

# Eric Opoku, Ph.D. candidate

+1 6475133742

✉ [eric.opoku@mail.utoronto.ca](mailto:eric.opoku@mail.utoronto.ca)  
in LinkedIn Profile  
🌐 <https://github.com/opokueric>  
📍 55 Dotchson Avenue, Caledon, ON, L7C 4G6  
🌐 <https://opokueric.github.io/>  
📺 <http://www.youtube.com/@EricTheHealthEconomist>



## Teaching, mentorship, policy analysis and research

I have five years' experience as a Teaching Assistant working in the University of Toronto's Leslie Dan School of Pharmacy, Memorial University of Newfoundland and the University of Ghana.

I have six years of work experience as a researcher and two years of experience working on budget impact and pharmacoeconomic models using Microsoft Excel in healthcare consultancy.







I currently use statistical techniques such as survival analysis and generalized estimating equations. I am proficient in R programming, Stata, Microsoft Excel, including Visual Basic for Applications (VBA), Word, PowerPoint.

I possess strong analytical skills for interpreting complex data from multiple sources. I am an excellent communicator, leader, coach, teacher, and mentor.



## Education

- 2021 – 2026    **Ph.D., Health Services Research (Health Economics emphasis)** University of Toronto-Institute of Health Policy, Management and Evaluation.  
**Dissertation title:** *Maternal Mortality and Economic Outcomes following preterm birth in Canada: A research foundation for a CAN-LEAP project.*  
**Relevant Coursework:** Economic Evaluation Methods, Advanced Methods in Economic Evaluation, Introduction to Health Services Research, Applied Health Econometrics, Advanced Health Economics and Policy Analysis, and Applying Health Services Research.  
**Courses Audited:** Applying Machine Learning for Health Data, and Introduction to Health Services Research Methods and the Use of Health Administrative Data.
- 2019 – 2021    **M.A. Economics** Memorial University of Newfoundland.  
**Thesis title:** *Determinants of the frequency and timing of antenatal care in Ghana.*  
**Relevant Coursework:** Microeconomic theory, Macroeconomic theory, Econometrics, Cost-Benefit Analysis, Resource Economics, Labour Economics, and Environmental Economics.
- 2015 – 2017    **M.Phil. Economics** University of Ghana.  
**Thesis title:** *Effect of maternal mass media exposure and women empowerment on neonatal mortality in Ghana.*  
**Relevant Coursework:** Microeconomic theory, Macroeconomic theory, Econometrics, Health Economics, and International Trade and Finance.
- 2010 – 2014    **B.A. Economics** University of Ghana.  
**Project title:** *Cost-Benefit Analysis of building water recycling plant in Adjen-Kotoku, Accra, Ghana.*  
**Relevant Coursework:** Economic theory, Microeconomics, Macroeconomics, Econometrics, Mathematics and Statistics for Economists, Public Finance, Labour Economics, and International Economics.

## Teaching Experience

- 2023 – . . . . .  **Teaching Assistant (Winter semester)**, PHM213H1 Health Economics and Pharmacoeconomics (Doctor of Pharmacy students), Leslie Dan School of Pharmacy, University of Toronto.  
Lecturers: Dr. Paul Grootendorst and Dr. Manny Papadimitropoulos
- 2019 – 2020  **Teaching Assistant**, ECON 1010 Introduction to Microeconomics (Undergraduate students)  
Department of Economics, Memorial University of Newfoundland.  
Lecturer: Dr. Gubhinder Kundhi
- 2014 – 2015  **Teaching Assistant**, Department of Economics, University of Ghana.  
 ECON 101/102 Introduction to Economics I & II (First-year undergraduate students)  
 ECON 201/202 Elements of Economics I & II (Second-year undergraduate students)  
 ECON 301 Microeconomic Theory I (Third-year undergraduate students)  
Lecturers: Dr. Priscilla Twumasi-Baffour and Dr. Nkechi Owoo

## Professional and Research Experience

- 2023– . . . . .  **Research Assistant** Child Health Evaluative Sciences, The Hospital for Sick Children (SickKids), Elizabeth St., Toronto, Ontario.
- Dr. Petros Pechlivanoglou serves as my supervisor in researching the maternal health and economic effects of preterm birth in Canada.
- My dissertation merges five pan-Canadian longitudinal datasets to conduct population-based matched cohort study using causal inference techniques (such as coarsened exact matching), multiple imputation by chained equations, survival data analysis and the generalized estimating equations models.
- I used R programming for data analysis and Stata for regression analysis.
- 2023– 2025  **Health Economist** McKesson Canada, Mississauga, Ontario.
- I developed Budget Impact Models (BIM) and wrote BIM reports for Health Technology Assessment submissions (Canada's Drug Agency (CDA), Institut national d'excellence en santé et en services sociaux (INESSS), Federal, Provincial, Territorial, and private payers).
- I adapted Pharmacoeconomic (PE) models and wrote PE reports for HTA submissions (CDA, INESSS, F/P/T, and private payers).
- I conducted systematic literature reviews to support indirect treatment comparison analysis.
- I undertook pricing research to support submissions to the Patented Medicines Price Review Board (PMPRB).
- I wrote product summary reports and completed comparator status templates to support HTA submissions.

