

**Harvard Medical School
Curriculum Vitae**

Date Prepared: March 12, 2023
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Place of Birth: New York, NY

Education

2002	BA	Molecular and Cell Biology (Immunology Focus)	University of California, Berkeley, Berkeley, CA
2006	MD	Medicine	Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine, Chicago, IL
2012	MMSc	Clinical Research	Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA

Postdoctoral Training

07/06-6/09	Intern and Resident	Internal Medicine	Mount Sinai Hospital, New York, NY
7/09-6/10	Clinical Fellow	Infectious Diseases	Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Boston, MA
7/10-11/13	Research and Clinical Fellow	Infectious Diseases and Infection Control/Healthcare Epidemiology	Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center
09/19-1/20	Scholar	Training Institute for the Dissemination and Implementation in Research and Health (TIDIRH)	National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD

Faculty Academic Appointments

02/14-01/16	Assistant Professor	Medicine	University of Colorado School of Medicine, Aurora, CO
02/16-09/17	Instructor	Medicine	Harvard Medical School

10/17-9/2021	Assistant Professor	Medicine	Harvard Medical School
10/17-9/2021	Adjunct Assistant Professor (non-voting)	Medicine	Boston University School of Medicine, Boston, MA
10/21-present	Associate Professor	Medicine	Harvard Medical School

Appointments at Hospitals/Affiliated Institutions

08/11-01/14	Attending Physician	Infectious Diseases, Urgent Care	Harvard Vanguard Medical Associates, Boston, MA
02/14-1/16	Staff Physician	Internal Medicine, Infectious Diseases	VA Eastern Colorado Healthcare System, Denver, CO
02/16-present	Staff Physician	Internal Medicine, Infectious Diseases	VA Boston Healthcare System, West Roxbury, MA
02/16-present	Attending Physician	Infectious Diseases	Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center
02/16-present	Investigator/Physician Scientist	Center for Healthcare Organization and Implementation Research (CHOIR)	VA Boston Healthcare System, Jamaica Plain, MA
4/21-present	Clinical Study Director	VA Boston Cooperative Studies Program	VA Boston Healthcare System, Jamaica Plain, MA

Other Professional Positions

2009-12	Medical Director	BeFree!
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Major Administrative Leadership Positions

Local

2014-15	Associate Medical Director, Infection Prevention	Eastern Colorado VA Healthcare System
2014-16	Medical Director, Outpatient Parenteral Antimicrobial Program	Eastern Colorado VA Healthcare System
2014-16	Medical Director, Infection Prevention	Eastern Colorado VA Healthcare System
2014-16	Medical Director, Antimicrobial Stewardship	Eastern Colorado VA Healthcare System
2023-	Associate Chief of Staff for Scientific Affairs	VA National Artificial Intelligence Institute

Regional

2020-21	Director, Experimental Therapeutics for COVID-19	VA New England Healthcare System (VISN 1), Brockton, MA
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Committee Service

Local

2019-2022	Institutional Review Board	VA Boston Healthcare System
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Regional

2020-present	Expert Participant, Hopkins-MIT Trial Innovation Network	Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD / Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA
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National

2022-	Member, VA Methods Advisory Council	VA Inpatient Evaluation Center (IPEC), National VA Healthcare System, Ann Arbor, MI
2022	Member, VA Monkeypox Coordination Team Research Group	VA Office of Research and Development

Professional Societies

2009-15	American College of Physicians	Associate Member
2011-16, 2020-	Infectious Diseases Society of America (IDSA)	
2022-		IDWeek Abstract Reviewer
2011-present	Society for Healthcare Epidemiology in America (SHEA)	
	2014-17	Member, Publications Committee
	2021-	Fellow, Society for Healthcare Epidemiology in America
	2022-	Member, Research Committee
	2022	Lead, Section on Workforce Sustainability, SHEA Research Agenda
	2022	Participant, Section on Pediatric Infection Prevention Research, SHEA Research Agenda

Grant Review Activities

2018	Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning, and Democratizing Data Program	American Heart Association <i>Ad hoc</i> Member
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2019, 2022	Infectious, Reproductive, Asthma, and Pulmonary Conditions (IRAP) Study Section	National Institutes of Health (NIH) <i>Ad hoc</i> Member
2021-	VA HSR&D Quality Enhancement Research Initiative (QUERI) Scientific Merit Review Panel	VA Health Services Research and Development Service Standing Panel Member

Editorial Activities

***Ad hoc* Reviewer**

- American Journal of Infection Control*
- Antimicrobial Resistance and Infection Control*
- BMC Medicine*
- British Medical Journal (BMJ)*
- BMJ Quality and Safety*
- BMJ Open*
- Communications Medicine*
- Clinical Infectious Diseases*
- Epidemiology and Infection*
- Infection Control and Hospital Epidemiology*
- International Journal of Infectious Diseases*
- JAMA Network Open*
- Journal of Antimicrobial Chemotherapy*
- Journal of Clinical Microbiology*
- Open Forum Infectious Diseases*
- PlosOne*
- Public Health Reports*
- World Journal of Gastroenterology*

Other Editorial Roles

2021	Associate Editor	<i>Infection Control and Healthcare Epidemiology</i>
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Honors and Prizes

1999	Mark of Excellence for Best General News Reporting	Society of Professional Journalists	Reporting
2009-11	Scholars in Clinical Sciences Program	Harvard Catalyst/Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute	Research
2011	SHEA Travel Award	Society for Healthcare Epidemiology in America	Research
2012	Finalist, Rice Business Plan Competition	Rice University Alliance for Technology and Entrepreneurship	Business Design

2012	First Place, Residents and Fellows Research Competition	Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center	Research
2013	Jonathan Freeman Scholarship	Society for Healthcare Epidemiology in America	Research
2013	ID Week Travel Award	Infectious Diseases Society of America	Research
2015	ID Week Investigator Award	Infectious Diseases Society of America	Research
2017	Top Reviewer	<i>Infection Control and Hospital Epidemiology/</i> Society for Healthcare Epidemiology in America	Editing/publishing
2019	Top Poster	Society for Healthcare Epidemiology in America	Research
2018-20	Massachusetts Consortium for Cardiopulmonary Implementation Science Scholars (MCCISS) K12 Award	National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI)	Research
2020	Certificate of Appreciation	Department of Veterans Affairs	Pandemic Response and public service

Report of Funded and Unfunded Projects

Funding Information

Past

- 1998 Investigating Hepatitis C Taxonomy
R01 DK52701 and NSF grants CCR 0073081 and DBI 0090789
Co-Investigator (PI: AD Branch)
Using novel computing and bioinformatics techniques, I worked to analyze hepatitis C taxonomy.
- 2000-02 A novel pathway targets the polar secretion of *Listeria monocytogenes*' ActA protein
US Public Health Service Grant A1 29619
Co-Investigator (PI: D Portnoy)
This study investigated the molecular events mediating the cell-to-cell spread of *Listeria monocytogenes* and conceptualized and developed an assay to monitor the real-time secretion of ActA onto the bacterial surface.
- 2014-15 Improving the care of older veterans with infections
Veterans Affairs Geriatric Research and Training Center T21 514-3

Site-PI (PI: RL Jump)

Educational research initiative designed to improve antimicrobial use in older Veterans. As part of the effort, I gave lectures and collected data regarding how knowledge and attitudes about antimicrobial use changed. Data were highlighted at the American Geriatrics Society annual meeting in 2015. The project is now being expanded for national-level use and implementation.

- 2014-17 Operationalizing an Electronic Detection Algorithm for Identifying Surgical Site Infections
VA Rocky Mountain Network (VISN 19) Operational Funding
PI
This Denver operations-funded study was designed to implement an electronic surveillance algorithm that I developed to identify surgical site infections. The goal was to improve surgical site infection detection and to identify methods for streamlining time spent on surveillance activities and manual chart review.
- 2014-18 Comparative Effectiveness of Surgical Prophylaxis Regimens
VA Health Services Research & Development (HSR&D) Investigator-Initiated Research (IIR) Program 891-01-A1
Co-Investigator (PI: K Gupta)
The aim of this project was to use national VA databases to evaluate the effectiveness of different antimicrobial regimens for surgical site infection prevention, evaluating both benefits and harms of different strategies.
- 2016-18 Improving Veterans' Care by Expanding Infection Prevention to Outpatients
VISN 1 Career Development Award
PI
The research objectives of this project were to use quantitative methods to develop an electronic algorithm for flagging cardiac device infections and to investigate the correlation between the application of modifiable patient safety and infection prevention interventions and a facility's incidence of cardiac device infections following procedures in the electrophysiology laboratory. The research will benefit Veteran healthcare by identifying programs and potential future improvement strategies.
- 2017-18 Advanced Medical Informatics to Improve the Care of Arrhythmia Patients by Reducing Procedure-Related Infections
American Heart Association Precision Medicine Grant (171G33630052).
PI
The goal of this interdisciplinary project was to improve health by using advanced medical informatics to reduce cardiac device infections. This is important because cardiac device infections are a common, highly morbid, costly complication of electrophysiology procedures, yet no standardized programs exist to reduce them. The research in this project closed this important gap by creating an electronic tool to detect cardiac device infections and a second tool to identify modifiable infection risk factors that can be targeted with prevention interventions to reduce future infections.
- 2018-19 Measuring the Morbidity of Infectious Complications of the Opiate Epidemic

VA HSR&D XVA18-001

PI

Data on the longer-term morbidity and mortality that result from opiate injection drug use is lacking. Almost nothing is known about the excess burden of invasive bacterial infections (bloodstream infections, bone and joint infections, endocarditis). Information about incidence of new viral infections (HIV, HCV) is also limited. This pilot project collected preliminary data about the incidence rate of invasive bacterial infections and to measure the correlation between this rate and rates of opiate use. A second goal was to assess whether patients with invasive bacterial infections are getting appropriate viral screening (HIV, HCV) and referral to substance abuse treatment and counseling (e.g., substance abuse counseling, suboxone, or methadone referrals).

2018-19

Validation of a Semi-Automated Infection Surveillance Algorithm for Electrophysiology Procedures

VA HSR&D Merit Review Pilot Project Award (I21) PO-18-031

PI

This I21 project focused on improving CIED surveillance in the EP laboratory and provides lessons about the utility of using structured EMR diagnosis and treatment data fields for surveillance beyond inpatient care. Evolution of infection prevention programs to include ambulatory and procedural areas is crucial as healthcare delivery is increasingly provided outside of traditional settings.

2019-20

Expanding the Continuum of Care for Vulnerable Veterans: Developing a Pilot Model for Future Dissemination

VA HSR&D XVA2019

PI

Recent studies and CDC alerts highlight increases in infections associated with IV drug use (IVDU)). This creates an urgent need for research into how to identify Veterans at risk for acquiring these infections, and how to bridge them to healthcare services. The goal of this study was to measure trends in IVDU-related infections overtime and to collect baseline data about how harm reduction interventions have been implemented in the VA.

2020

Association Between Diabetic Foot Ulcers and Invasive Systemic Infections in the Veterans Health Administration: Can Increased Treatment of Localized Infection Prevent Harm?

