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## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

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NAME: Kohler, Racquel Elizabeth "Kelly"

eRA COMMONS USER NAME (credential, e.g., agency login): RACQUEL\_KOHLER

POSITION TITLE: Assistant Professor of Social and Behavioral Sciences

### EDUCATION/TRAINING

INSTITUTION AND LOCATION	DEGREE	Completion Date MM/YYYY	FIELD OF STUDY
University of Central Florida, FL	BS	05/2007	Molecular Biology & Microbiology Public Health Health Policy & Management Cancer Prevention
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, NC	MSPH	05/2011	
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, NC	PhD	05/2015	
Harvard TH Chan School of Public Health, MA	Postdoc	08/2018	

### A. Personal Statement

I am a health services researcher committed to improving cancer prevention and control among vulnerable populations. Throughout my career I have focused on identifying and addressing structural, social, and behavioral factors that influence access to cancer services. I apply health services research and implementation science frameworks to both qualitative and quantitative methods to develop and evaluate interventions. I lived and worked in Malawi as a Fogarty Global Health Fellow conducting my mixed methods doctoral dissertation to improve early diagnosis of breast cancer. Much of my work now focuses on improving HPV-related cancer control, including vaccination, screening, and follow-up management. My interventions are largely focused on linking racially/ethnically diverse and socially marginalized populations with cancer prevention and diagnostic services at community health centers.

I have received funding for interventions to improve primary and secondary prevention of HPV-related cancers: HPV vaccination (P30CA072720-21S2, K22CA258675-01A1), cervical cancer screening with HPV self-sampling (DFCI Nodal Award), and tailored counseling for colposcopy attendance (CINJ Cancer Equity Pilot Award). I have also served as a Co-Investigator on multiple R01-funded hybrid effectiveness-implementation trials, including developing provider and community education materials for prompt cancer diagnosis among people living with HIV (R01 CA236546) in Botswana and a multilevel intervention to increase triage attendance after home-based HPV testing (R01 CA218306) in Argentina. In addition to the publications listed below, I have manuscripts under review explaining the unique barriers to cervical cancer screening that urban homeless women face, the feasibility of offering HPV self-sampling to homeless women, and HPV vaccination uptake among immigrant populations.

### Ongoing and recently completed projects:

K22 CA258675-01A1

Kohler (PI)

08/02/2022-07/31/2025

Addressing HPV vaccination disparities through tailored messaging for hesitant families

3P30 CA072720-21S2

Libutti (PI), Role: Project Director

03/01/2021-08/31/2022

Vaccine hesitancy related to HPV vaccine uptake in regions with low adolescent HPV vaccination rates

Cancer Health Equity Research Award

Hudson, Kohler (MPI)

07/01/2020-06/30/2021

Development of a Health Enhancement Resource System (HERS) to address cervical cancer disparities

R01 CA236546

Dryden-Peterson (PI), Role: Co-Investigator

09/19/2019-08/31/2024

A multilevel intervention (Potlako+) to improve timely cancer detection and treatment initiation

R01 CA218306

Arrossi (PI), Role: Co-Investigator

09/01/2017-08/31/2020

Evaluation of mHealth intervention to increase triage adherence of HPV+ women who self-collected

Dana-Farber/Harvard Cancer Center Nodal Award

Viswanath, Kohler (MPI)

09/01/2016-09/30/2019

Improving HPV testing and triage for underserved women

## B. Positions, Scientific Appointments, and Honors

### Positions and Appointments

2022-	Assistant Professor, Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey and School of Public Health
2019-2022	Instructor, Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey and School of Public Health
2020-	Research Associate, Botswana Harvard AIDS Institute Partnership
2018-2019	Research Associate, Harvard TH Chan School of Public Health, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
2015-2018	NCI R25 Postdoctoral Fellow, Cancer Prevention Fellowship, Harvard TH Chan School
2013-2015	NCI R25 Pre-doctoral Fellow, Cancer Care Quality Training Program, UNC-CH
2013-2014	Fogarty R25 Pre-doctoral scholar, UJMT Fogarty Global Health Fellows Program, Malawi
2011-2013	Research Assistant, Health Policy and Management, UNC-CH
2011	Teaching Assistant, Program Evaluation, Health Policy and Management, UNC-CH
2010	Research Assistant, Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center, UNC-CH
2007-2009	Educational Leadership Consultant, Kappa Kappa Gamma Fraternity, Columbus, OH

