

Curriculum Vitae
Rachael Piltch-Loeb, MSPH, PhD

PERSONAL DATA

Email Address:

Cell Phone:

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

- 2019 Doctor of Philosophy in Public Health
Dissertation Committee: David Abramson, PhD MPH (Chair), Bernadette Boden-Albala (DrPH), David Abrams (PhD)
Dissertation Title: Optimizing Risk Communication in an Emerging Threat: Evidence from the Zika Virus in 2016
New York University
New York, NY, USA
- 2015 Master of Science in Public Health in Health, Behavior, and Society
Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health
Baltimore, MD, USA
- 2012 Bachelor of Science in Healthcare Management and Policy
Magna cum laude
Georgetown University
Washington, DC, USA

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

- 2019- **Preparedness Fellow**, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, Division of Policy Translation and Leadership Development
Cambridge, MA
- 2014- New York University, College of Global Public Health, Program on Population Impacts, Recovery, and Resilience
New York, New York
- 2019- **Associate Research Scientist**
2017-2019 **Assistant Research Scientist**
2014-2017 **Junior Research Scientist**
- 2014 **Practicum Researcher**, Columbia University, National Center for Disaster Preparedness,
New York, New York
- 2012-2015 Georgetown University, Department of Health Systems Administration,

Washington, DC

2013-2015 ***Part-time Research Assistant***

2012-2013 ***Full-time Research Assistant***

2011-2012 ***Research Intern***, Institute of Medicine, Forum on Medical and Public Health Preparedness for Catastrophic Events, Antiviral Community Engagement Workshop Series
Washington, DC

ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Society Membership and Leadership

2012-present Member, American Public Health Association

2012-2014 Member, AcademyHealth

Professional Service Activities

2015-2018 Student Member, Doctoral Committee, New York University College of Global Public Health

2015-2017 Member, Advisory Committee, AcademyHealth Communications and Translation Interest

2015-2016 Member, Planning Committee, AcademyHealth Annual Research Meeting

2013-2014 Student Member, Curriculum Committee, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health Department of Health, Behavior, and Society

Consultancy

2020-Present Consultant, Measurement of Public Health Emergency Response, European Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Stockholm, Sweden

2020-Present Consultant, Develop and Train on Risk Communication and COVID-19 for Housing, Shelter, and Property Management Providers, Piltch Associates, New England, USA

2019-Present Consultant, COVID-19 Advisory and Training for for-profit and non-profit entities, National, USA

2016-2018 Consultant, Public Health Emergency Preparedness Competency Model Development, European Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Stockholm, Sweden

EDITORIAL ACTIVITIES

Editorial Positions

Associate Editor, *BMC*

Peer Review Activities

American Journal of Preventive Medicine

Emerging Infectious Diseases

Globalization and Health
Health Security
Health Education and Health Behavior
Journal of Public Health Management and Practice
Journal of Health Immigration and Minority Studies
Public Health Reports
Risk Analysis
Vaccines

HONORS AND AWARDS

Honors

2012 Alpha Sigma Nu Jesuit Honorary Society
 2012 Upsilon Phi Delta Healthcare Administration Honorary Society

Awards

2019 Honorable Mention, NYU University-wide Dissertation Awards
 2014 Honorable Mention, AcademyHealth, Public Health Systems Interest Group, Student Poster Competition
 2014 Student Scholarship Winner, AcademyHealth, Public Health Systems Interest Group
 2014 Student Conference Fund Award Winner, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health
 2012 Georgetown University Department of Health Systems Administration Student Award Winner

PUBLICATIONS

Journal Articles

1. Piltch-Loeb, R., Savoia, E., Goldberg, B., Hughes, B., Verhey, T., Kayyem, J., Miller-Idriss, C. and Testa, M., 2021. Examining the effect of information channel on COVID-19 vaccine acceptance. *Plos One*. 16(5), e0251095
2. Piltch-Loeb, R., Meltzer, G., Merdjanoff, A., Anticipated mental health consequences of coronavirus in a nationally-representative sample: context, coverage, and economic consequences. *Preventive Medicine*. Preventive Medicine 145 (2021): 106441.
3. Savoia, E., Argentini, G., Gori, D., Neri, E., Piltch-Loeb, R., Fantini, MP. Factors Associated with Access and Use of PPE during COVID-19: A Cross-sectional Study of Italian Physicians. *Plos One*. *Plos one* 15.10 (2020): e0239024.
4. Piltch-Loeb, R., Jeong, K., Lin, K., Kraemer, J., Stoto, M. Interpreting COVID-19 test results in clinical settings: it depends!. *Journal of the American Board of Family Medicine*. Published online ahead of print
5. Piltch-Loeb, R. & Abramson, D. From information to intervention: a structural equation model to operationalize the drivers of the receptivity to interventions in an emerging threat. *Journal of Risk Research*. Published online ahead of print, DOI: 10.1080/13669877.2020.1819388