VA HSR&D XVA 00-4

Co-Investigator (PI: Mull)

The goal of this study is to understand how duration of diabetic foot infection impacts long-term risk of invasive infection and whether different management strategies (medical, surgical) alter this risk.

2020-21

A Phase 3 Randomized, Double-Blind Placebo-Controlled Trial to Evaluate the Efficacy and Safety of Remdesivir (GS-5734™) Treatment of COVID-19 in an Outpatient Setting

Gilead

Site PI (\$221,714)

This study will evaluate the effectiveness of the antiviral remdesivir for the treatment of patients with mild COVID-19 and at least one risk factor for progression.

Current

- 2020-24 How Can We Make Invasive Non-Surgical Procedures Safer? Using Big Data to Identify Adverse Events and Opportunities to Mitigate Harm
VA HSR&D IIR 18-034-3
Co-Investigator (PI: Mull)
This IIR addresses the VA's urgent need for targeted surveillance tools to detect adverse events and inform quality improvement initiatives in invasive non-surgical interventional cardiology, interventional radiology and gastrointestinal endoscopy procedures. The proposed work will test two hypothesized opportunities to update care guidelines or design quality initiatives to mitigate patient harm using surveillance data: whether the patient received inappropriate antibiotics and whether an anesthesiologist was involved in the procedure.
- 2020-22 Enhancing the Care Continuum for Veterans Who Inject Drugs Using Harm Reduction Approaches
VA HSR&D Innovations INV 20-099
Multi-PI (\$43,988) (Multi-PI, Hyde)
This phase I study will lay the groundwork for a future phase II study testing various implementation strategies for introducing harm reduction approaches within the VHA.
- 2021-25 Promoting De-Implementation of Inappropriate Antimicrobial Use in Cardiac Device Procedures by Expanding Audit and Feedback
VA HSR&D [IIR 20-076](#)
PI (\$1,198,820)
This study will leverage novel surveillance tools previously developed by the study team to promote improved uptake of evidence-based interventions in the cardiac electrophysiology laboratory using a Hybrid III design, with implementation and clinical outcomes measurement. Dissemination of the tool is a secondary aim.
- 2021-25 Assessing the Sustainability of Compliance with Surgical Site Infection Prophylaxis After Discontinuation of Mandatory Active Reporting
VA HSR&D IIR 20-101
Multi-PI (\$1,188,021) (M-PI, Mull)
The goal of this highly novel project is to use the Dynamic Sustainability Framework and novel surveillance tools previously developed by study investigators to measure 1) the sustainability of practice change after discontinuation of the active Surgical Care Improvement Project (SCIP), and 2) to identify factors associated with high and low levels of sustainability.
- 2021-22 Harm Reduction Stories: Leveraging Graphic Medicine to Engage Veterans in Substance Use Services within the VA
VA HSR&D SWIFT

Multi-PI (\$19,800) (M-PI, Hyde)
 The goal of this project is to develop graphic medicine materials to engage Veterans in harm reduction services within the VA.

Unfunded Current Projects

- 2019-present Comparative Effectiveness of Management Strategies for Cardiac Device Infections
 PI
 The goal of this study is to use the algorithm developed by the PI and her team as part of the HSR&D I21 study to 1) measure rates of guideline-concordant care and 2) to determine if antimicrobial regimens containing rifampin are associated with reduced risk of recurrent infection and death when compared to patients who did not receive this medication.

- 2020-present Impact of school mode and infection control policies on COVID-19 outcomes
 PI
 The goal of this study is to assess the impacts of school policies on COVID-19 spread. Secondary aims include assessment of COVID-19 community infection control policies on outcomes.

- 2020-present COVID-19 Clinical Informatics and the Learning Healthcare System
 Co-I (PI: Nhan Do)
 The goal of this study is to leverage large VA databases as a national research resource and to directly inform clinical COVID-19 policies

Report of Local Teaching and Training

Teaching of Students in Courses

HMS Courses

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|--------------------------|--|---|
| 2011-13 | Patient-Doctor II
1 st year medical students | Harvard Medical School
2-4 hours per week x 20 weeks |
| 2011-13,
2016-present | Clinical Epidemiology and Population Health
1 st and 2 nd year medical students | Harvard Medical School
20 hours per year |

University of Colorado

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| 2014-15 | Problem-based learning
2 nd year medical students | University of Colorado School of Medicine
10 hours per year |
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Boston University School of Medicine

2017-18	Introductory course to medicine 2 nd year medical students	Boston University School of Medicine 16 hours per year
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Formal Teaching of Residents, Clinical Fellows and Research Fellows (post-docs)

2014-15	Basic Principles of Antimicrobial Stewardship Medical Residents	Denver VA Medical Center 5 1-hour lectures per year
2016	Careers in Infectious Diseases Infectious diseases fellows	Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center 1-hour discussion per year
2022	Effective Mentor-Mentee Relationships Infectious diseases fellows	Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center 1-hour discussion per year

Clinical Supervisory and Training Responsibilities

2014-16	Inpatient attending, Infectious diseases service Infectious Diseases Fellows	Denver VA Medical Center 25 hours/week, 12 weeks/year
2014-16	Inpatient attending, Medical hospitalist service Medicine residents and medical students	Denver VA Medical Center 40 hours per week, 2-4 weeks/year
2016-present	Inpatient attending, Infectious diseases service BUMC Infectious Diseases Fellows	VA Boston Healthcare System 25 hours/week, 2-4 weeks/year
2016-present	Inpatient attending, Medical hospitalist service BWH, BIDMC, BUMC Medicine residents, HMS and BU Medical students	VA Boston Healthcare System 40 hours/week, 4 weeks/year
2016-present	Inpatient attending, Infectious diseases inpatient consult service BIDMC Infectious diseases Fellows	Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center 40 hours/week, 3 weeks/year

Laboratory and Other Research Supervisory and Training Responsibilities

2015-16	Research supervision of fellows and junior faculty	Eastern Colorado VA Healthcare System 2-4 hours per week
2016-present	Research supervision of BIDMC fellows, Boston University fellows/junior faculty	VA Boston Healthcare System 2-4 hours per week

Mentored Trainees and Faculty

- 2015-17 Talia Pindyck, MD, MPH/ Division of Viral Diseases, CDC, Atlanta, Georgia.
Career stage: Fellow *Mentoring role:* research and master's thesis advisor.
Accomplishments: First-authored scholarship of mentored research; MPH at the University of Colorado.
- 2015-15 Susan Mittenzwei, MPH / Assistant Director, VA Rocky Mountain Network (VISN 19), Glendale, CO
Career stage: post-MPH. *Mentoring role:* research and administrative mentor. *Accomplishments:* new infection control protocols and processes for sterile processing, first-authored scholarship of mentored research.
- 2016-19 Gregory Schrank, MD, MPH / Assistant Professor of Infectious Diseases, University of Maryland
Career stage: fellow and junior faculty member. *Mentoring role:* research mentor. *Accomplishments:* Multiple co-authored publications, ongoing research collaborations
- 2016-17 Preeti Mehrotra, MD / Instructor in Medicine, Harvard Medical School.
Career stage: fellow and junior faculty member. *Mentoring role:* research mentor. *Accomplishments:* First author publication
- 2017-present Archana Asundi, MD / Research Assistant Professor of Medicine, Boston University School of Medicine
Career stage: fellow and junior faculty member. *Mentoring role:* research mentor. *Accomplishments:* Multiple first-authored publications, including ongoing projects
- 2018-2019 Matthew Lee, MD / Instructor in Medicine, Harvard Medical School
Career stage: clinical fellow. *Mentoring role:* clinical and antimicrobial stewardship mentor during fellowship. *Accomplishments:* Review article on left-ventricular assist device infections, case report publication.
- 2020-present Leah Harvey, MD / Instructor in Infectious Diseases and Addiction Medicine, Boston University School of Medicine
Career stage: fellow and clinical instructor. *Mentoring role:* fellowship research mentor. *Accomplishments:* Development and implementation of a research program for expanding access to harm reduction services for veterans who inject drugs.
- 2020-2021 William Earle, MD / Resident in Internal Medicine, Harvard Medical School
Career stage: Intern. *Mentoring role:* Clinical mentor for case report. *Accomplishments:* Co-authoring a case report about the novel use of a new antibiotic in a patient with a highly resistant infection and end-stage renal disease.
- 2020-2021 Polly van den Berg, MD / Instructor in Medicine, University of Pennsylvania Medical School *Career stage:* fellow. *Mentoring role:* fellowship research mentor. *Accomplishments:* Development of a

national database regarding infection control strategies to support safe school re-opening, multiple co-authored publications.

- 2021-present Lucy Li, MD / Intern and resident in Internal Medicine, Harvard Medical School *Career stage:* Intern/resident. *Mentoring role:* residency research mentor. *Accomplishments:* Developing a cohort and examining risk factors for hospitalization following COVID-19 vaccination in the national VA healthcare system.
- 2021-present Samira Reyes-Dassum/ Fellow in Infectious Diseases, Harvard Medical School *Career stage:* Fellow. *Mentoring role:* fellowship research mentor.
- 2021-present Julie Wu/Oncology Fellow, Stanford University School of Medicine. *Career stage:* Oncology Fellow. *Mentoring role:* Research.
- 2021-present Sara Young/ Medical Student, Boston University School of Medicine. *Career stage:* Medical Student. *Mentoring role:* Medical school research mentor.
- 2022- Hawra Al-Lawati/Infectious Diseases Fellow, Harvard Medical School. *Career stage:* Fellow. *Mentoring role:* Research Mentor

Local Invited Presentations

No presentations below were sponsored by outside entities

- 2007 A Case of Tuberculous Meningitis/ Grand Rounds
Department of Medicine, Mount Sinai Hospital
- 2009 Tuberculous Ileitis/Clinicopathologic Conference
Mount Sinai Hospital
- 2009 Surgical Management of Endocarditis/ Grand Rounds
Harvard Combined Infectious Diseases Conference, Harvard Medical School
- 2009 Renal Dysfunction and the Management of Antimicrobial Therapy/ Grand Rounds
Harvard Combined Infectious Diseases Conference, Harvard Medical School
- 2010 Cunninghamella: A Management Dilemma/ Grand Rounds
Harvard Combined Infectious Diseases Conference, Harvard Medical School
- 2012 Ventilator-Associated Pneumonia Prevention: How Low Can You Go?
Scholars in Clinical Sciences Research in Progress. Harvard Medical School
- 2014 CMV in a Patient with Inflammatory Bowel Disease: To Treat or Not to Treat?/ Infectious Diseases Combined Case Conference. University of Colorado School of Medicine
- 2015 An Ounce of Prevention? The Comparative Effectiveness of VAP Prevention Strategies/ Infectious Diseases Grand Rounds
University of Colorado School of Medicine.
- 2015 A Roadmap to Improve Antibiotics Use: Everyone is an Antimicrobial Steward/ Geriatrics Grand Rounds
University of Colorado School of Medicine.

