

Manreet K. Bhullar, MPH

Cuyahoga County Medical Examiner's Office
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EDUCATION

| | | | |
|------|---------|--|----------------------------|
| 2018 | MPH | Health Promotion/Disease Prevention Case | Western Reserve University |
| 2016 | RAQC | Pharmaceutical Regulatory Affairs | Seneca College |
| 2014 | H. BSc. | Honors Chemistry and Biology | Wilfrid Laurier University |

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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|----------------|---------------------------|---|
| 2018 – Present | Forensic Epidemiologist | Cuyahoga County Medical Examiner's Office |
| 2018 | Research Intern | Cuyahoga County Medical Examiner's Office |
| 2018 | Researcher | Cleveland Clinic Foundation |
| 2016 | Regulatory Affairs Intern | Pfizer Consumer Healthcare |

PUBLICATIONS

Bhullar, M., Gilson, T., Lee, J. (under review): The Role of Medical Examiners Offices' in COVID-19 and Other Mass Fatality Events. *American Journal of Forensic Medicine and Pathology*.

Frazier, L., Nolt, K., **Bhullar, M.**, et al. (2021, October): An Equitable Response to the Ongoing Opioid Crisis. *Updated Policy Statement*, American Public Health Association.

Flannery, D. J., Gilson, T. **Bhullar, M.**, & Noriega, I. (2020, August). Research in Brief: Carfentanil – A fourth wave of fatal overdoses. *Police Chief Magazine*, International Association of Chiefs of Police.

Bhullar, M. K., Gilson, T (2020, May). Letter to Editor: The Contribution of Prescribed and Illicit Opioids to Fatal Overdoses in Massachusetts, 2013 – 2015. *Public Health Reports*, SAGE Journals. Volume 135. Issue 4.

MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION

Gilson, T. P., **Bhullar, M.**, Deo, V. (in prep.). Gabapentin-Involved Overdose Death Trends in Cuyahoga County.

Gilson, T., **Bhullar, M.**, Flannery, D., Noriega, I. (in prep.). Retrospective Analysis of Carfentanil-Related Overdose Deaths in Cuyahoga County.

Bhullar, M., Fulton, S., Gilson, T. P., Flannery, D., Lee, J., Deo, V. (in prep.). The Essential Role of a Robust Medical Examiner’s Office in the Public Health Framework Approach to the Overdose Epidemic.

Bhullar, M., Gilson, T. P., Singer, M. (in prep.). Trends in Opioid Overdose Fatalities: Multi-Drug Mixtures, the African American Community and Carfentanil.

HONORS AND AWARDS

Local, State, and National Agencies

2021 Contender of Susan Baker Public Health Award at National Association of Medical Examiners Annual Meeting

2020 National Overdose Fatality Review (OFR) Forum Scholarship

TRAINING AND CERTIFICATIONS

2020 Introduction to Drug Endangered Children (DEC) Awareness: Identifying Drug Endangered Children – A Collaborative Approach, National Criminal Justice Training Center

2020 Making Contact: *A Training for COVID-19 Contact Tracers*, ASTHO

2019 RxStat Program: Overdose Fatality Review Quarterly Meeting, New York, New York OCME.

2019 Medicolegal Death Scene Investigation Training Program, Cuyahoga County Medical Examiner’s Office

2019 Advanced Medicolegal Forensic Series Training Program, Cuyahoga County Medical Examiner’s Office

AWARDED RESEARCH GRANTS

2021 Ohio Department of Health Ohio Department of Health (ODH), Violence & Injury Prevention Section (VIPS) Rapid Fatal Overdose Surveillance, Co-Principal Investigator, Cuyahoga County Medical Examiner’s Office. Status: Awarded. Amount: \$40,000.

2020 BJA/IIR Overdose Fatality Review Database Pilot Site, Co-Principal Investigator, Cuyahoga County Medical Examiner’s Office. Status: Awarded. Amount: \$10,000.