### Honors

2022	Summer Institute on Randomized Behavioral Clinical Trials, NIH OBSSR
2015	Harry T. Phillips Award for Outstanding Teaching by a Doctoral Student, UNC-CH
2014	Lancet and Consortium of Universities for Global Health (CUGH) Best Student Abstract, CUGH
2012	International Cancer Screening Network (ICSN) Young Investigator, NCI ICSN Meeting Sydney
2009-2011	Graduate Academic Merit Scholar, Health Policy and Management, UNC-CH
2008-2010	Graduate Student Leadership Scholarship, Kappa Kappa Gamma Foundation
2003-2007	Florida High Academic Achievement Scholarship
2003-2007	Florida Bright Futures Scholarship

## C. Contributions to Science

- 1. Cervical cancer screening and follow-up management.** My cervical cancer screening projects aim to increase access to screening among vulnerable women, including those living with HIV and experiencing homelessness. I have led and contributed to HPV self-sampling pilot studies and community trials in domestic and international settings. I have shown the potential to integrate self-sampling into routine HIV care and street medicine.
  - a. Kohler, R.E.,** Tang, J., Gopal, S., Chinula, L., Hosseinipour, M.C., Liomba, T.G., & Chiudzu, G. (2016). High rates of cervical cancer among HIV-infected women at a referral hospital in Malawi. *International Journal of STD and AIDS*, 27(9), 753-760. PubMed PMID: 26130691; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC4870149
  - b. Kohler, R.E.,** Elliott, T., Monare, B., Moshashane, N., Ramontshonyana, K., Chatterjee, P., Ramogola-Masire, D., & Morroni, C. (2019). HPV self-sampling acceptability and preferences among women living with HIV in Botswana. *International Journal of Gynecology and Obstetrics*, 147(3), 332-338. PubMed PMID: 31489627; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC6944206

- c. **Kohler, R.E.**, Elliott, T., Monare, B., Moshashane, N., Ramontshonyana, K., Muthoga, C., Wynn, A., Howett, R., Lockett, R., Morroni, C., & Ramogola-Masire, D. (2019). Performance of vaginal self-sampling for HPV testing among women living with HIV in Botswana. *International Journal of STD & AIDS*, 30(12), 1169-1176. PubMed PMID: 31558129; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC7179768
- d. **Kohler, R.E.**, Roncarati, J.S., Anastasia Aguiar, A.M., Chatterjee, P., Viswanath, K., & Henry, C. (2021). Trauma and cervical cancer screening behaviors among women experiencing homelessness: A call for trauma-informed care. *Women's Health*, 17. PubMed PMID: 34225506; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC8264729.

## 2. Acceptability of and preferences for integrated women's health services in high HIV burden settings.

Much of my work focuses on understanding the patient experience and ensuring that public health interventions are patient-centered. I have led formative research to inform intervention content, design, and delivery options to gain in-depth understandings of patients' views. My expertise in preference elicitation techniques mainly involves discrete choice experiments (DCEs), which I have developed and applied across various populations and health interventions, including HPV self-sampling, cancer early detection services, smoking cessation, and pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) for HIV prevention. I have conducted and analyzed interviews and focus groups to evaluate future needs and experiences with existing interventions.