- 2016 A Case of Streptococcal Sepsis/ Medical Forum
VA Boston Healthcare System, West Roxbury
- 2017 Assessing the Cost-Effectiveness of Antimicrobial Prophylaxis for Preventing Infectious Endocarditis/Infectious Diseases Conference
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center. Boston, MA.
- 2017 Comparative Effectiveness Research in Infection Control: Measuring the Value and Unintended Consequences of Quality Improvement Initiatives/ VISN-1 Antimicrobial Stewardship Lecture Series. Brockton, MA.
- 2017 An Ounce of Prevention? The Comparative Effectiveness of Ventilator-Associated Pneumonia Prevention/ Core Infectious Diseases Rounds
Boston University School of Medicine. Boston, MA
- 2017 Measuring the Value of Quality Improvement Initiatives in Infection Control/ Medicine Grand Rounds
VA Boston Healthcare System, West Roxbury, MA.
- 2019 Optimizing Surgical Prophylaxis: Every Day and Every Dose Matters/ Grand Rounds
Harvard Combined Infectious Diseases Conference, HMS
- 2020 COVID-19: Diagnostics and Treatments: Overview and Demonstration of Algorithms Integrated into the EHR/ Departmental Lecture
VA Boston Healthcare System, Boston, MA.
- 2020 The Importance of Multi-Disciplinary Care for Management of COVID-19/ Cardiology Grand Rounds
VA Boston Healthcare System, Boston, MA
- 2020 Keeping the Temple Standing: Adapting Evidence-Based Infection Control Strategies into Community and School Settings/ Medical Grand Rounds
VA Boston Healthcare System, West Roxbury, MA.
- 2021 We Can Do Everything Right and Still Have Things Go Wrong: Implementation of Harm Reduction Strategies to Prevent IDU-Associated Infections. Infectious Diseases Research Rounds. Tufts Medical Center. Boston, MA
- 2022 Leveraging the Rapid Learning Healthcare System to Speed the Translation of Evidence into Practice: Results and Experiences from a Multi-Center COVID-19 Clinical Trial. Medical Grand Rounds. VA Boston Healthcare System. Boston, MA.
- 2022 From Conception to Enrollment in 10 Days: Experiences from the Frontline of a COVID-19 Adaptive, Randomized Controlled Trial. Harvard Medical School. Boston, MA.
- 2022 Realization of the Learning Healthcare System: Results and Experiences from a Multi-Center COVID-19 Therapeutics Trial. VA Boston CHOIR Research Conference. Boston, MA.
- 2022 Context Matters: The Dynamic Nature of Community COVID-19 Prevention Policy Impacts. Medical Grand Rounds. VA Boston Healthcare System. Boston, MA.

Report of Regional, National and International Invited Teaching and Presentations

Invited Presentations and Courses

No presentations below were sponsored by outside entities.

Regional

- 2009 Weight Loss and Diarrhea in a Man from New York City/ Intercity Infectious Diseases Rounds
Consortium of Cornell University School of Medicine, Columbia University School of Medicine, Mount Sinai School of Medicine, NYU School of Medicine, and the New York City Department of Public Health). New York, NY.
- 2014 There and Back Again: Antimicrobial Stewardship Challenges in 2014/ Veterans Integrated Service Network (VISN)- 19 Pharmacy Conference
VISN 19 Pharmacy Program, Denver, CO.
- 2014 Improving Antimicrobial Use in Older Adults (Series of six lectures)/ VISN19 Outreach Program
Eastern Colorado VA Healthcare System, Denver, CO, with teleconferencing throughout the Southwest region.
- 2017 A Road Map for Cost-Effectiveness in Infection Prevention/Intercity Infectious Diseases Rounds
University of Connecticut School of Medicine, Farmington, CT.
- 2020 Why Does this Temple have Four Columns? Linking Transmissions Patterns to Infection Control Strategies to Optimize a Safe Re-Opening. Northeastern University School Health Academy, Boston, MA. *Virtual due to COVID-19.
- 2020 Why Does this Temple Have Four Columns? Linking Transmission Patterns to Infection Control Strategies to Optimize a Safe Re-Opening/ Invited lecture at VA Bedford/Boston CHOIR
VA Boston/Bedford CHOIR Lecture Series, Boston, MA. *Virtual due to COVID-19.
- 2021 Toward De-Implementation of Inappropriate Peri-Procedural Antibiotics: Design and Testing of a Novel Tool. Brown University School of Medicine Implementation Science Seminar Series. Providence, RI.
- 2023 Leveraging Implementation Science to Improve Peri-Procedural Care in the VA. VISN-1 Antimicrobial Stewardship Conference. VISN-1. *Virtual.

National

- 2012 Risk Factors, Resource Utilization, Outcomes, and Cost of Post-Partum Breast Abscess. Infectious Diseases Grand Rounds. Northwestern University. Chicago, IL.
- 2012 Health and Economic Outcomes of Post-Partum Breast Abscesses. Infectious Diseases Grand Rounds. Loyola University. Chicago, IL
- 2013 Health and Economic Outcomes of Post-Partum Breast Abscesses. Infectious Diseases Grand Rounds. University of Colorado. Aurora, CO.
- 2013 Post-Partum Breast Abscess: Risk Factors and Economic Burden. Louisiana State University. Infectious Diseases Grand Rounds. New Orleans, Louisiana
- 2013 Health and Economic Consequences of *S. aureus* Post-Partum Breast Abscesses. Infectious Diseases Grand Rounds. University of Texas Medical Branch. Galveston, TX.

- 2017 Considering Costs, Benefits, and Unintended Consequences of Infection Prevention/Invited Lecture. Society for Healthcare Epidemiology (SHEA) Annual Meeting 2017, St. Louis, MO.
- 2017 Improving Management of Pneumonia/Invited Lecture. National Geriatric Antimicrobial Stewardship Lecture Series, Boston, MA (National program).
- 2018 Finding the Needle in the Haystack: Challenges in Surveillance and Detection/Invited Lecture and Round Table Discussion. BioDataWest 2018. San Francisco, CA.
- 2020 Investigational Treatments for COVID-19: What, Why, and How?/Invited Lecture and Roundtable Discussion. VA Northwest Network (VISN 20) Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine Townhall. Salt Lake City, Utah. *Virtual due to COVID-19.
- 2020 Harm Reduction: From Evidence to Implementation. HIV/HCV Seminar Series for Mental Health Providers in the VA. Cincinnati, OH (VISN-10). *Virtual due to COVID-19.
- 2020 From Evidence to Implementation of Harm Reduction Services in the VA. Infectious Diseases Section Clinical Conference. Atlanta, GA.
- 2021 Harm Reduction: Evidence, Adaption, and Implementation within the VA. HIV, Hepatitis, and Related Conditions National Office Monthly Cyberconference.
- 2021 Harm Reduction: From Evidence to Practical Implementation. Creighton University Infectious Diseases Conference. Omaha, Nebraska
- 2021 Harm Reduction: From Evidence to Implementation. Emory/Morehouse/Atlanta VA Combined Medicine Noon Conference. Atlanta, GA.
- 2021 The Six Moments of Infection Prevention for Veterans who Inject Drugs. VISN-12 Viral Hepatitis and Advanced Liver Disease Task Force Monthly Seminar. *Virtual due to COVID-19.
- 2021 Leveraging Text Note Data for Surveillance and Quality Improvement within the VA: A Case Study of a Novel Measurement Tool for Cardiac Device Procedures. Health Services Research and Development Center for Information Dissemination and Education Resources (CIDER). Timely Topics of Interest Cyberseminar Series.
- 2021 Harm Reduction: Evidence, Adaptation, and Implementation. Providence Sacred Heart and Holy Family Hospital (Teaching affiliate of the University of Washington). Medicine Grand Rounds.*Virtual due to COVID-19.
- 2021 The Science Behind Re-Opening Schools: Adapting Evidence-Based Infection Control Strategies to Return Students and Staff to Classrooms Safely. Scripps Mercy Hospital Department of Medicine Grand Rounds. San Diego, CA.
- 2021 Evidence-Based Peri-Operative Prophylaxis to Optimize Surgical Outcomes. Ohio State University Department of Anesthesiology Grand Rounds. Columbus, Ohio.
- 2021 Leveraging Learning and Unlearning to Promote De-Implementation of Post-Procedural Antimicrobial Use: Design and Development of a Hybrid III Trial. University of Michigan Infectious Diseases Grand Rounds. Ann Arbor, MI.
- 2021 Harm Reduction: Epidemiology, Evidence, and Implementation. Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center Grand Rounds. Houston, TX.

- 2021 What a Difference a Year Makes: Evolution in the Science Behind Safely Operating Schools during the COVID-19 Pandemic. Northeastern University School Health Academy. Virtual Summer Academy.
- 2021 Safe Return to School during the Pandemic: Bringing the Science behind COVID-19 Infection Prevention to the Classroom. Northeastern University National Seminar Series.
- 2021 COVID-19 MA School Nurses Experiences with Test and Stay Protocols in Schools (Panel Member). Northeastern University National Webinar Series.
- 2021 You Already Know More than You Think You Do: Translating Hospital-Based Infection Control Strategies to Injection Drug Use. Ending the HIV Epidemic. National Virtual Conference (Hosted by the VA HIV, HCV, and Related Conditions National Program Office).
- 2022 Every Day Matters: Evidence-Driven Approaches to Improving Peri-operative Outcomes through Quality and Antimicrobial Stewardship Initiatives. National VISN1 CMO/HSRD Research and Clinical Collaboration Meeting. Virtual.
- 2022 Integrating a Harm Reduction Approach into VA Healthcare: You Already Know More than You Think You Do. Orlando VA Healthcare System. Orlando, FL.
- 2022 Transitioning to the Next Phase of the Pandemic: What Implementation Science Can Teach Us about Barriers to Change, Lifting of Interventions, and Strategies for Moving Forward. Columbia University Virtual COVID-19 Symposium.
- 2022 Evidence-Based SARS-CoV-2 Prevention: Implementation Science to Guide the Transitions from Pandemic to Endemic. ID Week 2022. Washington, D.C.
- 2022 You already know more than you think you do: Harm Reduction and Infection Prevention to Improve Outcomes in Persons who Inject Drugs. VA HIV/HCV Mental Health Fellows Seminar Series. VISN-12. Virtual.
- 2023 Leveraging VA Data to Support a Real-Time COVID-19 Response. VA COVID-19 Observational Research Collaboratory. University of Michigan. Ann Arbor, MI. Virtual.
- 2023 Leveraging VA Data to Support a Real-Time COVID-19 Response. VA National Artificial Intelligence Institute. Virtual.
- 2023 Machine Learning and Artificial Intelligence for Healthcare Epidemiology and Antimicrobial Stewardship. ID week 2023. Boston, MA.

National Abstract Oral Presentations

- 2007 Aggressive Endoscopic Band Ligation Dramatically Reduces Rates of Recurrent Variceal Bleeding in Patients with Portal Hypertension. Digestive Disease Week, Washington, D.C.
- 2010 Risk Factors, Resource Utilization, and Outcomes Among Post-Partum Women with Staphylococcus aureus Breast Abscess in the Era of Community-Acquired Resistance. 21st Annual Meeting of the Society for Healthcare Epidemiology in America, Dallas, TX.
- 2015 Comparative Effectiveness of Vancomycin versus Vancomycin Plus Beta-Lactams for the Prevention of Surgical Site Infections. ID Week 2015, San Diego, CA.