6. Piltch-Loeb, R. & Abramson, D. Information Seeking in an Emerging Threat: A Latent Class Analysis of information seeking among the United States population during the 2016 Zika outbreak. *Emerging Infectious Diseases*. 2020 Sep;26(9):2290.
7. Piltch-Loeb, R., & DiClemente, R. The Vaccine Uptake Continuum: Applying Social Science Theory to Shift Vaccine Hesitancy. 2020. *Vaccines*, 8(1), 76.
8. Piltch-Loeb, R., Zikmund-Fish, B., Shaffer, V., Scherer, L., Knaus, M., Fagerlin, A., Abramson, D., Scherer, A. Cross-Sectional Psychological and Demographic Associations of Zika Knowledge & Conspiracy Beliefs Before and After Local Zika Transmission. *Risk Analysis*. 2019 Dec;39(12):2683-93.
9. Stoto, M., Nelson, C., Piltch-Loeb, R., Mayigane, L., Copper, F., Chungon, S., Getting the Most from After Action Reviews to Improve Global Health Security. *Globalization and Health*. 2019 Dec 1;15(1):58.
10. Piltch-Loeb, R., Merdjanoff, A., Bhanja, A., Abramson, D. Support for Vector Control Strategies among the United States Population during the Zika outbreak in 2016. *Preventive Medicine*. 2019 Feb 1;119:52-7.
11. Stoto, M. Savoia, E., Nelson, C., Piltch-Loeb, R., Guiccardi, S., Takacs, J., Santos, C.V., Ciotti, M. Development of a Public Health Emergency Preparedness Competency Model for European Union Member States. *Eurosurveillance*. 2018 Dec 6;23(49).
12. Piltch-Loeb, R., Kraemer, J.D., Nelson, C., Savoia, E., Osborn, D., Stoto M.A. Root cause analysis for enhancing public health emergency preparedness: A case study of Salmonella in the Alamosa, Colorado water supply. *Journal of Public Health Management and Practice*. 2018 Nov 1;24(6):542-5.
13. Piltch-Loeb, R., Savoia, E., Wright, N., Gupta, R., Stoto M.A. Facilitated look-back analysis of public health emergencies to enhance preparedness: A case study of a Chemical Spill in Charleston, West Virginia. *Journal of Public Health Management and Practice*. 2018 Nov 1;24(6):E1-5
14. Lin, K., Kraemer, J., Piltch-Loeb, R., Stoto, M. The Complex Interpretation and Management of Zika Virus Test Results. *Journal of the American Board of Family Medicine*. 2018 Nov 1;31(6):924-30.
15. Merdjanoff, A., Piltch-Loeb, R., Friedman, S., Abramson, D. Housing Transitions and Recovery of Older Adults Following Hurricane Sandy. *Journal of Gerontology: Series B*. 2018 Oct (available online ahead of print)
16. Piltch-Loeb, R., Kraemer, J., Lin, K.W., Stoto, M.A. Public Health Surveillance for Zika Virus: Data Interpretation and Report Validity. *American Journal of Public Health*. 2018 Oct;108(10):1358-62.
17. Quinn, C., Poirot, E., Viswanath, A., Patel, S., Piltch-Loeb, R., Abramson, D. Variations in health care provider use of public health and other information sources by provider type and practice setting during New York City's response to the emerging threat of Zika virus disease, 2016. *Health security*. 2018 Aug 1;16(4):252-61.
18. Piltch-Loeb, R., Merdjanoff, A., Abramson, D. Breadth and depth: Understanding how the U.S. Population engaged with and prioritized sources of information about the emerging Zika virus in 2016. *Health Security*. 2018 Jun 1;16(3):165-77.

19. Piltch-Loeb, R., Abramson, D., Merdjanoff, A. Risk Salience of a Novel Virus: US Population Risk Perception, Knowledge, and Receptivity to Public Health Interventions Regarding the Zika virus prior to Local Transmission. *PloS One*. 2016; 12(12): e0188666.
20. Rutkow, L., Vernick, J., Thompson, C., Piltch-Loeb, R., Barnett, D. Legal Protections to Promote Willingness Among the Local Public Health Workforce. *Disaster Medicine and Public Health Preparedness*. 2015; Apr;9(2):98-102
21. Piltch-Loeb, R., Nelson, C., Kraemer, J.D., Savoia, E., Stoto M.A. A peer assessment approach incorporating root cause analysis for learning from public health emergencies. *Public Health Reports*. 2014: 129 (S4), 28-34.
22. Piltch-Loeb, R., Kraemer J.D., Stoto, M.A., A public health emergency preparedness critical incident registry. *Biosecurity and Bioterrorism*. 2014; 12(3): 132-143. doi:10.1089/bsp.2014.0007.
23. Piltch-Loeb, R. N., Kraemer, J.D., Stoto M.A. Synopsis of a public health emergency preparedness critical incident registry (CIR). *Journal of Public Health Management and Practice*. 2013; 19(5), S93–S94.
24. Fain, B., Koonin, L, Stoto, M. Shah, U., Cooper, S., Piltch-Loeb, R., Kellerman, A. Facilitating access to antiviral medications and information during an influenza pandemic: engaging with the public on possible new strategies. *Biosecurity and Bioterrorism*. 2014; 12(1), 8-19.

