

Amy Funk Wolkin

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SUMMARY

Experienced public health leader with over 24 years of expertise in epidemiology, data science, and program management. Skilled in leading cross-functional teams to drive data quality, analysis, and visualization efforts in high-stakes public health initiatives. Adept at using epidemiologic and statistical methods to design, analyze, and deliver high quality research studies, with a focus on preparedness and response, injury prevention, and environmental health. Strong background in leading cross-functional teams, managing workloads with multiple tasks, and producing manuscripts and presentations.

EDUCATION

University of North Carolina
Doctorate of Public Health

Emory University
Master of Science of Public Health

University of Georgia
Bachelor of Science

EXPERIENCE

Branch Chief (601, GS 15), CDC, National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, Division of Injury Prevention, Data Analytics Branch, Atlanta, GA, November 2019- present

- Lead a team of 40+ staff across data science, statistics, epidemiology, and economics while overseeing a \$15M budget
- Spearhead data quality efforts, including providing scientific leadership and scientific review of branch research, including reviewing 200+ peer-reviewed publications on injury prevention, suicide, violence, and overdose annually
- Direct analytic programming and statistical activities, including developing datasets and overseeing descriptive and comparative analysis
- Drive strategic planning and implementation of data modernization, data science and data visualization activities
- Collaborate with cross-functional teams to translate data into meaningful insights and visualizations, ensuring clear communication of findings in an agile analytic environment
- Use SAS and other programming languages (Python, R) to analyze large datasets and generate reproducible analytic results for key health studies
- Acting Division Director (detail), entrusted with decision-making authority, applied expertise in management, operations, and science to ensure the continued progress of both scientific initiatives and operational functions of the Division

Adjunct Professor, University of North Carolina, Gillings School of Global Public Health, Chapel Hill, North Carolina, August 2021-present.

- Developed and teach master's-level public health course on Systems and Design Thinking for Public Health, fostering critical thinking about complex public health issues
- Advise doctoral and masters students on dissertation and thesis projects with a focus on data analysis and interpretation of statistical analyses in public health contexts

Senior Advisor (601, GS 15), CDC, Office of Public Health Preparedness and Response, Office of Science and Public Health Practice, Atlanta, GA, , January 2017- November 2019

- Led public health emergency response research, providing statistical and analytic support to evaluate risk and health outcomes during public health emergencies.
- Managed analytic projects related to emergency response, using SAS and advanced statistical methods to assess and communicate findings to key stakeholders.
- Oversaw all extramural research projects providing scientific guidance and clearance

Branch Chief (601, GS 15), CDC, National Center for Environmental Health, Division of Environmental Hazards and Health Effects, Health Studies Branch, Atlanta, GA, April 2015-January 2017

- Led and supervised a Branch of 35 staff, including epidemiologists, statisticians, and physicians providing scientific oversight for all branch research and publications while managing a \$10 million budget
- Advised Division leadership on key matters, including emerging public health threats, outbreaks, community environmental threats, and natural and man-made disasters
- Oversaw all branch research and response activities, including field investigations, outbreak responses, longitudinal studies, surveillance studies, and case-control studies
- Led data curation and analysis efforts, ensuring high-quality data was used in the development of public health response strategies
- Built and maintained partnerships with local, state, and international health organizations, representing the Center in national and international initiatives and conferences.
- Managed a \$6.3 million budget, ensured resource allocation compliance, and coordinated research efforts to meet short- and long-term goals while ensuring project continuity.

Acting Director of Science (601, GS 14) CDC, Center for Surveillance, Epidemiology, and Laboratory Services (CSELS), Atlanta, GA, October 2014-February 2015

- Provide scientific clearance on all Center research products and ensured scientific integrity across all CSELS products and publications
- Provided advice and guidance on a scientific projects and policies, including c-author of the CDC's Open Data Access Policy
- Represented CSELS on internal and external committees and provided executive oversight for the Office of Science
- Mentored EIS officers, CEFOs, and external MMWR authors, providing guidance on scientific review and project development.