DETAILED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2018-Present Forensic Epidemiologist, Cuyahoga County Medical Examiner’s Office, Cleveland, OH.

Conducts epidemiological surveillance and in-depth data analysis of drug related overdose fatalities, COVID-19 fatalities, homicides and reports out public health and public safety partners. Co-coordinates the Cuyahoga County Overdose Fatality Review (OFF), aids in identifying exemplar

cases, request data from committee members, analyzes data and recommended discussion points to identify systems gaps, creation and development of recommendations, co-coordinate Overdose Fatality Review Stakeholders Meetings to disseminate findings of the OFR and identify implementation areas for public health interventions, co-principle investigator of BJA/IIR Pilot Site Database Grant responsible for data management of OFR data, maintains collaborative efforts and builds productive relationships between multidisciplinary community stakeholders and CCMEO in order to disseminate emerging trends and data to inform outreach efforts, responds to data requests and prepares reports and/or presentations for CCMEO in order to inform prevention efforts and bring attention to public health related issues such as harm reduction strategies, dissemination of CCMEO data analysis and trends at academic conferences, local community taskforces and other requests.

2018 Graduate Research Intern, Cuyahoga County Medical Examiner's Office, Cleveland, OH.

Worked under Dr. Thomas P. Gilson and Dr. Mendel E. Singer to conduct retrospective epidemiological study of opioid overdose fatalities in 2017, created a database with pertinent variables to analyze trends in decedents. Findings were presented at an Innovations Conference at Case Western Reserve University and a manuscript was written for submission.

2018 Graduate Part-time Researcher, Cleveland Clinic Foundation, Cleveland, OH.

Assisted in patient recruitment for study, which designed a patient-focused learning tool/handout for patients who are attending their annual physical to provide patient-focused information to help create goals for improved health outcomes. Trained in human subjects' research to follow all study protocol in order to schedule and recruit patients for the study, create and compile patient surveys in REDcap, applied the role of epidemiology in the control of health problems, including chronic disease management by analyzing effects of personalized preventive care on patient's management of chronic diseases, apply basic ethical and legal principles pertaining to the collection, maintenance, of use and dissemination of epidemiological data, and an ability to evaluate and communicate the strengths and limitations of the epidemiological reports

2016 Regulatory Affairs Intern, Pfizer Consumer Healthcare, Mississauga, ON, Canada.

Preparation of Canadian Drug Facts Tables (CDFTs) for consumer drug products as a part of Plain Language Labelling (PLL) requirements for submission with Health Canada.

GRANT WRITING EXPERIENCE

- 2021 Ohio Department of Health (ODH), Violence & Injury Prevention Section (VIPS) Rapid Fatal Overdose Surveillance, Co-Principal Investigator, Cuyahoga County Medical Examiner's Office Status: Awarded. Amount: \$40,000
- 2020 BJA/COSSAP/IIR, Co-Principal Investigator, Cuyahoga County Medical Examiner's Office. Status: Awarded. Amount: \$10,000.
- 2020 National Collaborative on Gun Violence Research (NCGVR), Gun-Related Homicides. Begun Center for Violence Prevention Research, and Education, Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences (MSASS), Case Western Reserve University. In-Kind Support. Status: Not Awarded. Amount: \$20 000.
- 2020 American Foundation of Suicide Prevention (AFSP), Co-Principal Investigator, Begun Center for Violence Prevention Research, and Education, Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences (MSASS), Case Western Reserve University. Title: "Using Medical Examiner's Data in Opioid-related Suicides." In-Kind Support. Status: Not Awarded. Amount: \$90,000.
- 2020 Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) OD2A, Grant Writing Assistance, Cuyahoga County Medical Examiner's Office Sub-Grantee, Awardee: Cuyahoga County Board of Health. Status: Awarded. Amount: \$1,000,000.