- 2018 Every Day Matters: Increasing Duration of Surgical Prophylaxis Increases Antimicrobial-Associated Adverse Events but Does not Decrease Surgical Site Infections. ID Week 2018, San Francisco, CA.
- 2018 Development of an Electronic Flagging Tool for Identifying Cardiac Device Infections: Insights from the VA CART Program. ID Week 2018, San Francisco, CA.
- 2020 Novel Methodology to Measure Pre-Procedure Antimicrobial Prophylaxis: Integrating Text Mining with Structured Data. CDC/ SHEA Decennial Meeting. Atlanta, GA. March 2020. *Selected as an oral abstract, but meeting cancelled due to COVID-19. Pending publication as an online-only abstract in *Infection Control and Hospital Epidemiology*.
- 2022 Risk Factors for Severe COVID-19 Breakthrough Infections: A Retrospective Cohort Study. ID Week 2022. Washington, D.C. October 2022.

International

- 2021 Every Day Matters: Weighing the Risks and Benefits of Peri-Operative Antimicrobial Prophylaxis Strategies. Infectious Diseases Division Scientific Conference. University of Montreal. Montreal, Canada.
- 2022 Risk Factors for Severe COVID-19 Breakthrough Infections: A Retrospective, Nationwide Cohort Study. International COVID-19 Vaccines Workshop. Utrecht, Netherlands.

Report of Clinical Activities and Innovations

Current Licensure and Certification

- 2007 Diplomate, National Board of Medical Examiners
 2009 Diplomate, Internal Medicine, American Board of Internal Medicine
 2010 Massachusetts Medical License
 2011 Diplomate, Infectious Disease, American Board of Internal Medicine

Practice Activities

2010-12	Ambulatory Care	Urgent Care, Harvard Vanguard Medical Associates	4 Hours per week x 2 years
2012-13	Ambulatory Care	Infectious Diseases, Harvard Vanguard Medical Associates	8 hours per week x 1.5 years
2014-16	Inpatient Consult	Infectious Diseases, Eastern Colorado VA HCS	10 weeks of infectious diseases consultation
2014-16	Ambulatory Care	Infectious Diseases, Eastern Colorado VA HCS	4 hours per week
2014-16	Inpatient Attending	Medicine Service, Eastern Colorado VA HCS	2 weeks per year.

2016-present	Inpatient Attending	Infectious Diseases, VA Boston Healthcare System	2-4 weeks per year.
2016-present	Inpatient Attending	Medicine Service, VA Boston Healthcare System	4 weeks per year.
2016-present	Inpatient Consult	Infectious Diseases, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center	3-4 weeks per year.

Clinical Innovations

Implementation of a toolkit for reducing catheter-associated urinary tract infections. Eastern Colorado VA HCS. (2012-14)	Led the development of a comprehensive toolkit for reducing catheter-associated urinary tract infections (CAUTI) at Eastern Colorado VA Healthcare System. This included collaborations with nursing, educational services, and programmers to develop a program and to implement it within the VA electronic health record. Post-intervention, there was a substantial decline in the rate of CAUTI within the facility.
Enhancing uptake of surgical prophylaxis guidelines, Surgical Infection Work Group, Eastern Colorado VA HCS (2012-14)	As part of a multi-disciplinary care committee, worked to develop new guidelines for peri-operative prophylaxis. This included discussions with surgery, pharmacy, infection control, administration, followed by collaborations with programmers to code and operationalize treatment algorithms within the VA electronic health record.
Reducing inpatient pneumonia, Eastern Colorado VA HCS (2014)	As part of a multi-disciplinary care committee including surgeons, nursing, speech pathology, and others, worked to identify the root cause of high rates of inpatient pneumonias within the facility. This included manual review of all cases and a root cause analysis to identify solutions.
Toolkit for discontinuation of contact precautions for endemic MRSA and VRE. BIDMC (2014-16)	Researched evidence behind contact precautions for endemic MRSA and VRE and created educational tools as part of a larger de-implementation project. This included the development of a “frequently-asked questions” for staff about the reasons behind the change and supporting evidence.
Educational toolkit for promoting improved infection prevention strategies in veterans who inject drugs. VA Boston HCS (2018-present)	As part of a program to expand access to harm reduction services, I adapted a traditional infection control model (the “five moments of hand hygiene”) to injection drug use (the “six moments” model) and pilot-tested the toolkit among providers at multiple institutions. This educational toolkit will be shared with facilities nation-wide to promote practice improvements.

Development and implementation of a COVID-19 Clinical Care Pathway. VA Boston HCS (2020-2021)	In collaboration with multiple clinical services within VA Boston, I wrote several iterations of treatment guidelines for patients with COVID-19 and worked with an interdisciplinary team to implement order sets within the VA electronic health record. I also led several educational demonstrations about how to access and utilize the order set, which included automated radiology, laboratory, and medication orders.
Development of a data sharing resource for COVID-19. VA Boston HCS (2020-2021)	Working with collaborators within VA Boston Center for Healthcare Organization and Implementation Research (CHOIR), I led the development of a data-sharing resource that includes an ongoing update of all ongoing COVID-19 clinical trials, key research findings, and treatment protocols and updates collected from institutions nation-wide. These will be classified using the NIH/FDA treatment protocol framework and will be used to create a national data-sharing resource that can be leveraged to speed implementation of protocols and improve COVID-19 observational research.
VA Diffusion of Innovations/Shark Tank Competition. VA Boston HCS (2022-)	Implementing Facility Fellow for Syringe Exchange Services at VA Boston Healthcare System.

Report of Education of Patients and Service to the Community

Activities

No presentations below were sponsored by outside entities

2006	Volunteer Medical Staff/ IMG New York City Marathon (New York, NY)
2018	Hand Hygiene Education/ Milton Public Schools (Milton, MA)
2019	Facilitator, Teacher Education on Infection Prevention for Professional Development Day (Milton, MA)
2020	School Re-Opening Committee, Health and Wellness Sub-Committee, Milton Public Schools (Milton, MA)
2020-	Scientific Advisor (unpaid) to the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts (Boston, MA)

Educational Material for Patients and the Lay Community

Books, Monographs, Articles and Presentations in Media

1. *Infection Control and Hospital Epidemiology: The August Episode*. Podcast. August 1, 2020. Expert participant.

2. **Branch-Elliman W**, Perkins E. In the Weeds with School Details. Guest Posting, Emily Oster Parenting Newsletter. August 6, 2020. <https://emilyoster.substack.com/p/guest-post-in-the-weeds-with-school>.
3. **Branch-Elliman W**. Teaching Your Kids about Hand Hygiene. Guest Posting, The Incidental Economist. August 10, 2020. <https://theincidentaleconomist.com/wordpress/teaching-your-kids-about-hand-hygiene/>
4. **Branch-Elliman W**. An Open Letter to the Milton, Massachusetts Community. August 25, 2020. Letter Author. The Milton Times. https://www.miltontimes.com/news/an-open-letter-to-the-milton-massachusetts-community/article_6281b0a2-e736-11ea-87a5-6f01a6c14a89.html
5. Venturing Out: How the Kids can Socialize Safely This Fall. Boston Globe Virtual Event. Panelist. September 15, 2020. <https://venturingouthowkidscansocializ.splashthat.com>
6. Bashkin K. When Can My Child Go to School? A COVID-19 Primer. Two Experts Weigh In: Question and Answer with Branch-Elliman W, Perkins E. The Boston Globe. October 16, 2020. <https://www.bostonglobe.com/2020/10/16/lifestyle/when-can-my-child-go-school-covid-19-primer/>
7. **Branch-Elliman W**, Leininger L. Dear Pandemic Posting: Post-Exposure Prophylaxis. October 16, 2020. <https://www.facebook.com/dearpandemic/posts/190480185913970>
8. **Branch-Elliman W**, Stephenson K, and Perkins, E. 'Safe' Schools Is a Moving Goal Post During COVID-19. US News and World Reports. February 3, 2021. <https://www.usnews.com/news/health-news/articles/2021-02-03/safe-schools-a-moving-goal-post-during-covid-19>
9. Monach PM and **Branch-Elliman W**. The hazards of medicine by tweet: the case of anti-cytokine therapy for COVID-19. Stat News. February 12, 2021. [The hazard of publishing research findings via Twitter - STAT \(statnews.com\)](https://www.statnews.com/2021/02/12/the-hazard-of-publishing-research-findings-via-twitter/)
10. Branch-Elliman W, van den Verg P, Schechter-Perkins E. [Kids don't need to keep six feet apart in schools. The Washington Post. March 15, 2021. Three feet is just as safe. - The Washington Post](https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/parenting/wp/2021/03/15/kids-dont-need-to-keep-six-feet-apart-in-schools-three-feet-is-just-as-safe/)
11. **Branch-Elliman W**, Schechter-Perkins E, and Doron S. Why Massachusetts Children Shouldn't Have to Wear Masks in School. US News and World Reports July 5, 2021. <https://www.usnews.com/news/healthiest-communities/articles/2021-07-05/why-massachusetts-schoolchildren-shouldnt-be-required-to-wear-masks>
12. **Branch-Elliman W**, Schechter-Perkins E, and Doron S. Why We Shouldn't Blindly Screen Students for COVID-19 This Fall. US News and World Reports. July 14, 2021. <https://www.usnews.com/news/health-news/articles/2021-07-14/why-covid-19-screening-should-be-used-sparingly-in-schools>
13. **Branch-Elliman W**, Doron S, and Schechter-Perkins E. Leaving It to School Boards to Vote on Mask Rules Is Asking for Trouble. The Washington Post. July 21, 2021. <https://www.washingtonpost.com/outlook/2021/07/21/cdc-masking-school-boards/>
14. Doron S, Schechter-Perkins E, and **Branch-Elliman W**. How COVID-19 Testing Can Keep Kids in School. The Boston Globe. July 23, 2021. <https://www.bostonglobe.com/2021/07/23/opinion/how-covid-19-testing-can-keep-students-school/>
15. Wu, Julie, **Branch-Elliman, W**, and Monach P. The Science Is in: Our Immunocompromised Patients Need a Third Dose. Medscape Oncology. July 30, 2021. <https://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/955674>