Team Lead (601, GS-14) CDC, National Center for Environmental Health, Division of Environmental Hazards and Health Effects, Health Studies Branch, Preparedness and Response Team, Atlanta, GA, April 2008 – April 2015

- Supervised and mentored team members and guided the development of national surveillance programs, utilizing advanced data analysis techniques, including SAS programming to assess public health requests
- Led data-driven investigations and response efforts during major events, translating complex data into actionable insights

Epidemiologist (601, GS-13), CDC, National Center for Environmental Health, Division of Environmental Hazards and Health Effects, Health Studies Branch, Atlanta, GA, June 2003 – April 2008

- Led and analyzed large-scale epidemiological studies, creating study cohorts and analytic datasets for investigations assessing environmental exposures, extreme-heat, and the built environment
- Conducted statistical analysis, including risk assessment and outcomes occurrence rates to support public health interventions

Epidemiologist Fellow (ORISE), CDC, National Center for Environmental Health, Division of Environmental Hazards and Health Effects, Health Studies Branch, Atlanta, GA, June 2002-June 2003

- Provided analytic support for field investigations and health studies, including the design, conduction and analysis of studies
- Analyzed epidemiologic data for cancer cluster investigations and assisted with creation of guidelines
- Provided expertise in statistics (SAS) and geographical information systems (ArcGIS) to scientific staff

Environmental Health Scientist, Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education (ORISE) Fellow. ATSDR, Division of Health Assessment and Consultation, Exposure Investigations and Consultations Branch, Atlanta, GA, May 2001 – April 2002

- Provided epidemiologic support to environmental research studies using complex statistical packages and computer models
- Conducted spatial analysis using Geographical Information Systems (GIS)

SKILLS

- Executive Leadership
- Data Science & Analytics: Machine Learning, Natural Language Processing, AI
- Advanced Statistical Methods: Descriptive Statistics, Risk Assessment, Complex data analysis
- Data Modernization and Visualizations: Create clear, actionable visual representations of study results, including dashboards
- Leadership & Communication: Leading cross-functional teams, presenting finds to diverse audiences
- Scientific Clearance
- Data Analysis & Programming: SAS, R, Python, SQL

PUBLICATIONS (presentations available upon request)

Miller, G. F., Dunphy, C., Haddad, Y. K., Chen, J., Alic, A., Thomas, K., & **Wolkin, A. F.** (2024). Rates of fall injuries across three claims databases, 2019. *Injury Prevention*.

Karin A. Mack, Wojciech Kaczkowski, Steven Sumner, Royal Law, **Amy Wolkin**, Special Report from the CDC: Suicide rates, sodium nitrite-related suicides, and online content, United States, *Journal of Safety Research*, 2024.

Avital R. Wulz, Gabrielle F. Miller, Lindsay Hicks, **Amy F. Wolkin**, Association between social vulnerability factors and homicide and suicide rates - United States, 2016 - 2020, *Journal of Safety Research*, Volume 90, 2024.

Liu, Yang, **Amy F. Wolkin**, Marcie-jo Kresnow, and Thomas Schroeder. "Addressing health disparities using multiply imputed injury surveillance data." *International journal for equity in health* 22, no. 1 (2023): 126.

Navon, Livia, Li Hui Chen, Mary Cowhig, and **Amy Funk Wolkin**. "Two decades of nonfatal injury data: a scoping review of the National Electronic Injury Surveillance System-All Injury Program, 2001–2021." *Injury epidemiology* 10, no. 1 (2023): 44.

Wulz, Avital R., J. Danielle Sharpe, Gabrielle F. Miller, and **Amy F. Wolkin**. "Association between social vulnerability factors and unintentional fatal injury rates—United States, 2015–2019." *Journal of safety research* 86 (2023): 245-252.

