

## Mustafa Steven Ascha

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### EDUCATION

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|-------------|--|
| 2016-2019   | Case Western Reserve University<br>Center for Clinical Investigation<br>Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Candidate for PhD in Clinical and Translational Science</li></ul>       |
| 2014-2016   | Case Western Reserve University<br>Center for Clinical Investigation<br>Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Graduate Certificate in Clinical Research</li><li>• GPA: 4.00</li></ul> |
| 2014-2016   | Case Western Reserve University<br>Department of Physiology and Biophysics <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Master's of the Sciences, Medical Physiology</li><li>• GPA: 3.95</li></ul>  |
| 2007 – 2011 | Case Western Reserve University <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Bachelor's of the Arts, Economics</li><li>• Minor, Philosophy</li><li>• GPA: 3.04</li></ul>  |

### WORK AND RESEARCH

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| May 2018 - present | Institute for Computational Biology, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland Ohio<br>Supervisor: Mark Beno, MSM<br>Biomedical and Patient-Centric Data ETL Specialist   |
| 2016 - present     | University Hospitals Case Medical Center, Cleveland, Ohio<br>Ear, Nose, and Throat Institute<br>Department of Otolaryngology – Head & Neck Surgery<br>Supervisor: Todd D. Otteson, MD, MPH<br>Donor Funded -- Enlarged Vestibular Aqueduct Research Program <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Study director, Enlarged Vestibular Aqueduct Registry (EVAR)</li></ul> |

- Wrote and submitted an IRB application for EVAR
- Ensured timely launch of EVAR by coordinating IRB interaction, website development, EVAR marketing, and supervisor input
- Submitted and earned approval for EVAR to be listed on ClinicalTrials.gov
  - <https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/study/NCT02798783>
- Authored and submitted manuscripts and abstracts for publication and presentation
- Wrote update letters to donors
- Conceived, implemented, and wrote manuscript for a retrospective study of hearing loss in EVA patients
  - Designed study to reflect longitudinal nature of hearing loss progression
  - Used repeated measures of hearing to construct linear mixed-effects models
  - Examined the impact of inner ear morphology on hearing loss
- Consulted with ENT residents to design and implement several retrospective studies
  - Wrote reproducible reports with methods and results for residents to use writing manuscripts

2014 - present      Cleveland Clinic Foundation, Digestive Disease Institute, Cleveland, Ohio  
 PI: Ibrahim Hanounch, MD

- Authored and submitted manuscripts and abstracts for publication and presentation

2010-2011      Louis Stokes Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Cleveland, Ohio  
                      Spinal Cord Injury and Disorders Department  
 Supervisor: Christine Woo, MS

- Developed telehealth program materials
- Participated in manuscript revision

2008 - 2010      Cleveland Clinic Foundation, Digestive Disease Institute, Cleveland, Ohio  
 PI: Nizar Zein, MD

- Designed experiments based on questions discovered during literature search
- Retrieved and pre-processed data
- Authored and submitted manuscripts and abstracts for publication and presentation

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

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### Peer Reviewed Articles

1. **Ascha MS**, Hanounch IA, Lopez R, Tamimi TA, Feldstein AF, Zein NN. The incidence and risk factors of hepatocellular carcinoma in patients with nonalcoholic steatohepatitis. *Hepatology*. 2010;51(6):1972-8. doi: 10.1002/hep.23527.PMID: 20209604.