16. Doron S, Schechter-Perkins E, and **Branch-Elliman, W**. A Roadmap for Mask Rules in Massachusetts Schools. Commonwealth Magazine. September 22, 2021. [Commonwealth Magazine](#)
17. **Branch-Elliman, W**, Schechter-Perkins E, and Doron S. Kids Are about to get the COVID Vaccine. But School Won't Be Normal for a while. The Washington Post. October 8, 2021.
18. Monach PM and **Branch-Elliman W**. **Clinical Guidelines in the Face of Caring for Patients with Emerging Diseases. December 21, 2021. Contagion Live.** <https://www.contagionlive.com/view/guidelines-update-in-progress>
19. **Branch-Elliman, W**, Perkins E, and Doron S. Closing Schools Won't Stop Omicron. It'll Just Hurt Kids. January 6, 2022. The Washington Post. [Closing schools won't stop omicron. It'll just hurt kids. - The Washington Post](#)
20. **Branch-Elliman, W**, Perkins E, and Doron S. It's Time to Revamp Testing and Quarantine Policy for Asymptomatic Students. January 19, 2022. The Boston Globe. <https://www.bostonglobe.com/2022/01/19/opinion/its-time-revamp-testing-quarantine-policy-asymptomatic-students/>
21. Doron S, Branch-Elliman W, and Schechter-Perkins E. Schools Can Safely Make Masks Optional with the CDC's New Guidelines. January 25, 2022. The Washington Post. <https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/2022/01/25/schools-safely-make-masks-optional-new-cdc-guidelines/>
22. Doron S, **Branch-Elliman, W**, and Perkins E. A Return to Normal? Lifting School Mask Mandate Is a Start. February 11, 2022. The Boston Globe. <https://www.bostonglobe.com/2022/02/11/opinion/return-normal-lifting-school-mask-mandate-is-start/>
23. **Branch-Elliman W**, Doron S, and Perkins E. Why Lifting Mask Mandates Is so Divisive. February 26, 2022. Commonwealth Magazine. <https://commonwealthmagazine.org/opinion/why-lifting-mask-mandates-is-so-divisive/>
24. Doron S, **Branch-Elliman W**, and Perkins E. It's Time to Rethink when We Should Reimpose COVID Restrictions. March 29, 2022. The Washington Post. <https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/2022/03/29/time-to-rethink-covid-restrictions-omicron-ba2-mask-mandates-schools/>
25. Doron S and Branch-Elliman W. Why Misleading COVID-19 Hospitalization Data Shouldn't Influence Local Policy Decisions. The Hill. January 31, 2023.* [Why misleading COVID-19 hospitalization data shouldn't influence local policy decisions | The Hill](#)

*Highlighted and hyperlinked in the New York Times "The Morning" on February 6, 2023.

Recognition (Selected)

2019	Longer Course of Surgical Antibiotics Tied to More Adverse Events	MedPage Today, April 24, 2019 https://www.medpagetoday.com/infectiousdisease/infectioncontrol/79413
2019	Heart Devices: Less is More in Preventing Infection	MedPage Today. June 4, 2019 https://www.medpagetoday.com/cardiology/prevention/80244
2019	Increased Duration of Postop Antimicrobial Prophylaxis Tied to Adverse Events	Contagion Live. May 1, 2019 https://www.contagionlive.com/view/increased-duration-of-postop-

2019	Osetamivir for Flu Prophylaxis in Healthcare Personnel Comes with Challenges	antimicrobial-prophylaxis-tied-to-adverse-events Healio News. August 30, 2019 https://www.healio.com/news/infectious-disease/20190829/oseltamivir-for-flu-prophylaxis-in-health-care-personnel-comes-with-challenges
2020	Surgical specialty, MRSA risk drive the Use of Vancomycin for Surgical Prophylaxis	Healio News. May 12, 2020 https://www.healio.com/news/infectious-disease/20200511/surgical-specialty-mrsa-risk-drive-use-of-vancomycin-for-surgical-prophylaxis
2020	Doctors to Governor Baker: Expanded COVID-19 Surveillance Testing Essential to Re-Opening Schools Safely	<i>Boston Globe</i> . July 24, 2020 https://www.bostonglobe.com/2020/07/24/nation/doctors-gov-baker-expanded-covid-19-surveillance-testing-essential-reopening-schools-safely/
2020	Schools (and Children) Need a Fresh Air Fix	<i>Wired Magazine</i> . October 14, 2020 https://www.wired.com/story/school-classroom-ventilation-fresh-air-fix/
2020	Keep Those Plans on Hold. Social Distancing Probably Won't End for at Least a Year.	<i>Healthline News</i> . October 20, 2020. https://www.healthline.com/health-news/keep-those-plans-on-hold-social-distancing-probably-wont-end-for-at-least-a-year
2020	Can Air Purifiers Help Combat COVID-19 and Other Viruses? Experts Weigh In	<i>Real Simple</i> . November 12, 2020. https://www.realsimple.com/health/preventative-health/cold-flu-allergies/do-air-purifiers-work-coronavirus
2021	COVID-19 Vaccinations Are Well Behind Schedule: How We Can Turn that Around	<i>Healthline News</i> . January 17, 2021. https://www.healthline.com/health-news/covid-19-vaccinations-are-well-behind-schedule-how-we-can-turn-that-around
2021	Three Feet or Six? Distancing Guideline for Schools Stirs Debate	<i>The New York Times</i> . Print edition, March 17, 2021. Section A, Page 4. https://www.nytimes.com/2021/03/16/health/coronavirus-schools-social-distance.html?searchResultPosition=1
2021	3 Feet (Not 6) Between Students May Be Enough for Schools to Re-Open	<i>Healthline News</i> . March 16, 2021. https://www.healthline.com/health-news/3-feet-not-6-between-students-may-be-enough-for-schools-to-reopen
2021	Researchers Say Narrowing Social Distancing Gap in Schools Is Possible	<i>Wink News</i> . March 15, 2021. https://www.winknews.com/2021/03/15/researchers-say-narrowing-social-distancing-gap-in-schools-is-possible/

2021	CDC's Six-Foot School Distancing Guideline Almost "Pulled Out of Thin Air," Public Health Expert Says	<i>The National Review</i> . March 17, 2021. https://www.nationalreview.com/news/cdc-six-foot-school-distancing-guideline-almost-pulled-out-of-thin-air-public-health-expert-says/
2021	CDC 'Revisiting Guidances' after Study Shows Just Three Feet of Social Distancing is Safe for Schools	<i>Study Finds</i> . March 15, 2021. https://www.studyfinds.org/three-feet-social-distancing-schools-cdc-revisiting-guidance/
2021	CDC Reviewing 6-Foot Distancing Rule after Study Suggests 3 Feet is Safe	<i>Channel 7 News Boston</i> . March 15, 2021. https://whdh.com/news/cdc-reviewing-6-foot-distancing-rule-for-schools-after-study-suggests-3-feet-is-safe/
2021	Safe Space?	<i>Channel 25 News Boston</i> . March 11, 2021. https://www.boston25news.com/video/?id=1201ce08-d1cc-41e9-9fa5-c5ca9f473260
2021	Children in Elementary Schools Don't Need to Be Kept 6 Feet Apart, CDC Says	<i>The New York Times</i> . March 19, 2021. https://www.nytimes.com/live/2021/03/19/world/covid-vaccine-coronavirus-cases#cdc-guidelines-schools-distancing
2021	The Today Show: 3 or 6 Feet?	The Today Show. March 19, 2021. https://www.today.com/video/cdc-weighs-recommending-3-feet-of-social-distancing-in-schools-108804677946
2021	Debate Emerges around Covid-19 testing strategies in schools as districts plan to re-open	CNN Health. July 26, 2021. https://www.cnn.com/2021/07/26/health/covid-19-testing-in-schools-debate-wellness/index.html
2021	The Delta Variant in Schools: What to Know	The New York Times. August 2, 2021. https://www.nytimes.com/2021/08/02/us/health/covid-19-delta-variant-schools.html
2021	COVID-19 Booster Shots Are Still Controversial—Even for the Immunocompromised People Who Likely Need Them the Most	Time Magazine. August 11, 2021. https://time.com/6089492/covid-19-booster-shots-immunocompromised/
2021	The Science of Masking Kids at School Remains Uncertain	New York Magazine. August 20, 2021. https://nymag.com/intelligencer/2021/08/the-science-of-masking-kids-at-school-remains-uncertain.html

2021	How the Delta Variant Infiltrated an Elementary School Classroom	The New York Times. August 27, 2021. https://www.nytimes.com/2021/08/28/health/coronavirus-schools-children.html?searchResultPosition=4
2021	As “Test to Stay” Gears Up Nationwide, Massachusetts “Rocky” Rollout Raises Questions	Stat News. October 28, 2021. As 'test to stay' expands, Massachusetts' rocky rollout raises questions (statnews.com)
2021	Should You Mix and Match COVID-19 Booster Shots? Infectious Diseases Doctors Weigh In.	Well+Good. November 3, 2021. What You Need To Know About Mixing COVID Vaccines Well+Good (wellandgood.com)
2022	Here’s why the state is changing the way it reports COVID hospitalization data	The Boston Globe. January 7, 2022. https://www.bostonglobe.com/2022/01/07/nation/heres-why-state-is-changing-way-it-reports-covid-hospitalization-data/
2022	Tensions Rise as Mass. Changes School COVID Measures for ‘Current State of the Pandemic’	The Boston Globe. January 19, 2022. https://www.bostonglobe.com/2022/01/18/metro/tensions-rise-mass-changes-school-covid-measures-current-state-pandemic/?p1=BGSearch_Overlay_Results
2022	Some U.S. Schools are Having Second Thoughts about “Test-to-Stay” Policies	The New York Times. February 1, 2022. Multiple Publications across the US. Some U.S. schools are having second thoughts about ‘test-to-stay’ policies - Orlando Sentinel. https://www.nytimes.com/live/2022/01/31/world/omicron-covid-vaccine-tests/some-us-schools-are-having-second-thoughts-about-test-to-stay-policies
2022	New Measure of COVID Hospitalizations may obscure strain on system, but will help with planning	The Boston Globe. January 12, 2022. New measure of COVID hospitalizations may obscure strain on system, but will help with planning - The Boston Globe
2022	The science behind the state’s school mask policy is outdated,	The Boston Globe. February 3, 2022. The science behind the state’s school mask policy is outdated, some experts

	some experts say. Should the benchmarks change?	say. Should the benchmarks change? - The Boston Globe
2022	Lift the School Mask Mandate	The Boston Globe. February 8, 2022. Lift the school mask mandate - The Boston Globe
2022	There's No Good Way to Roll Back Mask Mandates.	Vox News. March 1, 2022. https://www.vox.com/22959093/cdc-roll-back-mask-mandates-pandemic-restrictions
2022	COVID Hospital Count Makes Vaccines Seem Less Effective, Researchers Say	Bloomberg News. May 16, 2022. https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2022-05-16/how-well-do-covid-vaccines-protect-against-hospitalization
2022	Vaccines are Still Mostly Blocking Severe Disease	The Atlantic. May 23, 2022. Are COVID Vaccines Still Blocking Severe Disease? - The Atlantic

Report of Scholarship

* denotes equal contribution; ** denotes first-author mentee

Peer-reviewed publications in print or other media

Research investigations

1. Walewski JL, Gutierrez JA, **Branch-Elliman W**, Stump DD, Keller TR, Rodriguez R, Benson G, and Branch AD. Mutation Master: Profiles of Substitutions in Hepatitis C Virus RNA of the Core, Alternate Reading Frame, and NS2 Coding Regions. *RNA* 2002; 8: 557-571.
2. **Branch-Elliman W**, Golen TH, Gold HS, Yassa DS, Baldini LM, Wright SB. Risk Factors for *Staphylococcus aureus* Post-Partum Breast Abscess. *Clin Infect Dis*. 2012; 54: 71-77.
3. **Branch-Elliman W**, Weiss D, Balter S, Bornschlegel K, Phillips M. Hepatitis C Transmission Due to Contamination of Multidose Medication Vials: Summary of an Outbreak and a Call to Action. *Am J Infect Control*. 2012; 1: 92-4.
4. Strymish J*, **Branch-Elliman W***, Itani, K, Williams, S, and Gupta, K. A Clinical History of methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* Infection Is a Poor Predictor of Pre-Operative Colonization Status and Post-Operative Infection. *Infect Control Hosp Epidemiol*. 2012; 33 (11): 1113-7.
5. **Branch-Elliman W**, Wright SB, Gillis J, Howell MD. Estimated Nursing Workload for the Implementation of Ventilator Bundles. *BMJ Qual Saf*. 2013; 22 (4): 357-61.
6. **Branch-Elliman W**, Lee GM, Golen TH, Gold HS, Baldini LM, Wright SB. Health and Economic Burden of Post-partum *Staphylococcus aureus* Breast Abscess. *PlosOne*. 2013; 8 (9): e73155.