In Press

1. Piltch-Loeb, R. Bernard, D., Harriman, N., Vallejo, B Q., Savoia, E. Engaging Community Leaders to Identify Community Assets for Emergency Preparedness. [medRxiv](#): 2020.2006.2016.20129635. *Disaster Management and Public Health Preparedness*. Accepted

In Process

1. Savoia, E., Piltch-Loeb, R., Goldberg, B., Miller-Idriss, C., Hughes, B., Montrond, A.M., Kayyem, J.N. and Testa, M.A., 2021. Predictors of COVID-19 Vaccine Hesitancy: Socio-demographics, Co-Morbidity and Past Experience of Racial Discrimination. *Vaccines*. Under Review
2. Hughes, B., Miller-Idriss, C., Piltch-Loeb, R., Goldberg, B., White, K., Criezis, M., Savoia, E. Development of a Codebook of Online Anti-Vaccination Rhetoric to Manage COVID-19 Vaccine Misinformation. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*. Under Review
3. Piltch-Loeb, R., McBride, M., Harriman, N., Savoia, E. The Use of a Scenario-Based Nominal Group Technique to Assess P/CVE Programs: Development and Pilot Testing of a Toolkit. *Journal of Deradicalization*. Under Review

Book Chapters

1. Stoto, M., Piltch-Loeb, R., Albrant, R., Wolffe, R., Melnick, A. The 2019 Measles Outbreak in Clark County, Washington. In *Urban Preparedness*. Submitted to Editors
2. Merdjanoff, A. & Piltch-Loeb, R. Hurricanes and Health: Vulnerability in an Age of Climate Change. In *Global Climate Change and Public Health*. Submitted to Editors

Reports

1. Stoto, M. & Piltch-Loeb, R. Joint After-Action Review of the 2019 Measles Outbreak in Clark County, Washington. January 2020. Available at the Harvard T.H. Chan website.
2. Stoto, M., Savoia, E., Nelson, C., Piltch-Loeb, R., Guicciardi, S., Takács, J., Varela Santos, C., Ciotti, M. Public Health Emergency Preparedness: Core Competencies for EU Member States. European Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. October, 2017.
(<https://ecdc.europa.eu/sites/portal/files/documents/public-health-emergency-preparedness-core-competencies-eu-member-states.pdf>)
3. Abramson, D. & Piltch-Loeb R. US Public's Perception of Zika Risk: Awareness, Knowledge, and Receptivity to Public Health Interventions, October, 2016. New York University Briefing Report.
([http://publichealth.nyu.edu/content/dam/mph/documents/PiR2%20Zika%20Report%20\(1\).pdf](http://publichealth.nyu.edu/content/dam/mph/documents/PiR2%20Zika%20Report%20(1).pdf))
4. Stoto, M.A., Piltch-Loeb R., Savoia E., The Public Health System Response to the 2014 West Virginia Water Crisis, January, 2015.
(<https://cdn1.sph.harvard.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/1609/2015/01/WV-water-crisis-report-final.pdf>)
5. Stoto, M.A., Piltch-Loeb R., Potter, M.A. Annotated Bibliography of Research Resources for Measurement of Public Health Preparedness. Prepared by the Association of Schools of Public Health, September, 2012.
(<http://www.asph.org/UserFiles/Final%20PERRC%20Annotated%20Bibliography.pdf>)

Other

1. McBride, M., Piltch-Loeb, R., Harriman, N., Savoia, E. Scenario Based Nominal Group Technique for P/CVE Systems. September, 2019. Harvard TH Chan School of Public Health Community Safety Branch.
2. Piltch-Loeb R. The Case for Capitals: Leveraging Key Resources in a Catastrophic Event, June, 2016. Natural Hazards Observer.
(<https://hazards.colorado.edu/article/the-case-for-capitals-leveraging-key-resources-in-a-catastrophic-event>)
3. Piltch-Loeb, R., Nelson C., Kraemer, J.D., Savoia E., Stoto M.A., Peer Assessment of Public Health Emergency Response Toolkit, October, 2013.
(<http://www.hsph.harvard.edu/h-perlc/toolkits/ci/peer-training/>)

