 2024 – Fall 2024
5. Alan Leon, Kinesiology, CSUF	Spring 2024 – Fall 2024
6. Krista Querubin, Kinesiology, CSUF	Spring 2024
7. Garrett Deiro, Kinesiology, CSUF	Fall 2023 – Present
8. Anelisa Razo-Castaneda, Psychology, CSUF	Summer 2023 – Summer 2024
9. Brittany Rodriguez, Psychology, CSUF	Summer 2023 – Summer 2024

HONORS AND AWARDS

2022	American Kinesiology Association Student Writing Award , Michigan State University
2021	Excellence in Research Award , Outstanding Article in the annual volume of Journal of Motor Learning and Development (JMLD)
2021	Oral Presentation Student Award , 5 th Assembly of International Motor Development Research Consortium (I-MDRC 2021)
2019	Supervisor Mentor of the Year (nominee) , Michigan State University
2015	Distinguished Honor Graduate by the College of Education and Human Development, Texas A&M University.
2015	Outstanding Student Award by the Department of Health and Kinesiology, Texas A&M University.

FUNDING

2025	2025 Engaging Graduate Students in Research, Scholarly, and Creative Activities (EG-RSCA) Program – The Undergraduate Research Opportunity Center (UROC), California State University, Fullerton (<i>awarded</i>)
2024	Junior/Senior Research Grant – Office of Research and Sponsored Projects, California State University, Fullerton (<i>awarded</i>)
2021	Dissertation Completion Fellowship – College of Education, Michigan State University (<i>awarded</i>)
2020	Clifford E. Erickson Memorial Scholarship – College of Education, Michigan State University (<i>awarded</i>)
2020	Kin Research Fellowship – College of Education, Michigan State University (<i>awarded</i>)
2020	Kin Endowed Fellowship – College of Education, Michigan State University (<i>unfunded</i>)
2020	Summer Research Fellowship – College of Education, Michigan State University (<i>awarded</i>)
2019	Dissertation and Research Practicum Support Fellowship – College of Education, Michigan State University (<i>awarded</i>)
2018 – 2019	Summer Research Renewable Fellowship – College of Education, Michigan State University (<i>awarded</i>)
2017	Dissertation and Research Practicum Support Fellowship – College of Education, Michigan State University (<i>unfunded</i>)
2017	Summer Research Development Fellowship – College of Education, Michigan State University (<i>awarded</i>)
2017	Graduate Student Research Enhancement Award – College of Education, Michigan State University (<i>awarded</i>)
2016	Dissertation and Research Practicum Support Fellowship – College of Education, Michigan State University (<i>unfunded</i>)
2014	Graduate Research Grant – College of Education and Human Development, Texas A&M University (<i>awarded</i>)
2014	Graduate Scholarship – College of Education and Human Development, Texas A&M University (<i>awarded</i>)

SERVICE

Professional ServicesProfessional Activities

2023 – 2024	Motor Development Committee Member for the North American Society for the Psychology of Sport and Physical Activity (NASPPA) Conference – 2024
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2022 – 2023 **Motor Development Committee Member** for the North American Society for the Psychology of Sport and Physical Activity (NASPSA) Conference – 2023

Journal Reviewer

1. Journal of Functional Morphology and Kinesiology
2. Applied Sciences
3. Disabilities
4. International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health
5. Family Relations
6. Motor Control
7. Journal of Motor Behavior
8. Research Quarterly for Exercise and Sport
9. Measurement in Physical Education and Exercise Sport

Professional Affiliations

2024 – Present Asian American Pacific Islander Faculty & Staff Association (AAPIFSA)

2021 – Present International Motor Development Research Consortium (I-MDRC)

2019 – Present Society of Neuroscience (SfN)

2014 – Present North American Society for the Psychology of Sport and Physical Activity (NASPSA)

2014 – 2016 The Huffines Institute for Sports Medicine & Human Performance

2013 – Present The Indian Association of Physiotherapists (Member of World Confederation for Physical Therapy) Society

University Services

Department Committees, California State University, Fullerton

2024 – Present **Chair**, Scholarships and Awards

2024 – Present **Course Coordinator**, KNES 360 course

2023 – Present **Committee Member**, Consolidated Course Fee (MCF)

2022 – 2024 **Committee Member**, Scholarships and Awards

College and University Level Committees, California State University, Fullerton

2024 – Present **Scholarships Co-Chair**, Asian American Pacific Islander Faculty Staff Board

2024 – Present **Committee Member**, College Commencement Planning Committee

2023 – Present **Committee Member**, Health Professions Advisory Committee

Community Outreach

January 2024 – December 2024 Collaborating with the Center for Healthy Neighborhoods to provide Physical Activity sessions for children from low-income households through the research project- “FunDoRoo

Adaptation for Group Physical Activity Settings"

June – July 2024	Served as a Research Faculty Mentor to three undergraduate research scholars under the Professions Advancing and Transforming Health (PATH) program
November 2023	Served as a moderator for the oral session of the Southern California Conferences for Undergraduate Research (SCCUR-2024), Fullerton, USA
June – July 2023	Served as a Research Faculty Mentor to two undergraduate research scholars under the Summer Research Experience (SRE) Program

Professional Development

1. Faculty Grad Advisor Mini-Conference	September 2024
2. FDC: Strategies for Inclusive Pedagogy: Flipping the Course and Ungrading	August 2024
3. Supporting Graduate Students of Color	February 2024
4. Equitable Pedagogy Course	2023 – 2024
5. I-MDRC Teaching Motor Development conference	November 2023
6. Anti-racism Training Workshop	September 2023
7. CANVAS Course Fundamentals Design Workshop	May 2023
8. Equitable Pedagogy Course	2022 – 2023
9. Faculty Development Center Monthly Meetings (x6)	August 2022 – April 2023

CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

2012 – 2013	Physical Therapist , Spandan Cerebral Palsy Rehabilitation Center
2012 – 2013	Physical Therapist , Sir Sayajirao Gaekwad Public Hospital
2009 – 2012	Physical Therapy Assistant , Sir Sayajirao Gaekwad Public Hospital