7. **Branch-Elliman W**, Robillard E, McCarthy G, Gupta K. Direct Feedback with the ATP Luminometer as a Process Improvement Tool for Terminal Cleaning of Patient Rooms. *Am J Infect Control*. 2014; 42: 195-7.
8. **Branch-Elliman W**, Strymish J, Gupta, K. Development and Validation of a Simple and Easy-to-Employ Electronic Algorithm for Identifying Clinical Methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) Infection. *Infect Control Hosp Epidemiol*. 2014; 35(6): 692-8.
9. **Branch-Elliman W**, Strymish J, Itani KM, Gupta K. Using Clinical Variables to Guide Surgical Site Infection Detection: A Novel Surveillance Strategy. *Am J Infect Control*. 2014; 42(12):1291-5.
10. **Branch-Elliman W**, Perumalswami P, Factor S, Sled SM, Flamm S. Rates of recurrent variceal bleeding are low with modern esophageal banding strategies: a retrospective cohort study. *Scand J Gastro*. 2015;50(9):1059-67.
11. **Branch-Elliman W**, Wright SB, Howell MD. Determining the Ideal Strategy for Ventilator-Associated Pneumonia Prevention: Cost-Benefit Analysis. *Am J Respir Crit Care Med*. 2015; 192(1):57-63.
12. **Branch-Elliman W**, Strymish J, Kudesia V, Rosen AK, Gupta K. Natural Language Processing for Real-Time Catheter-Associated Urinary Tract Infection Surveillance: Results of a Pilot Implementation Trial. *Infect Control Hosp Epidemiol*. 2015; 36(9):1004-10.
13. **Branch-Elliman W**, Stanislawski M, Strymish J, Baron AE, Gupta K, Varosy PD, Gold HS, Ho PM. Cardiac Electrophysiology Laboratories: A Potential Target for Antimicrobial Stewardship and Quality Improvement? *Infect Control Hosp Epidemiol*. 2016; 37(9): 1005-11.
14. Kirby JE, **Branch-Elliman W**, LaSalvia MT, Longhi L, MacKechnie M, Urman G, Baldini LM, Muriel FR, Sullivan B, Yassa DS, Gold HS, Wagner TK, Diekema DJ, Wright SB. Investigation of a *Candida guilliermondii* Pseudo-outbreak Reveals a Novel Source of Laboratory Contamination. *J Clin Microbiol*. 2017 Apr ; 55(4):1080-1089.
15. LaSalvia MT, **Branch-Elliman W**, Snyder GM, Mahoney MV, Alonso CD, Gold HS, Wright SB. Does Adjunctive Tigecycline Improve Outcomes in Severe-Complicated, Non-Operative *Clostridium difficile* Infection? *Open Forum Infect Dis* 2017; 4(1):ofw264.
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16. Mehrotra P**, Gupta K, Lambert-Kerzner A, Kramer D, Ho PM, Strymish J, **Branch-Elliman W**. Implementation of Infection Prevention and Antimicrobial Stewardship in Cardiac Electrophysiology Laboratories: Results from the SHEA Research Network. *Infect Control Hosp Epidemiol*. 2017;38(4):496-98.
17. **Branch-Elliman W**, Ripollone JE, O'Brien WJ, Itani KMF, Schweizer ML, Perencevich E, Strymish J, Gupta K. Risk of surgical site infection, acute kidney injury, and *Clostridium difficile* infection following antibiotic prophylaxis with vancomycin plus a beta-lactam versus either drug alone: A national propensity-score adjusted retrospective cohort study. *Plos Med*. 2017; 14(7):e1002340.
Highlighted as practice changing in New England Journal of Medicine Journal Watch.
18. Mittenzwei SE**, Topkoff JL, Bessesen MT, Porter CA, Rai GS, **Branch-Elliman W**. When Sterile Processing Goes Down: An Economic Analysis of Alternative Strategies for Standing Up the Service. *Infect Control Hosp Epi*. 2017; 38(8):1002-1004.
19. Acuna-Villaorduna C*, **Branch-Elliman W***, Strymish J, Gupta K. Active Identification of Patients who are Methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) colonized Is not

Associated with Longer Duration of Vancomycin Therapy. *Am J Infect Control*. 2017; 45 (10):1081-1085.

20. Pindyck TN**, Gupta K, Strymish J, Itani KM, Carter ME, Suo Y, Bessesen MT, Topkoff J, Steele AS, Baron AE, Gundlapalli AV, **Branch-Elliman W**. Validation of an Electronic Tool for Flagging Surgical Site Infections Based on Clinical Practice Patterns for Triaging Surveillance: Operational Successes and Barriers. *Am J Infect Control*. 2018; 46(2): 186-190.
21. **Branch-Elliman W**, Ripollone JE, O'Brien W, Itani KM, Strymish JM, Gupta K. Combination Antimicrobial Prophylaxis for Hysterectomy... Harm without the Benefit? *Am J Obstet Gynecol*. 2018;218(5):536-537.
22. Mull HJ, Gellad ZF, Gupta RT, Valle JA, Makarov DV, Silverman T, **Branch-Elliman W**. Factors Associated with Emergency Department Visits and Hospital Admissions After Invasive Outpatient Procedures in the Veterans Health Administration. *JAMA Surgery*. 2018;153(8): 774-776.
23. **Branch-Elliman W**, Snyder GM, King AD, Baldini LM, Dooley KM, Yassa DS, Wright SB. Correlation of Hand Hygiene Compliance Measured by Direct Observation with Estimates Obtained from Product Usage. *Infect Cont Hosp Epi*. 2018; 39(6):746-749.
24. Schrank GM**, Wright SB, **Branch-Elliman W***, LaSalvia M*. A Retrospective Analysis of Adverse Events Among Patients Receiving Daptomycin versus Vancomycin during Outpatient Parenteral Antimicrobial Therapy. *Infect Cont Hosp Epi*. 2018 Aug; 39(8):947-954.
25. Asundi A**, Stanislawski M, Mehta P, Baron AE, Gold H, Mull H, Ho PM, Gupta K, and **Branch-Elliman W**. Prolonged antimicrobial prophylaxis following cardiac device procedures increases preventable harm: Insights from the VA CART Program. *Infect Cont Hosp Epi*. 2018; 39(9):1030-1036.
26. Michener A, Heath B, Crnich C, Moehring R, Schamder K, Mody L, **Branch-Elliman W**, Jump RLP. Infections in Older Adults: A Case-Based Discussion Services Emphasizing Antimicrobial Stewardship. *MedEDPortal*. 2018;14:10754.

Highlighted as a featured publication on the MedED Portal.

Won the Case Western Reserve Scholarship in Teaching Award, 2019.

27. Gallegos-Salazar J, O'Brien W, Strymish J, Itani K, **Branch-Elliman W**, Gupta K. Association of Screening and Treatment for Preoperative Asymptomatic Bacteriuria With Postoperative Outcomes Among US Veterans. *JAMA Surgery*. 2019;154(3):241-248.
28. Dasinger, EA, **Branch-Elliman W**, Pizer SD, Charns MP, Hawn MT, Itani KM, Mull HJ. Association between Postoperative Opiate Use and Outpatient Surgical Adverse Events. *Am J Surg*. 2019; 217(4):605-612.
29. **Branch-Elliman W**, O'Brien W, Strymish J, Itani KM, Wyatt C, Gupta K. Association of Duration and Type of Surgical Prophylaxis with Antimicrobial-Associated Adverse Events. *JAMA Surgery*. 2019;154(7):590-598.

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Highlighted by Dr. David Atkins at the VA HSR&D Meeting as one of the most impactful studies of the year

Nominated for HSR&D Best Paper of the Year, 2019

Highlighted in the VA HSR&D Top-10 Impacts of 2019

*Highlighted at the IDSA meeting as “one of the papers that will change your practice”
Highlighted by NEJM journal watch
Top-3 Articles of JAMA Surgery in 2019
Top 1% Altmetric score*