Wolkin A, Collier C, House, J, Reif D, Montsinger-Reif A, Duca L, Sharpe D. "Comparison of National Vulnerability Indices Used by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for the COVID-19 Response." *Public Health Reports* (2022): 00333549221090262.

Wulz A, Miller G, Kegler S, Yard E, & **Wolkin A.** (2022). Assessing Female Suicide From a Health Equity Viewpoint, U.S. 2004-2018. *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*, 63(4), 486-495.

Goldman ZE, Kaufman JA, Sharpe JD, **Wolkin AF**, Gribble MO. Coping with oil spills: oil exposure and anxiety among residents of Gulf Coast states after the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill. *UCL Open: Environment*, 4:10. Epub 2022.

Adams RM, Evans C, **Wolkin A**, Thomas T, Peek L. Social vulnerability and disasters: development and evaluation of a CONVERGE training module for researchers and practitioners. *Disaster Prevention and Management: An International Journal*. 2022 Mar 25;31(6):13-29.

Law RK, **Wolkin AF**, Patel N, Alic A, Yuan K, Ahmed K, Idaikkadar N, Haileyesus T. Injury-Related Emergency Department Visits During the COVID-19 Pandemic, *American Journal of Preventive Medicine* (2022).

Wulz A, Law R, Wang J, and **Wolkin AF**. (2022) "Leveraging data science to enhance suicide prevention research: a literature review." *Injury prevention* 28(1), 74-80.

Sharpe JD, **Wolkin AF**. The Epidemiology and Geographic Patterns of Natural Disaster and Extreme Weather Mortality by Race and Ethnicity, United States, 1999-2018. *Public Health Reports*. October 2021.

Flynn M, Rodriguez Lainz A, Lara J, Rosales C, Feldstein F, Dominguez K, **Wolkin A**, Roberto Sierra Medal I, Tonda J, Romero-Steiner S, Dicient-Taillepierre J, and Gudelia Rangel Gomez M. An Innovative United States—Mexico Community Outreach Initiative for Hispanic and Latino People in the United States: A Collaborative Public Health Network. *Public Health Reports* Jan 2021.

Ballesteros M, Sumner S, Law R, **Wolkin A**, and Jones C. 2020. Advancing injury and violence prevention through data science. *Journal Safety Research*, 73: 189-93.

Adams RM, Evans CM, Mathews MC, **Wolkin A**, Peek L. Mortality From Forces of Nature Among Older Adults by Race/Ethnicity and Gender. *Journal of Applied Gerontology*. September 2020.

Murthy B, Krishna N, Jones T, **Wolkin A**, Avchen R, Vagi S. Public Health Emergency Risk Communication and Social Media Reactions to an Errant Warning of a Ballistic Missile Threat — Hawaii, January 2018. *Morbidity Mortality Weekly Report*. 2019. 68(7); 174-176.

Sharpe J, Kaufman J, Goldman A, **Wolkin A**, Gribble M. (2019). Determinants of Oil-spill Cleanup Participation following the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill. *Environmental Research*, 170:472-480.

Schnall A, **Wolkin A**, Roth J, Ellis E. (2019) Community Assessments for Public Health Emergency Response (CASPERs)—US Virgin Islands, 2017–2018. *American journal of public health*, 109(S4), S303-S308.

Wolkin A, Schnall A, Nakata N, Ellis E. (2019). Getting the message out: social media and word-of-mouth as effective communication methods during emergencies. *Prehospital and disaster medicine*, 34(1):89-94.

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Hipper T, David R, Massey P, Turchi R, Lubell K, Pechta L, Rose D, **Wolkin A**, Briseno L, Franks J, Chernak E. 2018. The Disaster Information Needs of Families of Children with Special Healthcare Needs: A Scoping Review. *Health security*, 16(3), 178-192.

Wang A, Law R, Lyons R, Choudhary E, **Wolkin A**, Schier J. (2018). Assessing the public health impact of using poison center data for public health surveillance. *Clinical toxicology*, 56(7), 646-652.