2. **Ascha MS**, Ascha ML, Zein NN, et al. Treatment of Recurrent Hepatitis C Genotype 4 Post-Liver Transplantation with Sofosbuvir plus Simeprevir. *Int J Organ Transplant Med*. 2015;6(2):86-90. PMID: 26082832. PMCID: PMC4464282
3. **Ascha MS**, Ascha ML, Hanouneh IA. Management of immunosuppressant agents following liver transplantation: Less is more. *World J Hepatol* 2016;8(3): 148-161. doi:10.4254/wjh.v8.i3.148. PMID: 26839639. PMCID: PMC4724578.
4. Ascha M, Wang Z, **Ascha MS**, Dweik R, Zein NN, Grove D, Brown JM, Marshall S, Lopez R, Hanouneh IA. Metabolomics studies identify novel diagnostic and prognostic indicators in patients with alcoholic hepatitis. *World J Hepatol*. 2016;8(10):499-508. doi: 10.4254/wjh.v8.i10.499. PMID: 27057307. PMCID: PMC4820641.
5. Ascha M, Hanouneh M, **Ascha MS**, Zein NN, Sands M, Lopez R, Hanouneh IA. Transjugular Intrahepatic Porto-Systemic Shunt in Patients with Liver Cirrhosis and Model for End-Stage Liver Disease  $\geq 15$ . *Dig Dis Sci*. 2016 May 6. PMID: 27154510.
6. Nayfe R, **Ascha MS**, Ismail M, Salvino R. Gastrocolic Fistula as a Presentation of Concomitant Gastric and Colon Cancer in a Patient with a History of Metastatic Pancreatic Adenocarcinoma. *J Gastrointest Cancer*. 2016; Epub ahead of print. PMID: 27251299.
7. **Ascha MS**, Ascha ML, Hanouneh IA. Black Ascites: An interesting presentation of pancreatic duct leak. *Case Reports in Internal Medicine*. 2016; 3(4):18-21. doi: 10.5430/crim.v3n4p18.
8. **Ascha MS**, Manzoor N, Gupta A, Semaan M, Megerian C, Otteson TD. Vestibular Aqueduct Midpoint Width and Hearing Loss in Patients With an Enlarged Vestibular Aqueduct. *JAMA Otolaryngol Head Neck Surg*. 2017;143(6):601-608. doi: 10.1001/jamaoto.2016.4522 PMID: 28334328
9. Ascha M, **Ascha MS**, Gastman B. Identification of Risk Factors in Lymphatic Surgeries for Melanoma: A National Surgical Quality Improvement Program Review. *Ann Plast Surg*. 2017; Epub ahead of print. DOI: 10.1097/SAP.0000000000001152 PMID: 28650410
10. Ahadizadeh, E, **Ascha MS**, Manzoor N, Gupta A, Semaan M, Megerian C, Otteson TD. "Hearing loss in enlarged vestibular aqueduct and incomplete partition type II." 2017 Nov - Dec;38(6):692-697. doi: 10.1016/j.amjoto.2017.06.010. Epub 2017 Jun 23. PMID: 28793961
11. Nayfe, R, **Ascha, MS** and Rehmus, EH, 2017. Esophageal Squamous Cell Carcinoma Presenting with Streptococcus intermedius Cerebral Abscess. *Case Reports in Pathology*, 15 August 2017. PMCID: PMC5574295
12. Ascha M, **Ascha MS**, Tanenbaum J, Bordeaux JS. Risk Factors for Melanoma in Renal Transplant Recipients. *JAMA Dermatol*. 2017;153(11):1130–1136. doi:10.1001/jamadermatol.2017.2291 PMID: 28746700
13. Patel AV, Thuener JE, Clancy K, **Ascha M**, Manzoor NF, Zender CA. Submental artery island flap versus free flap reconstruction of lateral facial soft tissue and parotidectomy defects: Comparison of outcomes and patient factors. *Oral Oncology*. 2018 Mar;78:194-199. doi:

10.1016/j.oraloncology.2018.01.027. Epub 2018 Feb 20. PMID: 29496050

14. Arora KS, Wilkinson B, Verbus E, Montague M, Morris J, **Ascha M**, Mercer BM. Medicaid and Fulfillment of Desired Postpartum Sterilization. *Contraception*. 2018 Feb 25. 97(6), pp.559-564. doi: 10.1016/j.contraception.2018.02.012. PMID: 29490290
15. Patel ND, **Ascha MS**, Manzoor NF, Gupta A, Semaan M, Megerian C, Otteson TD. Morphology and cochlear implantation in enlarged vestibular aqueduct. *American Journal of Otolaryngology* , Article In Press. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.amjoto.2018.06.006>