30. **Branch-Elliman W**, Pizer S, Dasinger E, Gold HS, Abdulkerim H, Rosen AK, Charns M, Hawn, M, Itani KM, Mull HJ. Facility Type and Surgical Specialty Are Associated with Suboptimal Surgical Antimicrobial Prophylaxis Practice Patterns: A Multi-Center, Retrospective Cohort Study. *Antimicrob Resist Infect Control*. 2019; 8:49.
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31. Asundi A**, Stanislawski M, Mehta P, Baron AE, Mull HJ, Ho PM, Zimetbaum PJ, Gupta K, **Branch-Elliman W**. Real-world effectiveness of infection prevention interventions for reducing procedure-related cardiac device infections: Insights from the VA clinical assessment reporting and tracking program. *Infect Control Hosp Epidemiol*. 2019;40(8):855-862.
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33. Gupta K, O'Brien W, Gallegos-Salazar J, Strymish J, **Branch-Elliman W**. How Testing Drives Treatment in Asymptomatic Patients: Level of Pyuria Directly Predicts Probability of Antimicrobial Prescribing. *Clin Infect Dis*. 2020;71(3):614-621.
34. **Branch-Elliman W**, Gupta K, Elwy AR. Factors influencing uptake of evidence-based antimicrobial prophylaxis guidelines for electrophysiology procedures. *Am J Infect Control*. 2020;48(6):668-674.
35. Mull HJ, Stolzmann K, Kalver E, Shin MH, Schweizer ML, Asundi A, Mehta P, Stanislawski M, **Branch-Elliman W**. Novel Methodology to Measure Pre-Procedure Antimicrobial Prophylaxis: Integrating Text Searches with Structured Data from the Veterans Health Administration's Electronic Medical Record. *BMC Med Inform Decis Mak*. 2020;20(1):15.
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39. Schrank G**, Snyder GM, David, RB, **Branch-Elliman W**, Wright SB. The Discontinuation of Contact Precautions for Methicillin-Resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* and Vancomycin-Resistant *Enterococcus*: Impact Upon Patient Adverse Events and Hospital Operations. *BMJ Qual Saf*. 2020;29(10):1-2.
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42. van den Berg P**, Schechter-Perkins EM, Jack RS, Epshtein I, Nelson R, Oster E, and **Branch-Elliman W**. Effectiveness of three versus six feet of physical distancing for controlling the spread of COVID-19 among primary and secondary students and staff: A retrospective, state-wide cohort study. *Clin Infect Dis*. 2021 Mar 10. doi: 10.1093/cid/ciab230. Online ahead of print.
 - Reply to Comment- **Branch-Elliman W**, Schechter-Perkins EM, Jack RS, van den Berg P, Epshtein I, Nelson R, and Oster E. Reply to Authors. *Clinical Infectious Diseases*. April 2021. E-pub ahead of print.
 - Reply to Comment- **Branch-Elliman W**, Jack RS, Schechter-Perkins EM, van den Berg P, Epshtein I, Oster E, and Nelson RN. Reply to Authors. *Clinical Infectious Diseases*. May 2021. E-pub ahead of print.
 - Policy Impact: Cited in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Guideline Updates on Recommendations for Safely Re-Opening Schools (March 19, 2021 update: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/operation-strategy.html>; https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/science/science-briefs/transmission_k_12_schools.html?CDC_AA_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019-ncov%2Fmore%2Fscience-and-research%2Ftransmission_k_12_schools.html. Accessed 5/7/2021.
 - News Media Mentions and Coverage: Altmetric score of 2848, covered by national news organizations, including *The New York Times*, *the Washington Post*, *The Today Show*, *CNN*, *Sirius XM radio*, among others.
43. Asundi A**, Resnik J, Benedict P, Shin M, Elwy RA, **Branch-Elliman W**. How are Emerging Data Translated into Clinical Practice? A Mixed Methods Investigation of COVID-19 Institutional Treatment Protocols. *Open Forum Infect Dis*. March 2021. In press.
 - Highlighted as Editor’s Choice*
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45. Woods P, Flynn M, Monach PM, Visnaw K, Schiller S, Holmberg E, Leatherman S, Ferguson R, and **Branch-Elliman W**. *Implementation of Documented and Written Informed Consent for Clinical Trials of Communicable Diseases: Lessons Learned, Barriers, Solutions, Future Directions Identified During the Conduct of a COVID-19 Clinical Trial*. Contemporary Clinical Trials Communications. June 2021. In press.
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47. Ertem Z, Schechter-Perkins EM, Oster E, van den Berg P, Epshtein I, Chaiyakunapruk N, Wilson FA, Perencevich E, Pettey WBP, **Branch-Elliman W**,* and Nelson RE. The Impact

of School Opening Model on SARS-CoV-2 Community Incidence and Mortality. *Nature Medicine*. October 27, 2021. *Co-equal contribution as senior author.*

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49. Harvey L**, Boudreau J, Sliwinski SK, Strymish JM, Gifford AL, Hyde, J, Linsenmeyer K, and **Branch-Elliman, W**. Six Moments of Infection Prevention in Injection Drug Use: An Educational Toolkit for Clinicians. *Open Forum Infectious Diseases*. 2022. In press.

50. Fillmore NF, La J, Zheng C, Doron S, Do N, Monach PM, and **Branch-Elliman W**. The COVID-19 Hospitalization Metric in the Pre- and Post-Vaccination Era as a Measure of Pandemic Severity: A Retrospective, Nationwide Cohort Study. *Infection Control and Hospital Epidemiology*. January 2022. E-pub before print.

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60. Wang S, Quan L, Chavarro JE, Kubzansky LD, Koenen KC, Kang JH, Weisskopf MG, **Branch-Elliman W**, and Roberts AL. Depression, Anxiety, Worry, Perceived Stress, and Loneliness Prior to Infection Are Associated with Increased Risk of “Long COVID:” A Longitudinal Cohort Study. *JAMA Psychiatry*. 2022. In press.
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62. Fisher L, Nelson RE, Ertem Z, Schechter-Perkins EM, Oster E, and **Branch-Elliman W**. Lack of Association between Pandemic School Mode Policy and Pediatric Body Mass Index Percentile over Time. *Childhood Obesity*. August 2022. E-Pub ahead of print.
63. La J, Fillmore NF, Do N, Brophy M, Monach PM, and **Branch-Elliman W**. Factors Associated with The Speed and Scope of Diffusion of COVID-19 Therapeutics in a Nationwide Healthcare Setting: A Mixed Methods Investigation. *Health Research Policy and Systems*. November 2022. In press.
64. Reyes-Dassum S,* Ferguson R, Woods P, Flynn, M, Visnaw K, Holmberg E, Schiller S, Shannon C, Brophy M, Monach PA, Leatherman S, and **Branch-Elliman W**. Patient-reported reasons for non-participation in a COVID-19 therapeutics clinical trial: Findings from a multi-center investigation. *Contemporary Clinical Trials*. Jan 9 2023.
65. Higgins MCSS, Seren A, Foster M, Sturgeon D, Bart N, Hederstedt K, Friefeld A, Lamkin RL, Sullivan B, **Branch-Elliman W**, Mull HJ. (2022) Arteriovenous Graft Failure in the Veterans Health Administration: Outcome Disparities Associated with Race, *Radiology*, in press.
66. Harvey LH*, Sliwinski SK, Flike K, Boudreau J, Gifford AL, **Branch-Elliman W**, and Hyde J. The Integration of Harm Reduction Services in the Veterans Health Administration (VHA): A Qualitative Analysis of Barriers and Facilitators. *Journal of Addictive Diseases*. 2023. In press.
67. Ertem Z, Nelson RE, Schechter-Perkins E, Al-Amery A, Zhang X, and **Branch-Elliman, W**. Condition-Dependent and Dynamic Impacts of Indoor Masking Policies for COVID-19 Mitigation: A Nationwide, Interrupted Time Series Analysis. *Clinical Infectious Diseases*. 2023. In press.
68. Perceptions of Publicly Reported Healthcare-Associated Infections by Infection Control Experts. Schrank GM,* **Branch-Elliman W**, Leekha S, Baghdadi J, Pineles L, Harris AD, and Morgan DJ. *JAMA Network Open*. 2023. In press.

Other peer-reviewed publications

1. **Branch-Elliman W**, Price CS, Perl TM. Protecting the Frontline: Designing an Infection Prevention Platform for Emerging Threats. *Infect Control Hosp Epidemiol*. 2015; 36(3):336-45.
2. **Branch-Elliman W**, Price CS, Bessesen MT, Perl TM. Using the Pillars of Infection Prevention to Build and Effective Program for Reducing the Transmission of Emerging and Re-Emerging Infections. *Curr Environ Health Rep*. 2015; 2(3):226-35.
3. **Branch-Elliman W**, Safdar N, Nelson R. Economic Considerations in Infectious Diseases Emergency Response Preparedness: It Is All about the Point of View. *Clin Infect Dis*. 2020 May 7. doi: 10.1093/cid/ciaa541. E-pub ahead of print.
4. Lee MSL**, Ramakrishna B, Moss AC, Gold HS, **Branch-Elliman W**. Successful treatment of fulminant *Clostridioides difficile* infection with emergent fecal microbiota transplantation in a patient with acute myeloid leukemia and prolonged, severe neutropenia. *Transpl Infect Dis*. 2020;22(1):e13216.
5. **Branch-Elliman W**, Lehmann L, Boden W, Ferguson R, Monach P. Pragmatic, Adaptive Clinical Trials: Is 2020 the Dawning of a New Age? *Contemp Clin Trials Commun*. 2020;19:100614.
6. **Branch-Elliman W**, Elwy AR, Monach PM. Bringing New Meaning to the Term “Adaptive Trial”: Challenges of Conducting Clinical Research during the COVID-19 Pandemic and Implications for Implementation Science. *Open Forum Infect Dis*. 2020. *In press*.
7. Schechter-Perkins EM, van den Berg P, **Branch-Elliman W**. The Science Behind Safe School Re-Opening: Leveraging the Pillars of Infection Control to Support Safe Elementary and Secondary Education During the COVID-19 Pandemic. *Open Forum Infect Dis*. March 2021.*

*Highlighted as Editor’s Choice

8. Earle William**, Bonegio R, Smith D, and **Branch-Elliman W**. Plazomicin for the treatment of multidrug-resistant Klebsiella bacteremia in a patient with underlying chronic kidney disease and acute renal failure requiring renal replacement therapy. *BMJ Case Reports*. July 2021. *In press*.
9. Monach P and **Branch-Elliman W**. Reconsidering “minimal risk” to expand the repertoire of trials with waiver of informed consent for research. *BMJ Open*. August 26, 2021. *In press*.
10. Belyayev LA, Foroushani SM, Wiener DC, **Branch-Elliman W**, Marshall MB, Khalil HA. [Bronchopleural fistula due to cavitary pneumonia after SARS-CoV-2 infection treated with open thoracostomy](#). *J Surg Case Rep*. 2022 Apr 11;2022(4):rjac076. doi: 10.1093/jscr/rjac076.
11. Shenoy E and **Branch-Elliman W**. Automating Surveillance for Healthcare-Associated Infections: Rationale and Current Realities. *Antimicrobial Stewardship & Healthcare Epidemiology*. *In press*.
12. Larnard J, Stead W, and **Branch-Elliman W**. Considering Patient, Family, and Provider Goals and Expectations in a Rapidly Changing Clinical Context: A Framework for Antimicrobial Stewardship at the End of Life. *Infectious Diseases Clinics: Special Issue on Infections in Older Adults*. 2022. *In press*.
13. **Branch-Elliman W**, Sundermann A, Wiens J. Leveraging Electronic Data to Expand Infection Detection Beyond Traditional Settings and Definitions. *Antimicrobial Stewardship & Healthcare Epidemiology*. *In press*.

14. **Branch-Elliman W**, Sundermann A, Wiens J. The Future of Automated Infection Detection: Innovation to Transform Practice. *Antimicrobial Stewardship & Healthcare Epidemiology*. In press.

Non-peer reviewed scientific or medical publications/materials in print or other media

Reviews, chapters, monographs and editorials

1. **Branch-Elliman W**. A Roadmap for Reducing Cardiac Device Infections: A Review of the Epidemiology, Pathogenesis, and Actionable Risk Factors to Guide the Development of an Infection Prevention Program for the Electrophysiology Laboratory. *Curr Infect Dis Rep*. 2017; 19(10):34.
2. Schrank G**, **Branch-Elliman W**. Breaking the Chain of Infection in Older Adults: A Review of Risk Factors and Strategies for Preventing Device-Related Infections. *Infect Dis Clin North Am*. 2017;31(4):649-671.
3. Lee MSL**, Altman NL, **Branch-Elliman W**. Expanding Use of New Technology Creates New Challenges in Preventing and Managing Infections: A Review of Diagnostic and Management Considerations for Infections among Patients with Long-Term Invasive Devices for Advanced Heart Failure. *Curr Infect Dis Report*. 2020; 16(22).
4. **Branch-Elliman W**, Monach PM. Not What Anyone Signed Up For: Unnecessary and Insurmountable Barriers Encountered in Conducting Clinical Trials in COVID-19. *Narrat Inq Bioeth*. In press.
5. Monach PM and **Branch-Elliman W**. **Guidelines: Update in Process**. *Contagion*. 2021. <https://www.contagionlive.com/view/guidelines-update-in-progress>
6. Jones M, Khader K, and **Branch-Elliman W**. Getting to 94% of Deaths Prevented: Impact of the United States' COVID-19 vaccination campaign highlights the need for evidence-informed strategies to improve trust and promote vaccine uptake. *JAMA Network Open*. 2022. July 2022.