CONFERENCES

Bhullar, M., Gilson, T. P., (2021) The Public Health Role of a Medical Examiner Offices during COVID-19 and Other Mass Fatality Events Manuscript. National Association of Medical Examiners (NAME) Annual Meeting. October 15 – October 19, West Palm Beach, FL.

Gilson, T.P., **Bhullar, M.**, (2021) Gabapentin Trends from 2016 – 2020 in Overdose Deaths. National Association of Medical Examiners (NAME) Annual Meeting. October 15 – October 19, West Palm Beach, FL.

Bhullar, M., Gilson, T. P., Deo, V. (2021). Stay-at-Home Orders and Drug Overdose in Cuyahoga County, Ohio during the COVID-19 Pandemic. OD2A Recipients Conference. (Virtual due to COVID-19)

- Taruvinga, D., Gilson, T. P., Kasper, C., & **Bhullar, M.** (2021). *Gabapentin on The Rise: A 5-year Retrospective Study in Cuyahoga County, OH*. Midwest Association for Toxicology and Therapeutic Drug Monitoring Conference. (Virtual due to COVID-19)
- Bhullar, M.**, Gilson, T. P., Flannery, D. J. & Fulton, S. (2021). *The Opioid Overdose Crisis in Cuyahoga County, Ohio and It's Effects on Stimulants Overdose Deaths*. RxSummit, San Nashville, TN. (Virtual due to COVID-19)
- Bhullar, M.**, Gilson, T. P., Flannery, D. J. & Fulton, S. (2020). *Informing Public Health Efforts through a Medical Examiner's Office: The Opioid Epidemic and Forensic Epidemiology*. APHA Conference, San Francisco, CA. (Virtual due to COVID-19)
- Gilson, T. P., **Bhullar, M.**, Gilson, T. P., Flannery, D. J. & Fulton, S. (2020). *Carfentanil, the driver of opioid-related fatalities in Cuyahoga County, 2017 - 2019 - Forensic Epidemiological Surveillance*. APHA Conference, San Francisco, CA. (Virtual due to COVID-19)
- Bhullar, M.**, Flannery, D. J., Noriega, I., Gilson, T. P., Fulton, S. (2020). *Overdose Suicides Informed from Medicolegal Death Investigations*. Midwest Summit, Columbus, OH. (Cancelled due to COVID-19)
- Flannery, D. J., Noriega, I., **Bhullar, M.**, Gilson, T. P., Fulton, S., & Riske-Morris, M. (2020). *Fatality review in Cuyahoga County, Ohio: A process to inform prevention, intervention, and policy*. OD2A Conference, Atlanta, GA. (Cancelled due to COVID-19)
- Bhullar, M.**, Gilson, T. P., Flannery, D. J. & Fulton, S. (2019). *A Retrospective Analysis of Opioid Overdose Deaths in 2017*. APHA Conference, Philadelphia, PA.
- Bhullar, M.**, Gilson, T. P. & Singer, M., (2019). *The Evolving Nature of the Opioid Epidemic: A Retrospective Analysis of Overdose Fatalities*. APTR Conference, Cleveland, OH.
- Bhullar, M.**, Gilson, T. P. & Singer, M., (2019). *The Evolving Nature of the Opioid Epidemic: Retrospective Analysis of Overdose Fatalities*. Innovations Conference, Department of Population and Quantitative Health Sciences, School of Medicine, Case Western Reserve University. Cleveland, OH.
- Bhullar, M.**, Taksler, G. (2018). *Individualizing Chronic Disease Prevention Services for Middle-Aged Adults*. Innovations Conference, Department of Population and Quantitative Health Sciences, School of Medicine, Case Western Reserve University. Cleveland, OH.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT

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| 2021 – present | MPH Practicum Preceptor, Innovations Conference. Department of Population and Quantitative Health Sciences, School of Medicine, Case Western Reserve University. Cleveland, OH. |
| 2020 – present | Laadliyan, STEM Mentorship Mentee |

Provide consultation and coaching services for high school, undergraduate students, and graduate candidates with a focus on empowering South Asian females in leadership roles. Brampton, ON.