#### Oral Presentations

1. **Ascha MS**, Hanouneh IA, Lopez R, Abu-Rajab Tamimi TI, Albeldawi M, Feldstein AE, McCullough AJ, Zein NN. "Cumulative Incidence and Risk Factors of Hepatocellular Carcinoma (HCC) in Patients with END-Stage Liver Disease Secondary to Nonalcoholic Steatohepatitis (NASH)." *Gastroenterology*, Volume 136, Issue 5, Supplement 1, May 2009, Page A-797, ISSN 0016-5085, [http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S0016-5085\(09\)63676-3](http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S0016-5085(09)63676-3). Presented by Ascha MS.
2. Ascha ML, **Ascha MS**, Dweik R, Zein NN, Brown M, Marshall S, Hazen S, Wang Z, Grove D, Hanouneh IA. "Metabolomics: Identifying novel prognostic indicators in patients with end-stage liver disease." Case Western Reserve University QGrad LGBT Symposium, Cleveland, Ohio (April 23, 2015). Presented by Ascha MS.
3. Ascha ML, **Ascha MS**, Hanouneh IA. "Treatment of recurrent hepatitis C genotype 4 post-liver transplantation with sofosbuvir plus simeprevir: a case series." Case Western Reserve University QGrad LGBT Symposium, Cleveland, Ohio (April 23, 2015). Presented by Ascha MS.
4. Ascha M, **Ascha MS**, Dweik R, Zein N, Brown M, Marshall S, Hazen S, Wang Z, Grove D, Hanouneh I. "Metabolomics Studies Identify Novel Prognostic Indicators in Patients with End-Stage Liver Disease." Translational and Basic Science Research Plenary Session, Digestive Disease Week, Washington, DC (May 17, 2015). Presented by Ascha M.
5. Ascha M, Hanouneh M, **Ascha MS**, Zein NN, Sands M, Lopez R, Hanouneh IA. "Transjugular Intrahepatic Portosystemic Shunt in Patients with Liver Cirrhosis and Model for End-Stage Liver Disease  $\geq 15$ ." Lepow Day 2016, Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine, Cleveland, OH (August 18, 2016). Presented by Ascha M.
6. Johnson AJ, **Ascha MS**, Manzoor N, Gupta A, Semaan M, Megerian C, Otteson TD. "Operculum width and hearing loss in patients with enlarged vestibular aqueduct" American Society of Pediatric Otolaryngology Annual Meeting; Austin, TX (May 20, 2017). Presented by AJ Johnson.
7. Ascha M, **Ascha MS**, Gastman B. "Identification of Risk Factors in Lymphatic Surgeries for Melanoma: A NSQIP Review." Ohio Valley Society of Plastic Surgeons 60th Annual Meeting, Pittsburgh, PA (June 2, 2017). Presented by Ascha M.
8. Arora KS, Wilkinson B, Verbus E, Montague M, Morris J, **Ascha M**, Mercer B. "Two-Tiered Reproduction - Normative and Quantitative Analysis of Barriers to Equitable Postpartum

Sterilization." American Society for Bioethics and the Humanities Annual Meeting. October 2017.

9. **Ascha, MS**. "make Dissertation: Reproducibility in Research". Cyberinfrastructure Day 2018. UTech Research Computing and Cyberinfrastructure Team. April 13, 2018. Presented by Ascha MS.

### Abstracts

1. Manzoor NF, Clancy K, Rezaee RP, **Ascha MS**, Zender CA, Lavertu P, , Megerian CA, Semaan MT; Multidisciplinary management of head and neck malignancies involving the lateral skull base. ANS 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual Spring Meeting, April 2017.
2. Manzoor NF, Hoppe K, **Ascha MS**, Mowry SE, Megerian CA, Otteson TD, Semaan MT; Delineating hearing loss at radiographic diagnosis in enlarged vestibular aqueduct syndrome. AOS 150th Annual Meeting, April 2017.
3. Kurlander DE, Ascha M, Marshall D, Wang D, **Ascha M**, Tripi PA, Reeves, HM, Downes, KA, Ahuja S, Rotta AT, Tomei, K, 2017. Striving for Transfusion-Free Open Cranial Vault Remodeling: A Novel Protocol. *Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery Global Open*, 5(9 Suppl). PMID: PMC5636509
4. Arora KS, Wilkinson B, Verbus E, Montague M, Morris J, **Ascha M**, Mercer B., 2017. Disparities in postpartum sterilization fulfillment for women covered by Medicaid vs. private insurance. *Contraception*, 96(4), p.304. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.contraception.2017.07.154>

### Poster Presentations

1. **Ascha MS**, Hanouneh IA, Lopez R, Feldstein AE, Zein NN. "Risk score for predicting the lack of response to antiviral treatment in patients with chronic HCV infection." American College of Gastroenterology, Orlando, Florida (October 3 – 8, 2008). Presented by Ascha MS
2. Ascha ML, **Ascha MS**, Hanouneh IA. "Treatment of recurrent hepatitis C genotype 4 post-liver transplantation with sofosbuvir plus simeprevir: a case series." Case Western Reserve University Department of Physiology and Biophysics Retreat, Cleveland, Ohio (September 25, 2015). Presented by Ascha MS.
3. Ascha M, Hanouneh M, **Ascha MS**, Zein NN, Sands M, Lopez R, Hanouneh IA. "Transjugular Intrahepatic Porto-Systemic Shunt in Patients with Liver Cirrhosis and Model for End-Stage Liver Disease  $\geq 15$ ." Department of Medicine Research Day, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH (May 6, 2016). Presented by Ascha M.
4. **Ascha MS**, Ascha ML, Hanouneh IA. "Black ascites: an interesting presentation of pancreatic duct leak". American College of Gastroenterology, October 17, 2016. Las Vegas, Nevada. Presented by Ascha MS.