- a. **Kohler, R.E.**, Lee, C.N., Gopal, S., Reeve, B.B., Weiner, B.J., & Wheeler, S.B. (2015). Developing a discrete choice experiment in Malawi: eliciting preferences for breast cancer early detection services. *Patient Preference and Adherence*, 9, 1459-1472. PubMed PMID: 26508842; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC4612134
- b. **Kohler, R.E.**, Miller, A.R., Gutnik, L., Lee, C.N., & Gopal, S. (2017). Experiences and perceptions regarding clinical breast exam screening by trained laywomen in Malawi. *Cancer Causes and Control*, 28(2), 137-43. PubMed PMID: 28097471; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC5419072
- c. **Kohler, R.E.**, Gopal, S., Lee, C.N., Weiner, B.J., Reeve, B.B., & Wheeler, S.B. (2017). Breast cancer knowledge, behaviors, and preferences in Malawi: Implications for early detection interventions from a discrete choice experiment. *Journal of Global Oncology*, 3(5), 480-489. PubMed PMID: 29094086; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC5646878
- d. Lancaster, K.E., Lungu, T., Bula, A., Shea, J., Shoben, A., Hosseinipour, M.C., **Kohler, R.E.**, Hoffman, I.F., Go, V.F., Golin, C.E., Wheeler, S.B., & Miller, W.C. (2020). Preferences for pre-exposure prophylaxis delivery among female sex workers in Malawi: A discrete choice experiment. *AIDS and Behavior*, 24(5), 1294-1303. PubMed PMID: 31720955; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC7995177.

## 3. Multilevel determinants of delayed cancer diagnosis and treatment in high HIV burden settings.

Complex factors that span multiple ecological levels of influence contribute to disparities in outcomes and behaviors. I led the first study characterizing breast cancer clinical outcomes in Malawi, which documented advanced disease after long symptom durations was common. I also conduct qualitative analyses and outlined the breast cancer help-seeking pathway, which explained how patients decide to seek help for symptoms and identified intervention opportunities at multiple ecological levels. I advised two doctoral students on analyses describing diagnostic care patterns in Botswana.

- a. **Kohler, R.E.**, Moses, A., Krysiak, R., Liomba, N.G., & Gopal, S. (2015). Pathologically confirmed breast cancer in Malawi: A descriptive study; clinical profile of breast cancer. *Malawi Medical Journal*, 27(1), 10-12. PubMed PMID: 26137191; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC4478398
- b. **Kohler, R.E.**, Gopal, S., Miller, A.R., Lee, C.N., Reeve, B.B., Weiner, B.J., & Wheeler, S.B. (2017). A framework for improving early detection of breast cancer in sub-Saharan Africa: A qualitative study of help-seeking behaviors among Malawian women. *Patient Education and Counseling*, 100(1), 167-173. PubMed PMID: 27528411; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC5301948
- c. Brown, C.A., **Kohler, R.E.**, John, O., Motswetla, G., Mmalane, M., Tapela, N., Grover, S., Dryden-Peterson, S., Lockman, S., & Dryden-Peterson, S.L. (2018). Multi-level factors affecting time to cancer diagnosis and care quality in Botswana. *The Oncologist*, 23(12), 1453-1460. PubMed PMID: 30082488; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC6292540
- d. Iyer, H.S., **Kohler, R.E.**, Ramogola-Masire, D., Brown, C., Molebatsi, K., Grover, S., Kablay, I., Bvochora-Nsingo, M., Efstathiou, J.A., Lockman, S., Tapela, N., & Dryden-Peterson, S.L. (2019). Explaining disparities in oncology health systems delays and stage at diagnosis between men and women in Botswana: A cohort study. *PLoS ONE*, 14(6), e0218094. PubMed PMID: 31170274; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC6553768

