

CYNTHIA NICOLE LEBRON, PhD, MPH
UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI
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Abridged Curriculum Vitae

HIGHER EDUCATION

University of Miami	PhD Prevention Science & Community Health	2020
University of Miami	Master of Public Health	2013
Florida International University	B.S. Health Sciences, Minor Biology	2009

EXPERIENCE (Selected)

Academic:

2020- Present **Assistant Professor, Tenure Track**
School of Nursing and Health Studies
University of Miami, Coral Gables, FL

Non-Academic:

2014-2015 **Senior Clinical Research Coordinator**
Jay Weiss Institute for Health Equity
Sylvester Cancer Center

PUBLICATIONS (selected)

Books and monographs published:

Chapters

1. Messiah, S.E., **Lebron, C.N.**, Arheart, K.L., Lipshultz, S.E., & Miller, T.L. (2019) Prevalence of the Metabolic Syndrome in U.S. Youth In D. Bagchi (Ed.) *Global Perspectives on Childhood Obesity: Current Status, Consequences, and Prevention* (2nd edition, pp.49-56). Academic Press.
2. Carrasquillo, O., Kenya, S., Dang, S., **Lebron, C.**, & Tilda, F. (2021) Health Care and Public Policy (HCPP): Challenges and Opportunities for Research in I. Dankwa-Mullan, E.J. Pérez-Stable, X. Zhang, K.L. Gardner, & A. Rosario (Eds.) *The Science of Health Disparities Research* (1st Edition, pp. 309-320). John Wiley & Sons.

Juried or refereed journal articles and exhibitions:

*Indicates a student author

1. **Lebron, C.**, Larson, M.*, Chavez, J.*, Parra, A*. (2024). The Role of Baby-Friendly Designated Hospitals in Breastfeeding Initiation Across Racial/Ethnic Groups in Florida, *Maternal and Child Health Journal*, doi: 10.1007/s10995-024-04011-4. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 39487877.

2. **Lebron, C.N.,** Pérez-Ramos, J., Cardona-Cordero, N., Morales, V.*, and Rivera-Joseph, S. (2024) Social Justice Is Overdue for Puerto Rican Mothers. *American Journal of Public Health*, 114, S450_S452, <https://doi.org/10.2105/AJPH.2024.307702>
3. **Lebron CN** and Borrell LN. (2024) Pa’Lante, Pa’tras ni Para Coger Impulso: The Future of Hispanic or Latino Health and Research. *American Journal of Public Health*, 114, S420_S421, <https://doi.org/10.2105/AJPH.2024.307769>
4. **Lebron CN,** Mitsdarffer M, Parra A*, Chavez JV, Behar-Zusman V. (2023) Latinas and Maternal and Child Health: Research, Policy, and Representation. *Maternal and Child Health Journal* doi: 10.1007/s10995-023-03662-z.
5. **Lebron, C.N.,** Morales, V*, Saenz, V.*, Vidot, D. (2022) “Ganja Mamas”: Online discussions about cannabis use in pregnancy. *Drug and Alcohol Dependence*, 241: 109689. †
 †Featured in Bartlett, L. (2022) Women Turn to Internet Support Groups for Information on Cannabis And Pregnancy, Study Finds. *Forbes*
<https://www.forbes.com/sites/lindseybartlett/2022/11/29/women-turn-to-internet-support-groups-for-information-on-cannabis-and-pregnancy-study-finds/?sh=37f248a51f2d>
6. **Lebron, C.N.,** Guzman, T., Agosto, Y., Sutton, D., Stoutenberg, M., Messiah, S.E, & St.George, S.M. (2021) A Qualitative Study of Cognitive, Behavioral, and Environmental Influences on Hispanic Mothers’ Early Childhood Feeding Practices. *Appetite*, 164:105268.
7. **Lebron, C.N.,** Agosto, Y.A., Lee, T.K., Prado, G., St. George, S.M., Pantin, H., & Messiah, S.E. (2020). Family Mealtime Communication in Single- and Dual-Headed Households among Overweight and Obese Hispanic Adolescents. *Journal of Nutrition Education and Behavior*, 52 (9), 840-849. * †
 *Featured by JNEB Editor-in-Chief in Chapman-Novakofsi, K. (2020). Family Meals. *Journal of Nutrition Education and Behavior*, 52(11), 994.
 †Voted as one of the top three 2021 Best Article finalists at JNEB
8. **Lebron, C.N.,** Lee, T.K., Prado, G., St. George, S.M., Pantin, H., & Messiah, S.E. (2019). Psychometric Properties of an Abbreviated Childhood Family Mealtime Questionnaire tested in a Hispanic Adolescent Population. *Appetite*, 140, 169-179.
9. **Lebron, C.N.,** St.George, S.M., Eckembrecher, D.G., Alvarez, L.M. (2019). "Am I doing this wrong?" Breastfeeding mothers' use of an online forum. *Maternal and Child Nutrition*, 16(1):e12890.
10. **Lebron, C. N.,** Lee, T. K., Park, S. E., St George, S. M., Messiah, S. E., & Prado, G. (2018). Effects of parent-adolescent reported family functioning discrepancy on physical activity and diet among Hispanic youth. *Journal of Family Psychology*, 32(3), 333.
11. **Lebron, C.,** Stoutenberg, M., Portacio, F., & Zollinger, T.W. (2016). A Community Needs Assessment of the Physical Activity and Food Environment in a Predominantly Hispanic U.S. City. *Hispanic Health Care International*, 14(3):124-3.
12. **Lebron, C.,** Stoutenberg, M., Janowsky, M., Asfour, L., Huang, S., & Prado, G. (2016). The Role of Leisure Time Physical Activity and Sedentary Behavior in Substance Use and Risky Sex Behaviors in Hispanic Adolescents. *The Journal of Early Adolescence*. DOI:10.1177/02724316166636230
13. **Lebron, C.,** Reyes-Arrechea, E., Castillo, A., Carrasquillo, O., & Kenya, S. (2015). Tales from the Miami Healthy Heart Initiative: The Experiences of Two

