

Sandra Adrianne Peña, MPH

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Curriculum vitae

Current Position

***Tennessee Department of Health - Nashville, Tennessee
Healthcare Associated Infections (HAI) Epidemiologist
(Fulltime, 37.5 hours per week)***

September 2018- Present

- Co-PI and project coordinator for Tracking of SARS-CoV-2 Infections among Healthcare Personnel
- Lead for the COVID call bank for the Tennessee Department of Health
- Epidemiology lead on ventilator skilled nursing project for the containment of extremely drug resistant organisms
- Emerging Infections Program, Understanding Extended-spectrum beta-lactamase in Tennessee
- Project coordinator for EPI Centers Contact Network Project for Identification and Spread of HAIs
- Extensive medical record abstraction for research project
- Project coordinator for Hospital Point Prevalence Survey 2020/2021
- Lead on various local and national HAI related outbreaks and cluster investigations
- Grant contributor for various federally funded grants
- Extensive use of REDCap. Including basic survey design, data entry, and analysis
- Lead and coordinate Carbapenem-resistant Enterobacteriaceae and Acinetobacter baumannii point prevalence screenings for outbreak response in various healthcare settings
- Initiate, manage, and submit Internal Review Board applications for various projects.
- Basic data entry, manipulation, and visualization in Tableau
- Use of Epi Info software for database construction, analyzation, and visualization of data.

Previous Relevant Employment

***New Mexico Department of Health - Santa Fe, New Mexico
Infectious Respiratory Disease Epidemiologist
(Fulltime, 40 hours per week)***

February 2016 – September 2018

- Respiratory disease program coordinator
- On-call epidemiologist for Infectious Disease Epidemiology Bureau
- Grant writing for ELC and EIP applications
- Medical record review and data abstraction for research projects
- Epidemiological investigation for outbreak response
- Respond to various media inquiries when directed
- Data dissemination and data visualization for internal and external presentations and reports
- Community outreach and public health education

- Evaluation of pneumonia and influenza death rates in New Mexico
- Reviewed and updated pandemic influenza preparedness plan

Professional Medical Transport - Mesa, Arizona

Emergency Medical Technician - Basic

March 2005 – February 2016

- Respond to various medical emergency and non-emergency scenes
- Assessed and provided medical intervention to patients
- Obtained, monitored, and documented vital signs
- Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation
- Complete patient interviews/ take medical histories
- Thoroughly chart/document interventions provided
- Followed and participated in incident command structure
- Scene safety and management

Gila County Division of Health and Emergency Management - Globe, Arizona

Communicable Disease Specialist

March 2014 – September 2015

(Fulltime, 40 hours per week)

- Communicable disease investigations and patient interviews
- Contact tracing of infectious disease cases for outbreak response
- Data entry and data analysis
- Public speaking / presentations
- Create public health messaging for the community
- Education and outreach

Education

University of Tennessee – Knoxville

January 2020 – Present

Knoxville, Tennessee, 37996

MS Student: Entomology and Plant Pathology, Concentration in Entomology

Concordia University

2013-2015

Seward, Nebraska, 68434

Master's in Public Health: Health Policy and Administration and Community Health

New Mexico State University

2010-2013

Las Cruces, New Mexico, 88003

Bachelor of Science in Community Health Education, received with honors

Chandler-Gilbert Community College

2005-2007

Chandler, Arizona, 85249

Associates Degree in Arts, received with honors

Public Speaking

- **Influenza Preparedness** –New Mexico Healthcare Association, 2018

- **Outbreak: Human Metapneumovirus** – Infectious Disease Society of America – NM Chapter, 2018
- **Socioeconomic Factors and Pertussis** – New Mexico, 2012-2015 – CSTE, 2017
- **Influenza Surveillance Update** – New Mexico Immunization Coalition, 2017
- **Influenza Outbreaks and Trends** – Infectious Disease Society of America, 2017
- **Influenza: Surveillance, Detection & Response** – SE Region Infectious Disease Update, 2017
- **Tracking a Disease: From Reporting to Investigation** – Medical Reserve Corps Volunteer Summit, 2017
- **Influenza Surveillance** – Immunization Practices Advisory Committee, 2017
- **What is Public Health?** – New Mexico Student Nurses' Association, 2017
- **Flu and You** – New Mexico Healthcare Association, 2017

Research Experience

- COVID in Healthcare Personnel, Co-PI and Project Coordinator – (April 2020- Present)
- Project coordinator, Hospital Point Prevalence Survey, Phase 5 – (October 2019- Present)
- Secondary Transmission of Bordetella Pertussis in Household Contacts (PEP Study) – Principal Investigator/Study Coordinator, New Mexico Department of Health in partnership with The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), March 2017 – September 2018
- EIP - Enhanced Pertussis Surveillance (EPS) February 2016 – September 2018

Field/Outbreak Investigation Experience

- Nursing home facility assessments for the prevention of drug resistant organisms - 2019
- Plague and Hantavirus environmental assessments - 2018
- Severe Human Metapneumovirus in a Long-Term Care Facility (LTCF) - 2018
- Influenza outbreaks in various locations including correctional institutions - 2016-2018
- Unknown Respiratory Disease Outbreak in a LTCF - 2017
- Legionella – A community-wide investigation - 2016
- Multiple community-wide outbreaks of pertussis - 2017 & 2018
- Sylvatic Plague Vaccine Field Trials in partnership with United States Geological Survey– 2016 and 2017

