

# VEDIKA PATHAK

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## Summary

MPH-trained researcher specializing in mixed-methods epidemiologic research, health equity, and evidence synthesis. Skilled in literature review, qualitative/quantitative analysis, and REDCap data management, with experience translating complex findings into actionable insights across multidisciplinary teams.

## Education

**Boston University, School of Public Health** | Boston, MA

Aug 2023 - May 2025

*Master of Public Health; Epidemiology and Biostatistics, Infectious Diseases*

**Relevant Coursework** | *Quantitative Methods, Introduction to Statistical Computing-SAS, R for Data Science (Udemy), Infectious Disease Epidemiology, Applied Statistics for Clinical Trials I*

**Certifications** | *Data Management for Clinical Trials (Coursera), CITI Human Subjects Research, AI Fluency (Anthropic Claude Corps), Claude 101 (Anthropic Claude Corps), Tableau (Coursera, in progress)*

**California Polytechnic State University, Pomona** | Pomona, CA

Aug 2018 - May 2022

*Bachelor of Science: Biology, Dean's List*

## Technical and Research Skills

**Research & Analysis:** Literature reviews, evidence synthesis, systematic/scoping reviews, qualitative coding, thematic analysis, quantitative data analysis, survey and population health data analysis

**Research Tools & Software:** REDCap, SAS, R, Tableau, Excel, scientific literature databases, Microsoft Office Suite

**Research Communication:** Scientific writing, manuscript development, research translation, presentations, community-centered health communication, cohort and case-control study design, biostatistical analysis

**Collaboration & Coordination:** Cross-functional collaboration, research documentation, project coordination, stakeholder communication

## Professional Experience

**South Asian Public Health Association (SAPHA)**

*Research Developer*

Sep 2026 - Present

- Preparing to assist in the launch of a new public health research initiative analyzing targeted tobacco retail density, point-of-sale marketing, and environmental determinants affecting South Asian populations.

*Health Communications & Education Developer*

Feb 2025 - Sep 2026

- Led the development and delivery of a cancer literacy webinar for 500+ attendees nationwide, analyzing post-event evaluation data (N > 120) that demonstrated a 30% lift in audience engagement and significant gains in participant cancer screening knowledge.
- Designed and produced tailored health communication content and multi-platform social media campaigns supporting webinars, podcasts, and panel discussions across the organization, reaching community members through digital channels.
- Co-developed community-facing health education materials and research toolkits in collaboration with SAPHA staff to expand organizational public health education resources nationwide, supporting SAPHA chapters in delivering consistent, evidence-based programming.

*Research Intern*

Sep 2024 - Feb 2025

- Conducted systematic literature screening across 6 health databases (PubMed, PsycINFO, CINAHL, EBSCO, ProQuest, Google Scholar), reviewing 150 citations to synthesize 33 peer-reviewed studies on elderly South Asian mental health treatment barriers to support manuscript development.
- Performed qualitative coding and inductive thematic analysis on focus group transcripts across 24 participants, managing standardized codebooks in Excel and clinical data in REDCap to evaluate COVID-19 social determinants.
- Synthesized findings into annotated bibliographies and structured research databases, collaborating with senior researchers to refine research questions, analytic approaches, and evidence synthesis strategies for peer-reviewed publication.

**Fenway Health**

Jul 2025 - Dec 2025

*Activist Academy Fellowship*

- Selected as 1 of 30 fellows nationwide for a competitive public health leadership program focused on systems-level change, equitable healthcare delivery, and community-driven policy reform initiatives across underserved regions of the United States.
- Collaborated with a multidisciplinary cohort to analyze policy landscapes, evaluate operational barriers, and design interventions that expand healthcare access and improve outcomes in underserved communities nationwide through cross-sector partnerships and stakeholder engagement.
- Engaged with 20+ experts in health policy, advocacy, and social determinants of health, translating insights into a long-form educational podcast on sexual health for South Asian communities to increase health literacy, drive engagement, and reduce cultural stigma.

## Project Experience

**SAPHA Colorectal Cancer Research Toolkit** | *South Asian Public Health Association*

Jun 2026 - Aug 2026

- Synthesized epidemiologic findings across multiple regional and national cohorts (CHIS, MASALA), highlighting that CRC is the 2nd most common cancer among Asian Americans despite having the nation's lowest screening adherence rates.
- Quantified acute disparities in preventive uptake, detailing how 49% of South Asian adults are non-adherent to screening guidelines and 62% of foreign-born individuals in the NY/NJ metro area have never received a screening.
- Analyzed intersectional risk factors and clinical communication gaps, evaluating the role of Type 2 diabetes (2–3x higher prevalence in South Asians, raising CRC risk ~30%) and smokeless tobacco/areca nut exposure to develop provider guidance addressing adherence hurdles (where South Asians had 0.43x the odds of screening vs. peer subgroups).

**Integrative Learning Experience (ILE) Capstone Project** | *Boston University, School of Public Health*

Jan 2025 - May 2025

- Conducted a systematic review critically evaluating peer-reviewed literature on restrictive abortion policies and maternal health outcomes, applying evidence synthesis and critical appraisal frameworks.
- Evaluated epidemiologic study designs, causal inference frameworks, and statistical validity across cohort studies, synthesizing methodological critiques into a faculty-reviewed manuscript on maternal health equity.

**Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) Analysis** | *Introduction to SAS Programming*

Mar 2024 - May 2024

- Extracted and cleaned a cross-sectional surveillance dataset of 109,634 respondents across 12 sociodemographic and clinical variables, executing data wrangling, missing-data handling, and variable re-coding in SAS and R.
- Performed statistical hypothesis testing (Chi-square, ANOVA) and multivariable regression modeling to assess disparities between sexual orientation demographics and mental health outcomes, evaluating confounding and calculating adjusted odds ratios.