Community Health Workers. *Journal of Health Care for the Poor and Underserved*, 26(2): 435-62.

Other works, publications and abstracts:

1. **Lebron, C.**, Larson, M.*, Chavez, J.*, Parra, A*. *The Role of Baby-Friendly Designated Hospitals in Breastfeeding Initiation Across Racial/Ethnic Groups in Florida*. Presented at the 2024 annual meeting of the American Public Health Association, Minneapolis, MN, November 2024.
2. **Lebron, C.**, Larson, M.*, Chavez, J.*, Parra, A*. *Maternal and perinatal health outcomes for US-born vs foreign-born Latinas in Florida*. Presented at the 2024 annual meeting of the American Public Health Association, Minneapolis, MN, November 2024.
3. **Lebron, C.**, Prado, G., Behar-Zusman, V. *Center for Latino Health Research Opportunities: CLaRO*. Presented at the 2024 annual meeting of the American Public Health Association, Minneapolis, MN, November 2024.
4. **Lebron, C. N**, Perez Ramos, J.G., Cardona, N. *A call to action: Birth in Boricuas*. Presented at the 2023 annual meeting of the American Public Health Association, Atlanta, GA, November 2023.

PROFESSIONAL

Funded Research Performed (selected):

National Institutes of Health, NHLBI, 1 K01 HL160915-01A1

August 2022- July 2027

Role: Principal Investigator

Title: Caring for Bebe: Early Childhood Obesity Prevention Intervention for Hispanic Families

Total Award: \$764, 996

National Institutes of Health, NIMHD, Diversity Supplement under CLaRO, GR017833 SUPP

June 2021- April 2022

Role: Principal Investigator

Title: Latinx Obesity Syndemic Theory

Total Award: \$170, 433

National Institutes of Health, NIDDK, F31DK116533

August 2018-August 2020

Role: Principal Investigator

Title: A Machine Learning Approach for Predicting Early Childhood Obesity among WIC Participating Families

Total Award: \$76, 248

Editorial responsibilities (selected):

Guest Editor: American Journal of Public Health, Supplemental Issue “Advancing Hispanic/Latino Health Research Pa’lante: The Past, Present and Future of

Hispanic/Latino Health in the US”

Editorial Board: American Journal of Public Health, Preventive Medicine Reports

Professional and Honorary Organizations (selected):

American Public Health Association

President, Latino Caucus for Public Health	2021-Present
Board Member, Latinx Young Professional	2020-2021
Student Fellow, Maternal and Child Health Section	2019-2020
Member	2019-Present

Society for Prevention Research (SPR)

Scholar, Early Career Prevention Scientists	2020-2022
Member	2011-Present

Honors and Awards (selected):

Bouchet Graduate Honor Society	2020
Early Career Preventionist Network Travel Award, SPR	2019

Other Professional Activities:

Academic presentations (selected):

1. “The Challenges of Measuring Changing Rates of Maternal Mortality and Morbidity”, presented at the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine on November 21, 2024.
2. “Pa’lante, pa’tras ni para coger impulso: The future of Hispanic or Latino health and research”, AJPB Panel at the 2024 annual meeting of the American Public Health Association, Minneapolis, MN, November 2024.
3. “New Voices, New Writes in MCH”, MCH Journal Panel at the 2024 annual meeting of the American Public Health Association, Minneapolis, MN, November 2024.
4. “Latinas and Maternal and Child Health: Research, Policy, and Representation”, presented at Virginia Commonwealth University on October 14, 2024.
5. “Pioneers of Change: Shaping the Future Together”, Health Resources and Services Administration, panel speaker on September 25, 2024.

Media (selected):

1. “Todo empieza por mamá en vivo: Lo que las mamás latinas/hispanas de hoy necesitan saber”, presented in Hispanic Heritage Month 2024, on March of Dimes Youtube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MmQ4YusHtsw>
2. “How diabetes impacts the Latino community”, presented on September 21, 2023 on *Good Morning America*.
<https://www.goodmorningamerica.com/wellness/video/diabetes-impacts-latino-community-103371954>

3. “Heart disease in the Hispanic Community”, presented on September 20, 2023 on *Good Morning America*
<https://www.goodmorningamerica.com/wellness/video/heart-disease-hispanic-community-103335606>

SERVICE (selected)

University Committee and Administrative Responsibilities:

2023- Present Hispanic Healthcare Club, Faculty Advisor

Community Activities:

2022-Present BreastfeedMiami, Executive Board Member

2024- Present Miami Dade WIC Advisory Committee

2024- Present National Hispanic Health Foundation, Advisory Committee for the
Hispanic Leadership Development Fellowship Program