Kruger J, Brener N, Leeb R, **Wolkin A**, Avchen A, Dziuban E. School district crisis preparedness, response, and recovery plans—United States, 2006, 2012, and 2016. *MMWR* August 2, 2018.

Franks J, Leeb R, **Wolkin A**. Protecting our Future: Emergency Preparedness and Children's Mental Health. Public Health Matters Blog, October 2018.

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Schnall A, **Wolkin A**, Nakata N. "Methods: Questionnaire Development and Interviewing Techniques" *Disaster Epidemiology*. Ed. Jennifer Horney. Academic Press, 2017.

Schnall, A., Nakata, N., Talbert, T., Bayleyegn, T., Martinez, D., and **Wolkin, A.** Community Assessment for Public Health Emergency Response (CASPER): an innovative emergency management tool in the United States. *American Journal of Public Health*. 2017, 107(S2), S186-S192.

Schnall, A., Law, R., Heinzerling, A., Sircar, K., Damon, S., Yip, F, and **Wolkin, A.** Characterization of Carbon Monoxide Exposure During Hurricane Sandy and Subsequent Nor'easter. *Disaster Medicine and Public Health Preparedness*. 2017; 1-6.

Thomasson ED, Scharman EJ, Fechter-Leggett E, Bixler D, Ibrahim S, Duncan MA, Hsu J, Scott M, Wilson S, Pizon AF, Burrell S, **Wolkin A**, Lewis L, and L Haddy. 2017. Acute Health Effects

Associated with the Elk River Chemical Spill — West Virginia, 2014. Public Health Reports. 132(2), 196-192.

Clayton HB, Lowry H, Ashley C, **Wolkin AF**, Grant AM. (2017) Synthetic marijuana use is associated with a greater prevalence of health risk behaviors compared to marijuana only use among U.S. high school students – 2015. Pediatrics 139, (4), e2012675.

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Malilay J, Heumann M, Perrotta D, **Wolkin A**, et. al. The role of applied epidemiology methods in the disaster management cycle. *American Journal of Public Health*. 2014; 104(11):2092-2102.

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Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Notes from the Field: Carbon Monoxide Exposures Reported to Poison Centers and Related to Hurricane Sandy-Northeastern United States, 2012. *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*. 2012; 61:905-905.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Community Assessment for Public Health Emergency Response (CASPER) Toolkit: Second edition. Atlanta (GA): CDC; 2012.

Buttke D, Vagi S, Bayleyegn T, Sircar K, Strine T, Morrison M, Allen M, and **Wolkin A**. Mental Health Needs Assessment after the Gulf Coast Oil Spill—Alabama and Mississippi, 2010. *Prehospital and Disaster Medicine*. 2012; 27:1-8.

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Wolkin A, Martin C, Law R, Schier J, Bronstein A. Using Poison Center Data for National Public Health Surveillance for Chemical and Poison Exposure and Associated Illness. *Annals of Emergency Medicine* 2012; 59: 56-61.

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HONORS AND AWARDS

2024

CDC Honor Award & NCIPC Honor Award, Excellence in Partnering, For excellence in partnering to develop the new 2024 National Strategy for Suicide Prevention and Federal Action Plan

NCIPC Honor Award, Excellence in Information Technology, For ushering NEISS-AIP data processing into the modern era and getting data out faster

2023

NCIPC Honor Award, Excellence in Information Technology, For Trailblazing an Innovative Release of Provisional Injury Data Which Allowed Real-Time Dissemination of Suicide Data

NCIPC Honor Award, Excellence in Public Health Protection, For Excellence in Public Health Protection to Achieve No Lives Lost to Suicide

2022

NCIPC Honor Award, Excellence in Health Equity, Dedication to Improving health Equity and Increasing Diversity among the Research Community