5. Ascha ML, Hanouneh M, **Ascha MS**, Zein NN, McCullough A, Hanouneh IA. "The utility of tacrolimus in the management of adults with difficult-to-treat autoimmune hepatitis: review of literature". American College of Gastroenterology, October 18, 2016, Las Vegas, Nevada. Presented by Ascha MS.
6. Johnson A, **Ascha MS**, Manzoor NF, Gupta A, Semaan M, Megerian C, Otteson T. "Operculum width and hearing loss in patients with enlarged vestibular aqueduct". Case Western Reserve University Lepow Day. August 2017. Winner of a poster prize.
7. Johnson A, **Ascha MS**, Manzoor NF, Gupta A, Semaan M, Megerian C, Otteson T. "Air-bone gap in patients with enlarged vestibular aqueduct". Case Western Reserve University Lepow Day. August 2017.
8. Ahadizadeh E, **Ascha MS**, Manzoor NF, Gupta A, Semaan M, Megerian C, Otteson T. "Hearing loss in enlarged vestibular aqueduct and incomplete partition type II. Case Western Reserve University Lepow Day. August 2017.
9. Marshall D, Kurlander DE, Ascha M, Wang D, **Ascha M**, Tripi PA, Reeves, HM, Downes, KA, Ahuja S, Rotta AT, Tomei, K. Striving for Transfusion-Free Open Cranial Vault Remodeling: A Novel Protocol. Case Western Reserve University Lepow Day. August 2017.
10. Arora KS, Wilkinson B, Verbus E, Montague M, Morris J, **Ascha M**, Mercer B. "Disparities in Postpartum Sterilization Fulfillment for Women Covered by Medicaid Versus Private Insurance." North American Forum on Family Planning. October 2017. Presented by Arora KS.
11. Arora KS, Wilkinson B, Verbus E, Montague M, Morris J, **Ascha M**, Mercer B. "Disparities in Postpartum Sterilization Fulfillment for Women Covered by Medicaid Versus Private Insurance." MetroHealth Research Day. November 2017. Presented by Arora KS.
12. Yong V, **Ascha MS**, Awan M, Abrol Anish, Zender C. Interpreting Indeterminate Post-Treatment PET/CT Results in Patients with Head and Neck Squamous Cell Carcinoma. American Head and Neck Society, Combined Otolaryngological Spring Meeting. April 18 - 19, 2018. National Harbor, Maryland.
13. Archibald H, **Ascha MS**, Otteson TD. "Unilateral enlarged vestibular aqueduct syndrome may reflect a different disease process than bilateral". American Society of Pediatric Otolaryngology, Combined Otolaryngological Spring Meeting. April 18 - 22, 2018. H078.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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Summer 2016      Teaching Assistant, **Introduction to R Programming**  
Case Western Reserve University, Clinical Research Scholars Program  
Course Director: Steven Lewis, MS, MBA

- Met with students to review core R Programming concepts
- Graded and designed homework assignments
- Lectured regarding the use of R Markdown
  - <https://github.com/mustafaascha/rmarkdownTutorial>

Fall 2016, Spring 2017 Teaching Assistant, **Statistics I and Statistics II**  
Ascha  
June 8, 2018

Case Western Reserve University, Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics  
Course Director: Thomas Love, PhD

- Updated course notes and assignment solutions to reflect modern R practices
  - Re-wrote figures to use the R package ggplot2
  - Re-wrote code to use the R package dplyr
- Converted R Markdown notes for use with the R package bookdown
  - Organized notes for use both in website or PDF format
- Wrote exploratory data analysis convenience functions

Summer 2017

Teaching Assistant, **Epidemiology Clinical Research Block**  
Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine at Case Western Reserve University  
Course Director: Paola Raska, PhD

- Aided in clinical research training for medical students
- Responsibilities included explaining measures of disease frequency, identifying confounding, direct and indirect adjustment, and clinical study design
- Provided guidance for students pursuing their own projects; this involved helping develop testable hypotheses, perform power analysis, and implement analysis using R and JMP

## COMMUNITY SERVICE

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Jan. – Jun. 2013

Volunteer, Perioperative Care Center  
Hillcrest Hospital, Cleveland Clinic Health System, Mayfield Heights, Ohio

- Prepared rooms for post-surgery patients
- Transported patients to hospital exit for pick-up

2015

Volunteer, Preventing Incident Delirium in the Elderly (PRIDE) Program  
University Hospitals Case Medical Center, Cleveland, Ohio

- Re-oriented elderly patients to place and time
- Spent time in conversation with elderly patients

**Languages:** Conversant in French and Syrian Arabic

**Interests:** Playing guitar, working with electronics, computer science