
SUMMARY OF EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS

I am a Project Scientist at the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH) and an Adjunct Professor in Epidemiology and Biostatistics at Western University. Through these experiences I have led and developed a prolific, externally funded research program focused on mental health research. I have also worked closely with a broad range of stakeholders, providing scientific expertise and critically appraising and synthesizing information. I have advanced knowledge of clinical and epidemiological research methods and biostatistics, and I am proficient at conveying technical details clearly and simply in accessible language. I have also built key relationships with multidisciplinary stakeholders and provided leadership by setting and overseeing the attainment of project goals, and managing competing interests, priorities, and deadlines.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Adjunct Research Professor

May 2022 – Present

Department of Epidemiology & Biostatistics, Western University

London, ON

- Lead and develop a research program focused on identifying and intervening on modifiable factors contributing to mental health and addictions.
- Supervise graduate and undergraduate students.

Project Scientist

Mar 2021 – Present

Institute for Mental Health Policy Research,

Toronto, ON

Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH)

- Identify and leverage nationally representative epidemiologic data, health surveys, and mortality data to support and inform public health policy.
- Design, implement, interpret, and report clinical and epidemiologic studies.
- Identify, develop, and implement novel and advanced statistical methods.
- Appraise and synthesize relevant sources of information, and present results in scientific, technical, and lay-audience publications.
- Provide leadership and oversight to international and multidisciplinary teams to effectively manage concurrent projects, deadlines, and competing priorities.
- Build and maintain effective strategic working relationships with internal and external partners to meet project needs.
- Provide mentoring and training to students and staff.

Biostatistician

Jun 2020 – Present

The Brain Recovery Project (Childhood Epilepsy Surgery Foundation)

Los Angeles, CA

- Provide scientific expertise and leadership on research methodology.
- Develop research methods based on clients' needs, and conduct advanced data analysis.
- Prepare scientific, technical, and lay-audience publications and presentations.
- Develop metrics and automate the generation of reports to optimize project deliverables.
- Clearly explain technical concepts and statistical results to a broad range of stakeholders.

Statistician

Jul 2018 – Aug 2021

Department of Medicine, Western University

London, ON

- Provided scientific expertise and leadership on research methodology, including protocol development, execution of study procedures, data analysis, and interpretation of results.
- Analyzed and interpreted data using a wide variety of advanced statistical methods.
- Drafted scientific manuscripts and lay summaries to communicate study results.
- Clearly explained technical concepts and statistical results to a broad range of audiences.
- As the inaugural statistician, I led the development of the department's statistical support program, standard operating procedures, and trainee resources.
- Provided leadership, trained new team members, and managed competing deadlines.

Methodology and Statistics Consultant

Jan 2017 – Dec 2017

Department of Epidemiology & Biostatistics, Western University

London, ON

- Assessed clients' needs, developed study protocols, and conducted advanced data analysis.
- Provided scientific expertise and strategic advice to clients with a broad range of skillsets.
- Clearly explained and communicated technical concepts and statistical results.

PhD Candidate

Sept 2016 – Apr 2021

Department of Epidemiology & Biostatistics, Western University

London, ON

- Developed a research program focused on identifying and intervening on key modifiable factors important for patients' long-term mental health and well-being.
- Analyzed data and interpreted results using a wide variety of advanced statistical methods, and published lay reports and scientific manuscripts.
- Designed and maintained systems to facilitate research conduct, intervention delivery, and databases to maintain complex data structures.

Clinical Research Project Coordinator

Dec 2010 – Aug 2016

Department of Psychology, Hospital for Sick Children and University of Toronto

Toronto, ON

- Coordinated and managed a wide variety of clinical research studies.
- Conducted statistical analyses and developed the knowledge translation plans.
- Designed and maintained the department's clinical databases.

EDUCATION

<u>Degree</u>	<u>Discipline</u>	<u>Institution</u>	<u>Years</u>
PhD	Epidemiology and Biostatistics	Western University	2016 – 2021
HBSc	Psychology and Biology	University of Toronto	2009 – 2013

SUMMARY OF RESEARCH ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Published >40 scientific manuscripts, and 7 book chapters (most as the leading author).
- Taught multiple methodology/statistics courses and workshops.
- Received \$600,000 in research funding as Co-Principal Investigator.
- Engaged in leadership roles, as Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary in multiple committees.

My complete academic CV is available at: https://kpuka.ca/files/Klajdi_Puka_CV.pdf