

# 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>• PhD, 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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| 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><li>• Wrote and submitted an IRB application for EVAR</li><li>• Ensured timely launch of EVAR by coordinating IRB interaction, website development, EVAR marketing, and supervisor input</li><li>• Submitted and earned approval for EVAR to be listed on ClinicalTrials.gov<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ <a href="https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/study/NCT02798783">https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/study/NCT02798783</a></li></ul></li><li>• Authored and submitted manuscripts and abstracts for publication and presentation</li><li>• Wrote update letters to donors</li></ul> |
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- 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

2014 - present	<p>Cleveland Clinic Foundation, Digestive Disease Institute, Cleveland, Ohio          PI: Ibrahim Hanounah, MD</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Authored and submitted manuscripts and abstracts for publication and presentation</li> </ul>
2010-2011	<p>Louis Stokes Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Cleveland, Ohio          Spinal Cord Injury and Disorders Department          Supervisor: Christine Woo, MS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Developed telehealth program materials</li> <li>• Participated in manuscript revision</li> </ul>
2008 - 2010	<p>Cleveland Clinic Foundation, Digestive Disease Institute, Cleveland, Ohio          PI: Nizar Zein, MD</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Designed experiments based on questions discovered during literature search</li> <li>• Retrieved and pre-processed data</li> <li>• Authored and submitted manuscripts and abstracts for publication and presentation</li> </ul>

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

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### Peer Reviewed Articles

1. **Ascha MS**, Hanounah 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, Hanounah 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, Hanounah 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, Hanounah M, **Ascha MS**, Zein NN, Sands M, Lopez R, Hanounah 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, Hanounah IA. Black Ascites: An interesting presentation of pancreatic duct leak. 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. Ahadzadeh, E, **Ascha MS**, Manzoor N, Gupta A, Semaan M, Megerian C, Otteson TD. "Hearing loss in enlarged vestibular aqueduct and incomplete partition type II." *American Journal of Otolaryngology* (2017). <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.amjoto.2017.06.010> PMID: 28793961
11. Nayfe, R, **Ascha, MS** and Rehms, EH, 2017. Esophageal Squamous Cell Carcinoma Presenting with Streptococcus intermedius Cerebral Abscess. *Case Reports in Pathology*, 15 August 2017. PMID: PMC5574295
12. Ascha, M, **Ascha, MS**, Tanenbaum, J, Bordeaux, JS, 2017. Risk Factors for Melanoma in Renal Transplant Recipients. *Jama Dermatology*. doi: 10.1001/jamadermatol.2017.2291. PMID: 28746700

#### Oral Presentations

1. **Ascha MS**, Hanounch 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, Hanounch 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**, Hanounch 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, Hanounch 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, Hanounch M, **Ascha MS**, Zein NN, Sands M, Lopez R, Hanounch 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. 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.
7. 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.

## Abstracts

1. 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

## 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. 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.
7. 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.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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Summer 2016	Teaching Assistant, <b>Introduction to R Programming</b> Case Western Reserve University, Clinical Research Scholars Program Course Director: Steven Lewis, MS, MBA <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Met with students to review core R Programming concepts</li><li>• Graded and designed homework assignments</li><li>• Lectured regarding the use of R Markdown<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <a href="https://github.com/mustafaascha/rmarkdownTutorial">https://github.com/mustafaascha/rmarkdownTutorial</a></li></ul></li></ul>
Fall 2016, Spring 2017	Teaching Assistant, <b>Statistics I and Statistics II</b> Case Western Reserve University, Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics Course Director: Thomas Love, PhD <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Updated course notes and assignment solutions to reflect modern R practices</li></ul>

Ascha  
October 31, 2017

- 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

Ascha

October 31, 2017

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