NCIPC Honor Award, Excellence in Human Capital Management Employee Development, Upskilling the Center in Data Science

2021

NCIPC Honor Award, Excellence in Efficiency, For or Improving NEISS-AIP Data Timeliness from 12+ Months to 1 Month for Analysis and Visualization

CDC Health Literacy Award, For Cultural and Linguistic Review of CDC Translated Communication Materials

2020

Center for Preparedness and Response, Challenge Coin, Recognized for Initiating the At-Risk Task Force in the Emergency Operations Center

2016

NCEH/ATSDR Honor Award, Excellence in Epidemiology, West Virginia Floods

NCEH/ATSDR Honor Award, Excellence in Emergency Response, Flint, Michigan Water Contamination Crisis

NCEH/ATSDR Honor Award, Excellence in Health Equity, Improving Health Equity of Socially Vulnerable People in a Disaster

NCEH/ATSDR Honor Award, Excellence in Human Capital, Applied Disaster Epidemiology Training Team

2015

CDC Honor Award, Excellence in Epidemiology, Synthetic Cannabinoid Investigation Team

NCEH/ATSDR Honor Award, Excellence in Epidemiology, Synthetic Cannabinoid Investigation Team

National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Disease Honor Award, Unaccompanied Minor Response Team

2014

CDC Honor Award, Excellence in Frontline Public Health Service, Unaccompanied Minor Response Team

CDC Honor Award, Excellence in Program Delivery (Domestic), Disaster Epidemiology training for Public Health Staff and Emergency Managers

NCEH/ATSDR Honor Award, Excellence in Partnering, Electronic Death Registration System Partnership

NCEH/ATSDR Honor Award, Excellence in Response (Domestic), West Virginia Elk River Chemical Spill Team

2013

NCEH/ATSDR Honor Award, Excellence in Program Delivery (Domestic), Multi-Center Disaster Epidemiology Training Team

2012

NCEH/ATSDR Honor Award, Excellence in Emergency Response (Domestic), Agency Emergency Guidance and Information Sharing System Team (AEGIS)

2011

Finalist, Atlanta Federal Executive Board Outstanding Supervisor

NCEH/ATSDR Honor Award, Excellence in Emergency Response (International), Fukushima Response Team

NCEH/ATSDR Honor Award, Excellence in Emergency Response (Domestic), Gulf Oil Spill Mental Health CASPER Team

2010

NCEH/ATSDR Honor Award, Excellence in Emergency Response, Deepwater Horizon Response Team

NCEH/ATSDR Honor Award, Excellence in Epidemiology, Bangladesh Outbreak and Investigation Team

CDC Honor Award, Excellence in Epidemiology, Investigators of an Outbreak of Acute Renal Failure in Nigeria

2009

NCEH/ATSDR Honor Award, Excellence in Supervision, Individual Award

NCEH/ATSDR Honor Award, Superior Mission Response for Emerging International Events, Nigerian Acute Renal Failure Outbreak and Investigation Team

2008

NCEH Director's Award, Employee of the Month, November

NCEH/ATSDR Honor Award, Superior Mission Response for Emerging Domestic Events, Selenium Investigation and Response Team

NCEH/ATSDR Honor Award, Excellence in Public Health Practice Award—Leadership, Collegiate Leaders in Environmental Health Implementation Team

2007

Surgeon General's Commendation Award for Outstanding Contribution to the field training of National Deployable Forces

2005

CDC Honor Award Public Health Epidemiology and Laboratory Research Silo Busters: Collaborative Success, Asia/Avian Influenza Response Team

2004

NCEH/ATSDR Honor Award, Excellence in Method, RNA Methods Team

NCEH/ATSDR Honor Award, Collaborative Success, Toxicsurveillance Working Group

2003

National Center for Infectious Diseases Honor Award, West Nile Virus Investigation

NCEH/ATSDR Honor Award, Excellence in Emergency Response, Deepwater Horizon Response Team