## Professional and Research Experience (continued)









- 2022      **Research Assistant** Global Health Innovation Lab, Western University.
- I conducted literature reviews and wrote manuscripts for publication.
- 2021      **Customer data analyst** Nocland Business Incorporation, Newfoundland and Labrador.
- Undertook customer data analysis and reporting under the supervision of the Chief Operating Officer (Mr. Stephen Finn).
- 2020– 2021      **Research Assistant** Rose Ricciardelli Research Lab, Memorial University of Newfoundland-Sociology Department.
- Assisted principal investigators namely, Drs. Rosemary Ricciardelli (MUN) and Michael Adorjan (University of Calgary) on several research projects by coding interview transcripts using Nvivo.
-  **English Interviewer** MarketQuest Omnifacts Research, St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador, Canada.
- Under the supervision of Ms. Rachel Harding, I interviewed and collected data for the New Brunswick Health Council Primary Health Survey and other projects.
- 2017 – 2019      **Research Analyst** Ghana Chamber of Bulk Oil Distributors, Abelemkpe-Accra, Ghana.
- Assisted the past Chief Executive Officer (i.e., Mr. Senyo Hosi) to publish monthly newsletters and annual reports to improve industry knowledge while encouraging evidence-informed decisions and trading activities.

## Research Publications

### Journal Articles

- 1 O. Ezezika, M. Mengistu, E. Opoku, A. Farheen, A. Chauhan, and K. Barrett, "What are the barriers and facilitators to polio vaccination and eradication programs? a systematic review," *PLOS Global Public Health*, vol. 2, no. 11, e0001283, 2022.

## Skills

Languages	 Strong reading, writing, and speaking competencies in English.
Database Management	
Systems	 MySQL, PostgreSQL.
Data Visualization	
Platforms	 Tableau, Power BI.
Statistical Analysis	 R, Stata, SAS (beginner)
Economic Evaluation and	
Impact Analysis	 TreeAge software, Excel (VBA)
Risk Predictions	 R, Python (beginner).
Writing and Presentations	 Microsoft Word and PowerPoint, ...
Typesetting System	 L <sup>A</sup> T <sub>E</sub> X

## Miscellaneous Experience

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### Relevant Coursework-Details

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| 2021-2022 | ■ <b>Economic Evaluation Methods</b> , (Cost-effectiveness and Budget Impact Analysis).   |
|           | ■ <b>Advanced Methods in Economic Evaluation</b> , (Real-world Cost-effectiveness analysis and Extended Cost-effectiveness analysis). |
|           | ■ <b>Introduction to Health Services Research</b> , (Scoping and systematic reviews).   |
|           | ■ <b>Applied Health Econometrics I and II</b> , (Quasi Experiments, Causal Inference methods and other econometric tools).            |
|           | ■ <b>Advanced Health Economics and Policy Analysis I and II</b> , (Literature, conceptual and theoretical framework reviews).         |
|           | ■ <b>Applying Health Services Research</b> , (Research and Study Design and Methods).   |

### Leadership and Volunteering Experience

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|---------------------|---|
| 2021-2022 Acad year | ■ <b>Peer mentorship coordinator- IHPME</b>                             |
| 2018-2019           | ■ <b>Member, Health Support Foundation</b>                              |
| 2017-2018           | ■ <b>Project Directorate Member, Rotaract Club, University of Ghana</b> |

### Awards and Achievements

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|------|---|
| 2022 | ■ <b>Dalla Lana Merit-Based scholarship</b> , University of Toronto, Canada.                  |
| 2021 | ■ <b>University of Toronto Fellowship (UTF-funding)</b> , University of Toronto, Canada.      |
| 2019 | ■ <b>School of Graduate Studies fellowships</b> , Memorial University of Newfoundland, Canada |

### Certification

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| 2020 | ■ <b>Commercial Banking and Credit Analyst (CBCA)</b> . Awarded by Corporate Finance Institute. |
| 2019 | ■ <b>Google Digital Marketing and Analytics</b> . Awarded by Google.                            |

### Conferences Attended

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| 2022 | ■ <b>Canada Association for Population Therapeutics (CAPT)</b> . |
| 2023 | ■ <b>Canada's Drug Agency Symposium</b> .                        |

### Certification

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|------|---|
| 2020 | ■ <b>Commercial Banking and Credit Analyst (CBCA)</b> . Awarded by Corporate Finance Institute. |
| 2019 | ■ <b>Google Digital Marketing and Analytics</b> . Awarded by Google.                            |

## References

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Available upon Request