MARIA AMBROSIO, MD, MPH

Contact details

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EDUCATION

D.Phil. Candidate: University of Oxford, United Kingdom (2022-Present)

- I use mathematical linear modelling such as structural equation modelling and bootstrapping to investigate the human and socio-economic factors that facilitate the implementation of digital health interventions.
- Lead author in one paper published in the Journal of Medical Internet Research, a high impact journal in the health informatics field

Master of Public Health - GPA 4.0/4.0: Georgia State University, United States (2019-2021)

 Conducted a scoping review to investigate the institutional and policy level factors that could challenge and facilitate the implementation of unified electronic medical health records in low- and middle-income countries.

2017-2011 Belgorod State University, Russia: Doctor of Medicine in General Medicine

Awards

- Dean's List, 2021
- Winner of the Georgia State University <u>3 Minute Thesis Competition</u>, 2021

EMPLOYMENT

2024-Present University of Oxford, UK: Teaching Fellow Dept of Social Policy & Intervention: Quantitative Research Methods and Evaluation

- Development of resources for teaching statistical methods (e.g., meta-analysis, multilevel, and difference-in-difference models), data visualization, and reports in the programming language R.
- Weekly delivery of workshops for approximately 40 MSc and MPhil students.
- Marking of approximately 15 weekly assignments and provision of support through weekly office hours.

2022-2023 University of Oxford, UK: Senior Research Assistant, Global Parenting Initiative

- Operational management of a team of four people responsible for implementing and evaluating a chatbot-led public health program in two randomized controlled trials involving 24,000 participants in South Africa (£20M Lego Foundation Fund).
- Contributed to the planning, budgeting and implementation of two projects in collaboration with partners from international organizations such as the Word Health Organization, UNICEF and mothers2mothers.
- Led the development of two article publications and policy briefs (i.e. for South Africa and China) to inform government and non-government institutions about best practices in child protection and health and contributed to statistical analysis plans, grant proposals and donor reports.
- Communicated research plans and findings using epidemiological terms in webinars and international conferences such as the 2024 International Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect congress.
- Provided professional development and support by training partners across the global south (Malaysia, Tanzania, Kenya, South Africa, Philippines and Thailand) on data cleaning, visualisation and statistical analysis in R software language.

2021-2022 Arthritis Foundation, US: Public Health Specialist Intern

- Led the development of a database aimed to coordinate the recruitment of stakeholders and led the coordination of two volunteers in the Georgia Office.
- Lead data analysis of financial statements of 2 fiscal years and provided recommendations for more optimal resource allocation.

2020-2021 Georgia Department of Public Health, US: Public Health Specialist: Coordination of the COVID-19 pandemic response efforts

- Contributed Contributed to weekly meetings aimed at planning the COVID-19 pandemic response efforts in the state of Georgia.
- Conducted daily over-the-phone qualitative interviews with an average of 15 COVID-19-diagnosed patients.
- Worked collaboratively with community partners to effectively respond to the needs of every hospital-discharged patient and their families

2018-2018 Consulmed Clinic, Angola: Physician

• Conducted patient examination diagnosis and established treatment for an average of 20 patients a day. Examined and interpreted laboratory tests.

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE (CONSULTANCIES OR RESEARCH)

2022-Present The Global Parenting Initiative in the Global South (The Lego Foundation Fund): Co-Investigator

2019-2024 Children's Oral Health and Nutrition in Angola (Government of the Province of Zaire and Angola LNG Fund): Co-Investigator

AREAS OF EXPERTISE SKILLS

- Daily use of Microsoft office, Statistical computing with R, SAS and Python programming language and management tools such as Trello and Google Workspace
- Fluent speaking and writing in Spanish, Russian and Portuguese

KEY PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Ambrosio MDG, Lachman JM, Zinzer P., ... Melendez-Torres G. (2023). A factorial randomised controlled trial to optimise user engagement in a chatbot-led parenting intervention in South Africa: Study protocol for the ParentText Optimisation Trial. JMIR Preprints. DOI: 10.2196/preprints.52145. URL: https://preprints.jmir.org/preprint/52145

Klapow, M., Zinser, P., Lachman, J., Facciola, C., Han, Q., **Ambrosio, M.**, . . . Stern, D. (2023). Promoting family well-being at scale: Optimising and re-designing a digital parenting programme for reducing violence against children in Imics using the 6squid framework. Population Medicine, 5(Supplement). doi: DOI: https://doi.org/10.18332/popmed/164209

Ambrosio MDG, Vyas S, Stromin J., ... Lachman JM. [Manuscript in preparation for submission on 31/01/2025]. Associations between behavioural determinants and intention to use a chatbot-led parenting intervention by caregivers of adolescent girls in Mpumalanga, South Africa. JMIR.

RELEVANT PHILANTHROPIC WORK

2024-Present I am an active volunteer with the Arts, Crafts and Dinosaurs children's holiday club funded by the Oxfordshire County Council.

2012-2020 I have co-founded a project in a partnership with a faith-based institution that involved weekly visits of an average of 20 volunteers to the government run orphanage Lar Kuzola in Angola. The project aimed to create peer support for approximately 300 orphan children and adolescents.