Letters to the Editor

1. **Branch-Elliman W**, Schweizer M. Real-world challenges in infection prevention: Differential implementation between stable and unstable patients may influence clinical effectiveness of interventions. *Infect Control Hosp Epidemiol*. 2019;40(6):736-737.
2. **Branch-Elliman W**, Yassa DS, Wright SB. Osteltamivir Prophylaxis for the prevention of influenza in healthy healthcare workers: Tolerability and compliance challenges. *Infect Control Hosp Epidemiol*. 2019;40(11):1328-1329.
3. Monach PM and **Branch-Elliman W**. Letter to the Editor. *The New England Journal of Medicine*. July 2021.
4. Monach PM and **Branch-Elliman W**. Moving Toward a Precision Approach to Prevention of Severe COVID-19: Identifying who Remains at Risk despite Vaccination to Tailor Prevention and Treatment Campaigns. *The Lancet*. February 2023. In press.

Professional Educational Materials or Reports, in Print or Other Media

1. **Branch-Elliman W.** The ICHE Podcast: August Episode (Episode 9) – A Review of How Differential Real-World Implementation of Infection Control Interventions Impacts Measurement of Effectiveness. Program available at: <https://soundcloud.com/user-660720406/episode-9-volume-39-issue-8-part-2>
2. **Branch-Elliman W.** Society for Healthcare Epidemiology in America (SHEA) Rapid Response Podcast: Getting Kids Back to School During a Pandemic & How to do it Safely. December 22, 2020. <https://soundcloud.com/user-788310625/ep-44-getting-kids-back-to-school-during-a-pandemic-how-to-do-it-safely?>
3. **Branch-Elliman W** (Session Moderator). Safely Re-Opening Schools During the Pandemic. SHEA Online Education Center: Converse and Convene Learning Series. February 19, 2021. <https://learningce.shea-online.org/content/cc-safely-reopening-schools-during-pandemic>
4. **Branch-Elliman W.** Society for Healthcare Epidemiology in America (SHEA) Rapid Response Podcast: Back to School in 2022. August 31, 2022. <https://soundcloud.com/user-788310625/back-to-school-in-2022?in=user-788310625/sets/the-rapid-response-podcast>

Abstracts, Poster Presentations and Exhibits Presented at Professional Meetings

1. **Branch-Elliman W,** Wright SB, Howell MH. Comparative Effectiveness of VAP Prevention Strategies. 49th Annual Meeting of the Infectious Diseases Society of America, Boston, MA, 2011.*
**Received recognition as an outpatient presentation during Meet-the-Professor Rounds.*
2. **Branch-Elliman W,** Snyderman D, Wilson B, Carter R, Heath B, Mody L, Moehring R, Crnich C, Schmadler K and Jump RL. Preliminary Outcomes from an Educational Intervention to Promote Antimicrobial Stewardship and Improve the Care of Older Adults with Infections. The American Geriatrics Society 2015 Annual Scientific Meeting, National Harbor, MD, 2015.*
**Recognized with a special discussion at the meeting.*
3. Topkoff, J, Dethman, J, and **Branch-Elliman W.** Implementation of Evidence-Based Practices to Reduce Hospital Acquired Catheter-Associated Urinary Tract Infections. 28th Annual Rocky Mountain Interprofessional Research & Evidence-Based Practice Symposium, Denver, CO, 2016.
**Received award for best abstract at the meeting.*
4. **Branch-Elliman W,** Rippollone J, O'Brien W, Strymish J, Gupta K. Unintended consequences of double vs. single antimicrobial prophylaxis in patients undergoing Cardiac Surgery. Infectious Diseases Week 2016, New Orleans, LA, 2016.
**Received recognition as outstanding presentation during Meet-the-professor rounds.*
5. Strymish J, Jones M, Evans M, **Branch-Elliman W,** Robillard E, Chan J, Rosen A and Gupta K. Electronic Detection of MRSA Infections in a National VA Population Augments Current Manual Process. ID Week 2017. San Diego, CA. 2017.
6. Asundi A, Stanislawski M, Mehta P, Baron AE, Gold HS, Mull HM, Ho PM, Gupta K, and **Branch-Elliman W.** Prolonged Antimicrobial Prophylaxis Following Cardiac Device Procedures: Harm without Any Benefit? Society for Healthcare Epidemiology Annual Meeting. Portland, OR. 2018.

7. Branch AD, Lewis S, Wyatt, B, Doyle E, Sung J, Misra S, Eng F, Bosh C, Friedman S, Dieterich DT, Aloman C, **Branch-Elliman W**, and Perumalswami PV. The Protective Effect of HCV Cure on HCC Risk May Be Over-estimated in Patients with Advanced Liver Disease.” American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases annual meeting. San Francisco, CA. 2018.
8. **Branch-Elliman W**, Pizer S., Dasinger E, Gold HS, Abdulkerim H, Rosen AK, Charns M, Hawn, M, Itani KM, Mull, HJ. Surgical Specialty and Facility Type Are Predictors of Implementation of Evidence-Based Surgical Prophylaxis Guidelines in Ambulatory Surgery. SHEA 2019 Spring Meeting. Boston, MA.
**Society For Healthcare Epidemiology in America 2019 Top Poster Award Winner*
9. Linsenmeyer K, Hyde J, and **Branch-Elliman W**.* *“The Six Moments”*: A Novel Educational Tool to Promote Infection Prevention Practices in Patients Injecting Drugs. CDC/ SHEA Decennial Meeting. Atlanta, GA. March 2020. *Presenting author. **Selected as a poster abstract but meeting cancelled due to COVID-19. Pending publication as an online-only abstract in *Infection Control and Hospital Epidemiology*.
10. Colborn K, **Branch-Elliman W**, Rozeboom P, and Henderson D. Identification of postoperative urinary tract infections using structured data and text notes from the electronic health record. Academy Health 2020. Oral abstract. *Postponed and online-only due to COVID-19.
11. Kalver E, Stolzmann K, Wachterman M, Shin M, Schweizer M, **Branch-Elliman W**, Mull, HJ. Care Assessment Need Score Identifies Patients at Risk of Mortality Following Post-Cardiovascular Implantable Electronic Device Placement. Academy Health 2020, Boston, MA. Poster abstract. *Postponed and online-only due to COVID-19.

Narrative Report

I am an Associate Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School, an infectious diseases physician at the VA Boston Healthcare System in West Roxbury, and an investigator at the VA Boston Center for Healthcare Organization and Implementation Research. My principal effort at BWH and HMS is in clinical research, with a focus on peri-operative antimicrobial stewardship, infection prevention, surveillance, and dissemination and implementation research. My area of excellence is Investigation and my significant supporting activity is Clinical Expertise.

I have made impactful research contributions to infection prevention, antimicrobial stewardship, and epidemiology. I am a nationally recognized expert in peri-operative prophylaxis, and have contributed several practice-changing research investigations into this field. Several of my investigations highlight quality improvement opportunities in the cardiac electrophysiology laboratory and ways to streamline the measurement of healthcare-associated infections using electronic tools based on structured data elements; these innovations form the basis of recently-funded grants that will test their implementation through a Hybrid III implementation/effectiveness study within the national VA healthcare system. During the development of these electronic measurement tools, I gained expertise with advanced medical informatics and programming strategies, including the application of advanced data mining techniques to pull data recorded in clinical notes for real-time surveillance and applied regression strategies to extract structured clinical variables for real-time patient safety measurement.

A central aim of my research is to find ways develop strategies to improve implementation of concrete clinical actions to prevent procedure-related adverse events, particularly infections, and with a strong emphasis on prevention of infections and to de-implement ineffective and harmful interventions. To date, I have identified ways to improve peri-procedural outcomes following traditional surgical procedures and invasive procedures, including electrophysiology cardiac device procedures, including de-implementation of post-procedure antimicrobial use, which is ineffective and increases post-operative adverse events. These investigations led to many high-impact studies, including a recently published article in *JAMA Surgery* establishing a link between every additional day of post-operative antimicrobial prophylaxis and increases in preventable harm. This study was one of the “top 3” articles published in the journal in 2019, was nominated by VA Boston CHOIR as a “Best Research Paper” in 2019, and has an Altmetric score in the top 1%, indicating the importance of the work and the international spread of the findings. Another investigation published in *PLoS Medicine* established a limited role for combination prophylaxis for reducing surgical site infections. I have also published several articles exploring ways to improve outcomes following electrophysiology procedures, including evaluations of uptake of evidence-based practices and a comparative effectiveness evaluation to assess the clinical effectiveness of commonly prevention applied interventions. Another study established a link between guideline-discordant antimicrobial use following cardiac device procedures and increased harm.

In 2015, I received the Infectious Diseases Society of America Investigator Award for delineating the comparative effectiveness of different antimicrobial surgical prophylaxis regimens. I am the recipient of an NHLBI K12 award, VA I21 funding, American Heart Association Precision Medicine Grant funding, and VA HSR&D IIR funding. In the past, I received educational funding through the Harvard Catalyst/Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute and received VA T21 Research Funds through the VA Geriatric Research and Education Center. I am a panel expert on implementation science, clinical epidemiology, and clinical trials for the Johns Hopkins/MIT Trial Innovations Network. Additionally, I have given invited and research presentations at national meetings of the Infectious Diseases Society of America and the Society for Healthcare Epidemiology in America. I have also been invited to present at national research meetings within the VA, such as the VA Health Services Research and Development Annual Meeting, and the VISN-20 Pulmonary/Critical Care meetings. Recently, I have been recognized nationally and regionally as an expert within the lay community, as evidenced by my participation in the *Boston Globe* Parenting During the Pandemic series, collaboration with the Dear Pandemic Blog, and my participation as a guest writer for Emily Oster’s Parenting Newsletter.

My clinical responsibilities include attending on the VA inpatient medical service (4 weeks per year) and the VA infectious diseases consultation service (2-4 weeks per year). In order to maintain my skills in a broad array of patient populations, I also attend on the medically complex immunocompromised/transplant/obstetrics service at BIDMC (3 weeks per year). This has led to numerous manuscripts focusing on outbreak investigation and prevention, and case reports related to complex treatments in his patient population. In addition, during the COVID-19 pandemic, I have worked to develop institutional treatment guidelines and to implement and update them within the VA electronic health record. I am also a member of the VA Boston Institutional Review Board.

My teaching responsibilities include clinical supervision of infectious diseases fellows, internal medicine residents and interns, and medical students during the approximately 10 weeks I attend on teaching services per year. I am also a group leader for the Harvard Medical School course, Clinical Epidemiology and Population Medicine, and have consistently received

high teaching scores from HMS students for my efforts. In addition, I give several lectures to the VA Boston house staff per year, on topics relevant to my field of expertise. Finally, I am the primary research mentor or co-mentor for one internal medicine intern, three infectious diseases fellows and one junior faculty member.