

Pratibha Gautam

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EDUCATION

Harvard University, T.H. Chan School of Public Health, Boston, MA May 2023

Master of Science (SM) in Global Health and Population; Concentration: Health Economics

Master's Thesis: *Feeding Minds and Fueling Futures: An Economic Evaluation of School Feeding Programs in Malawi*

Relevant Courses: Econometrics; Data Science; Biostatistics; Epidemiology Methods; Decision Science; Intermediate Statistics; Advanced Modeling for Health System Analysis & Priority Setting; Quantitative Methods for Monitoring and Evaluation; Large Scale Effectiveness Evaluation; Economics in the Context of Health & Development

University of Massachusetts Lowell, Lowell, MA May 2020

Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Economics and Psychology, Honors

Honors Thesis: *HIV Infections and Nightlight Luminosity*

SKILLS

Computer: Microsoft Office (Advanced Proficiency), R, Stata

Technical: Economic and Mathematical Modeling, Impact Evaluation, Systematic Reviews

CONSULTING EXPERIENCE

Nick Simons Institute (NSI), Lalitpur, Nepal

Sep 2022 - Present

Consultant

- Conducted data analysis of the Minimum Service Standards survey checklist to assess the readiness of district hospitals in Nepal, identifying gaps and opportunities for improving the quality of hospital services.
- Presented thoughtful recommendations based on the findings to the Ministry of Health, facilitating evidence-based decision-making and driving improvements toward establishing a National Hospital Standardization System.

Curta Consulting, Seattle, WA

Jun 2020 - Jul 2021

Research Analyst

- Conducted Health Economic and Outcomes Research by analyzing claims databases using R and Excel to support market access and commercialization objectives, resulting in the FDA approval of two drugs (PADCEV and Ruxolitinib).
- Conducted cost-effectiveness analysis, budget impact models, and survival analysis to inform market access and commercialization decisions, evaluating economic value, budgetary impact, and patient outcomes of healthcare interventions.
- Contributed to writing up studies, model descriptions, and presentations.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, Boston, MA

June 2023 – Present

Research Assistant, Advisor: Margaret McConnell

Project: Impact Evaluation of Digitizing Payments for Polio Campaign Workers in Cote d'Ivoire, Mali, Ghana DRC, and the Republic of Congo (Funded by Gates Foundation)

- Collaborate with WHO AFRO's efforts to digitize payments for polio workers in multiple African countries, including Cote d'Ivoire, Mali, Ghana, DRC, and the Republic of Congo.
- Conduct comprehensive data analysis using survey responses, WHO campaign records, and digital payment records to assess payment outcomes, worker satisfaction, and health system and campaign effectiveness, contributing to the understanding of the relationship between payments and key outcomes in the context of routine immunization.

Brigham & Women's Hospital, Boston, MA

March 2022 - Present

Research Assistant, Advisor: Ruma Rajbhandari

- Conduct research focused on improving health systems and human resources in low- and middle-income countries, specifically in implementation research and enhancing the quality of care. My significant contribution was in the development and implementation of a novel on-site follow-up and enhancement program (FEP) aimed at improving the knowledge, clinical skills, and enabling environment of skilled birth attendants in Nepal.

Center for Global Development, Washington, D.C.

Feb 2023 - May 2023

Research Assistant, Advisor: Victoria Fan

Project: Strategic Investment in Surveillance for Pandemic Preparedness: Rapid Review and Roundtable Discussion

- Conducted a literature review to identify effective surveillance approaches for pandemic preparedness.
- Contributed to researching, drafting, and shaping the CGD policy paper on "best buy" interventions for pandemic preparedness, and played an integral role in presenting key findings and policy recommendations to diverse stakeholders, including officials from WHO, World Bank, and other relevant organizations.

Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, Boston, MA

Feb 2022 – March 2023

Research Assistant, Advisor: Stéphane Verguet

Project: Measuring the return on investment from school feeding programs in Malawi. (Funded by World Food Programme)

- Developed a novel return-on-investment economic evaluation model to estimate the costs and benefits of school feeding across health, education, social protection, and agriculture. This involved leveraging household surveys, analyzing grey literature, and utilizing analytical tools like R for data analysis. Advanced techniques such as Monte Carlo simulations were employed to address uncertainties and ensure the robustness of the model, providing a nuanced understanding of the potential outcomes and impacts of the school feeding programs.
- Presented the evaluation results to the Malawi government to expand school feeding programs appropriately, highlighting the significant return on investment across health, education, social protection, and agriculture.

Social Changers & Innovators, Kathmandu, Nepal

Sep 2020 - March 2022

Research Associate

- Designed program evaluation tools to assess the effectiveness of malnutrition and COVID-19 response programs in rural Nepal, aiming to improve program outcomes and inform decision-making by the local government.
- Presented the program evaluation tools to the local government, providing a framework for future assessments of the program's impact and opportunities for improvement.

LEADERSHIP & EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Harvard University, T.H. Chan School of Public Health

Jan 2022 – May 2023

President, Behavioral Insights Students Group

University of Massachusetts-Lowell

President, Economics Society

Jan 2019 – May 2020

Member, Honors College

Sep 2018 – May 2020

Kar Geno-Center for Hope, Kenya

April 2021 - Aug 2022

United Nations Volunteer

- Developed grant proposals tailored to the needs of women affected by HIV/AIDS in rural Kenya, highlighting their specific challenges and the potential impact on their health and well-being and successfully secured funding.

PUBLICATIONS

- Victoria Y. Fan, Eleni Smitham, Lydia Regan, **Pratibha Gautam**, Ole Norheim, Javier Guzman, and Amanda Glassman. 2023. "Strategic Investment in Surveillance for Pandemic Preparedness: Rapid Review and Roundtable Discussion. CGD Policy Paper 298.
- Rita Thapa, **Pratibha Gautam** et al. "Novel on-site follow-up and enhancement program (FEP) improves knowledge, clinical skills and enabling environment of skilled birth attendants in Nepal" *PLOS ONE*, 2023.
- Aunchalee Jaroenlapnopparat, MBBS, **Pratibha Gautam**, et al. "Ulcerative colitis in low and lower-middle income countries: A scoping review". ACG Annual Meeting, (2022)

- Prajapati D, Bhandari N, **Gautam Pratibha**, Dhital R, Shrestha A. “Coronary Artery Disease in Nepal: Current Perspective, Challenges, Need for National Practice Guidelines, and Potential Solution.” Kathmandu University Medical Journal. 2022
- **Gautam, Pratibha**, and Ben G. Li. “HIV infections and nightlight luminosity.” *Economics Letters* 204 (2021): 109887.

WORKING PAPERS

- Stephane Verguet, **Pratibha Gautam**, et al. “Investing in school health: conceptualizing returns on investment across the health, education, and social protection sectors” (Revising - *BMJ Global Health*, 2023).
- **Pratibha Gautam**, Stephane Verguet. “Feeding Minds and Fueling Futures: An Economic Evaluation of School Feeding Programs in Malawi” (Preparing submission to *The Lancet*)

AWARDS & HONORS

Presidential Scholars Program, Harvard University	2021-2023
Dean’s List, UMass, Lowell	2016-2020
International Student Merit Scholarship, UMass, Lowell	2016-2020
Honors Scholar, UMass, Lowell	2016-2020