Applicable Trainings/ Continuing Education

- CDC Nursing Home Infection Preventionist Training 06/2019
- Leadership Theory and Practice 05/2019
- 7 Habits of Highly Effective People – 2/2019
- Epi-info 7 – 4/2019
- Crisis Communication by Dr. Randy Hyer – 06/2017
- Numerous courses for emergency management and disaster response at The Center for Domestic Preparedness, available upon request

- Incident Command System 100, 200b, 700a, 800b (FEMA Training Modules) other FEMA training modules, available upon request
- AWR-160-W/Terrorism Awareness for Emergency Responders
- Mental Health First Aid USA

Credentials and Certifications

American Heart Association healthcare provider CPR
CITI Program training for Human Subjects Research

Primary Publications

Severe Respiratory Illness Associated with Human Metapneumovirus in Nursing Home, New Mexico, USA. Emerging Infectious Diseases, 25:2; 2019; doi: [10.3201/eid2502.181298](https://doi.org/10.3201/eid2502.181298)
Sandra A. Peña, Sarah Shrum Davis, et Al.

Rickettsia parkeri rickettsiosis
Emerging Infectious Diseases, 2016 May; 22(5): 780–785 doi: [10.3201/eid2205.151824](https://doi.org/10.3201/eid2205.151824)
Kristen L. Herrick, **Sandra A. Peña**, et Al.

Other Publications, Presentations, Posters and Abstracts

Evaluation of care interactions between healthcare personnel and residents in nursing homes across the United States
Society of Healthcare Epidemiologist of America 2020 Decennial Atlanta, GA; oral abstract

Establishing a Baseline of Infection Prevention Practices and Carbapenemase Producing Organisms (CPO) Colonization Rates in Tennessee Skilled Nursing Facility Ventilator Units—Tennessee, 2018 – 2019
Sandra A. Peña MPH, Fabiola DeMuth BSN, RN, CIC, Patricia Lawson, MPH, RN, CIC Pamela Talley MD, MPH, Marion A. Kainer MD, MPH

Differences in Pertussis Incidence by Race and Ethnicity in the United States, 2010-2015 (CSTE, 2018)
Jaymin C. Patel, Christine E. Miner, Amanda Faulkner, Kari Burzalff, Victor Cruz, Karen Edge, Kathy Kudish, Juventila Liko, **Sandra Adrienne Peña**, Ebony Thomas, Tami Skoff, Lucy McNamara

Prevalence and Characteristics of Recurrent Pertussis Infections through Enhanced Pertussis Surveillance, 2015-2017 (Oral presentation, CSTE 2018)
Amanda E. Faulkner, Christine Miner, Tami Skoff, Karen Edge, Kristen Soto, Ebony Thomas, Victor Cruz, **Sandra Adrienne Peña**, Eva Pradhan, Joan Coleman

Kinetics of Serologic Responses to Pertussis Infection (ASM Microbe, 2018)
Lucia Pawloski, Amy Blain, Hong Ju, Christine Miner, Tracy Pondo, Tami Skoff, M. Lucia Tondella, Nong Shang, Karen Edge, Aurora Brusseau, **Sandra Peña**, and Lucy McNamara

Serologic Responses to Pertussis Infection and Considerations for Serodiagnosis in US Surveillance

Lucia Pawloski, Amy Blain, Hong Ju, Christine Miner, Tracy Pondo, Tami Skoff, M. Lucia Tondella, Karen Edge, Aurora Brusseau, **Sandra A. Peña**, and Lucy McNamara

International Volunteer Work and Health Education Missions

Esteli, Nicaragua – April 2, 2012 – April 21, 2012

Community health education and clean drinking water outreach

Cusco, Peru – May 1, 2012 – July 30, 2012

Community health education in maternal/child health

Cuba – January 6 - January 15, 2014

Health and Health Inequality in Developing Countries – An Immersive Seminar

Guatemala – October 6 - October 14, 2013

Community health educator for adolescents and adults in sexual health education and nutrition

Belize - October 12 - October 18, 2014

Community health educator for children and adults in chronic disease education

Professional Organizations

Member, Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists

2016-Present

Professional References

Michelle Fiscus, MD, FAAP

Medical Director – Tennessee Vaccine-Preventable Diseases and Immunization Program

(615) 741-9477

(615) 961-0514

Michelle.Fiscus@tn.gov

W. David Selvage, MHS, PA-C

Health Systems Administrator – State of New Mexico Department of Corrections

(505) 231-7798

(505) 629-5573

WalterD.Selvage@state.nm.us

Sarah Lathrop, DVM, PhD

Epidemiologist/Professor of Pathology, University of New Mexico

(505) 925-0545

(505) 507-3616

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Veena Singh, MD, MPH

Assistant Medical Examiner, Anoka County, Minnesota

(763) 324-4400

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John Whitney, M.A.

Deputy Division Chief, Scottsdale Fire Department

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