4. **HPV prevention communication interventions for vulnerable populations.** I co-authored a book chapter and case study on how communication inequities must be addressed to eliminate health disparities. I have been involved in developing and testing education and communication interventions, including multiple mHealth interventions for health workers to communicate with patients and link them to follow-up care. I was Co-I on R01 *Project ATICA* (PI: Arrossi) in Argentina where I helped develop the content and framing of messaging for an mHealth intervention to deliver results after women self-sample. I am also MPI on a CINJ pilot award to test an mHealth adaptation of a research tested counseling intervention for women needing colposcopy after abnormal screening among low-income women in urban US cities. My recent work in HPV vaccination also emphasizes parent-provider communication and information processing.
- Kohler, R.E.**, Ramanadhan, S., & Viswanath, K. (2018). *Intervening on the Information Environment to Address Cancer Disparities*. in Chambers, Vinson, Norton (Eds.) *Optimizing the Cancer Control Continuum: Advancing Implementation Research*. New York, NY: Oxford University Press.
  - Sanchez Antelo, V., **Kohler, R.E.**, Curotto, M., Viswanath, K., Paolino, M., Thouyaret, L., & Arrossi, S. (2020). Developing SMS content to promote Pap triage among women who performed HPV self-collection test: A qualitative exploration. *Journal of Medical Internet Research Formative Research*, 4(3), e14652. PubMed PMID: 32032940; PubMed Central PCID: PMC7084289
  - Sansoni, M., Tagai, E.K., Lapitan, E., Wen, K.Y., Xu, J., Belfiglio, A., Hudson, S.V., **Kohler, R.E.**, Hernandez, E., & Miller, S.M. (2022). Development of a text message-based intervention for follow-up colposcopy among predominately underserved Black and Hispanic/Latinx women. *Cancer Causes and Control*, 33(6), 861-873. PMID: 35334016; PubMed in process
  - Btoush, R., **Kohler, R.E.**, Carmody, D.P., Hudson, S.V., & Tsui, J. (2022). Factors that influence healthcare provider recommendation of HPV vaccination. *American Journal of Health Promotion*. PMID: 35442819
5. **Provider and health system factors affecting quality of cancer care.** My early work focused on understanding health system factors (at the physician, facility, and organization levels) affecting care delivery. My research analyzing Medicaid claims data has helped explain the role of delivery models, such as patient-centered medical homes, in cancer-related treatment outcomes among low-income women. Studies I contributed to suggest opportunities to improve treatment through innovative care models using patient navigators, lay health workers, and community health workers. Costs of new services and delivery models are also critical implementation measures to consider when scaling-up; I have conducted numerous micro-costing and cost-effectiveness analyses.
- Kohler, R.E.**, Sheets, N.C., Wheeler, S.B., Nutting, C., Hall, E., & Chera, B.S. (2013). Two-year and lifetime cost-effectiveness of intensity modulated radiation therapy versus 3-dimensional conformal radiation therapy for head-and-neck cancer. *International Journal of Radiation Oncology – Biology – Physics*, 87(4), 683-689. PubMed PMID: 24138916
  - Kohler, R.E.**, Goyal, R.K., Hassmiller-Lich, K., Domino, M.E., & Wheeler, S.B. (2015). Association between medical home enrollment and health care utilization and costs among breast cancer patients in a state Medicaid program. *Cancer*, 121(22), 3975-3981. PubMed PMID: 26287506; PubMed central PCID: PMC5004988
  - Painschab MS, **Kohler RE**, Kimani S, Mhango W, Kaimila B, Zuze T, Mithi V, Kasonkanji E, Mumba N, Nyasosela R, Wheeler S, Gopal S. Comparison of best supportive care, CHOP, or R-CHOP for diffuse large B-cell lymphoma in Malawi: a cost-effectiveness analysis. *Lancet Global Health* 2021. 9(9):e1305-e1313
  - Straw C, Sanchez-Antelo V, **Kohler RE**, Paolino M, Viswanath K, Arrossi S. Implementation and scaling-up of an effective mHealth intervention to increase adherence to triage of HPV-positive women (ATICA study): Perceptions of health decision-makers and health care providers. *BMC Health Services Research* 2023 Jan 18;23(1):47. PubMed PMID: 36653775; PubMed Central PCID: PMC9847147

Complete List of Published Work in My Bibliography:

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/myncbi/1HG3h5bL5NfAM/bibliography/public/>