- 2020 – present MPH Practicum Project Judge. MPH Innovations Conference. Department of Population and Quantitative Health Sciences, School of Medicine, Case Western Reserve University. Cleveland, OH.
- 2020 BJA/COSAPP/IIR Overdose Fatality Review Mentor/Mentee Site
- 2019 MPH Student Capstone Committee Member, Alyssa Savadalis Master in Public Health. Department of Population and Quantitative Health Sciences, School of Medicine, Case Western Reserve University. Cleveland, OH.
- 2019 MPH Practicum Preceptor, Innovations Conference. Department of Population and Quantitative Health Sciences, School of Medicine, Case Western Reserve University. Cleveland, OH.
- 2019 Undergraduate Research Mentee, Innovations Conference. Department of Population and Quantitative Health Sciences, School of Medicine, Case Western Reserve University. Cleveland, OH.
- 2018 – present Heroin/Opiate Task Force Data Subcommittee, Cuyahoga County Medical Examiner’s Office. Cleveland, OH.
- 2018 – present U.S Attorney General for the Northern District of Ohio’s Heroin/Opiate Task Force. Cleveland, OH.
- 2018 – present Cuyahoga County Opiate Task Force member, Cuyahoga County Board of Health Cleveland, OH.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Community Presentations, Guest Lectures

- 2021 Gilson, T., **Bhullar, M.** (2021). “Gabapentin Trends in Overdose Deaths.” Presented at Northeast Ohio Hospital Opioid Consortium Quarterly Meeting via WebEx in Cleveland, OH.
- 2021 **Bhullar, M.** Gilson, T., Deo, V., (2021). “Overdose Fatalities in Cuyahoga County (Ohio) During the COVID-19 Pandemic.” Presented at Public Health, Prevention and Community Interventions, Intersecting Pandemics: The Opioid Epidemic and COVID-19, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH.

- 2020 Gilson, T., **Bhullar, M.** (2020). “Gabapentin Trends.” Presented at Northeast Ohio Heroin/Opiate Taskforce Data Subcommittee Meeting via Zoom in Cleveland, OH.
- 2020 Gilson, T., **Bhullar, M.** (2020). “Understanding Overdose Death Ruling at Cuyahoga County Medical Examiner’s Office and the Overdose Fatality Review.” Presented at Northeast Ohio Heroin/Opiate Taskforce Data Subcommittee Meeting via Zoom in Cleveland, OH.
- 2019 Kavadas, A., **Bhullar, M.**, Fulton, S., (2019). “Opioid Projects at the Begun Center.” Presented at Graduate Seminar SASS 500: Violence: Social Work and Public Health Perspectives, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH.
- 2019 **Bhullar, M.**, Fulton, S., (2019). “CCMEO Overdose Death Investigation Database.” Presented at Northeast Ohio Heroin/Opiate Taskforce Data Subcommittee Meeting via Zoom in Cleveland, OH.
- 2019 **Bhullar, M.** (2019). “Forensic Epidemiology.” Presented to Undergraduate Workforce Session, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH.

JOURNAL REVIEWER SERVICE

2021- present Public Health Reports: SAGE Journals

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

2019 – present American Public Health Association (APHA)

- 1) Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs Section: reviewer of abstracts for Annual Meeting, planning team and coordination of annual meeting, co- authored an updated APHA policy statement: *An Equitable Response to the Opioid Crisis*
- 2) Epidemiology Section: abstract reviewer for Annual Meeting

OTHER SKILLS

Language

| | |
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| English | Native |
| Punjabi | Native |
| French | Conversant |

Software

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| Microsoft Office | Word, PowerPoint, Excel, and Outlook |
| Statistics | SPSS |
| Data Entry | Google Forms/Spreadsheets, REDcap |

REFERENCES

Available upon request.