TEACHING

Spring 2019 **Instructor**, Introduction to Public Health, New York University
2018 **Course Developer**, Crisis and Emergency Risk Communication, New York University
2018 **Course Developer**, Introduction to Public Health, New York University
Fall 2018 **Instructor**, Global Issues in Social and Behavioral Sciences, New York University
Spring 2018 **Course Assistant**, Epidemiologic Methods (Primary Instructor: Danielle Ompad, PhD) New York University, New York, NY
2017-2018 **Course Assistant**, Masters Public Health Thesis (Primary Instructor: Nina Parikh, PhD) New York University, New York, NY
2017 **Instructor**, Epidemiology I, New York University, Washington, DC
2016 **Course Assistant**, Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response, (Primary Instructor: David Abramson, PhD) New York University, Tel Aviv, Israel

RESEARCH GRANT PARTICIPATION

Active

Grant title: Intervening in COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy and misinformation
Funding: American University, PERIL Center
Period: 9/30/20 – 06/30/21
Role: Co-Investigator
Summary: Identification of narratives on vaccine hesitancy and design of online Youtube interventions to combat misinformation

Grant title: Validation of the National Health Security Preparedness Index, Aim 2
Funding: CDC (Co-PIs: Mays, Abramson, Eisenman)
Period: 9/30/18 – 06/30/21
Role: Associate Research Scientist
Summary: Validation of a public health preparedness metric within the National and Local Health Security Preparedness Index

Grant title: Metrics and Evaluation for the Regional Disaster Health System, Region 1
Funding: ASPR, HHS (PI: Biddinger)
Period: Ongoing
Role: Preparedness Fellow
Summary: Develop and test metrics for a regional disaster health system to ensure regional readiness in an emergency working with New England, Region 1.

In-Active

Grant title: The Gulf Coast Child and Family Health Study/Katrina@10 Core B
Funding: NICHD (Co-PIs: Abramson, VanLandingham, Waters)
Period: 08/15 – 07/20
Role: Associate Research Scientist

- Summary:* Understand the long-term trajectories of disaster recovery in ten plus year follow up study of three different cohorts.
- Grant title:* A Validated Toolkit of Behavioral Health Measures for Post-Disaster Settings
- Funding:* Council for State and Territorial Epidemiologists/SAMSHA (PI: Abramson, Goldman)
- Period:* 12/1/17 – 06/30/18
- Role:* Project Director
- Summary:* Aims to collaboratively develop a standardized validated toolkit of disaster-related mental health measures
- Grant title:* An Evolving Risk Communication Challenge: The Risk Salience of Zika Virus Infection in an Environment of Shifting Scientific, Social, and Policy Uncertainty and Discourse
- Funding:* National Science Foundation (PI: Abramson)
- Period:* 04/1/16 – 04/30/18
- Role:* Graduate Research Assistant, Assistant Research Scientist, Project Director
- Summary:* Research examines how various social, scientific, and policy cues influence the US public's appreciation of the risk over time, as well as the public's receptivity to various clinical, environmental, and behavioral interventions.
- Grant title:* The Zika Women's Panel Study: Examining the Shifting Risk Perception of Zika Virus among Women of Child-Bearing Age as Scientific Certainty and Viral Infection Increase
- Funding:* Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (PI: Abramson)
- Period:* 04/1/16 – 12/31/17
- Role:* Graduate Research Assistant, Assistant Research Scientist, Project Director
- Summary:* Research examines how social, scientific, and policy cues influence individual appreciation of the risk over time among a group at high-risk for the consequences – women of child-bearing age – and analyzes their evolving receptivity to various clinical, environmental, and behavioral interventions.
- Grant title:* The Sandy Child and Family Health Study Child Impact Study
- Funding:* New Jersey State Department of Children and Families (Co-PI: Abramson)
- Period:* 09/01/16 – 07/31/17
- Role:* Junior Research Scientist
- Summary:* Research examined the long-term effects of Hurricane Sandy on children and families in the state of New Jersey adversely effected by Hurricane Sandy.
- Grant title:* The Sandy Child and Family Health Study
- Funding:* New Jersey State Department of Health (Co-PI: Abramson)
- Period:* 05/01/14 – 06/30/15
- Role:* Junior Research Scientist

Summary: Research examined the long-term effects of Hurricane Sandy on the health and well-being of New Jersey residents exposed to the storm.

Grant title: *Harvard EPREP Program: Preparedness Emergency Response Learning Center*

Funding: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (Co-PI: Testa)

Period: 9/30/08-9/29/13

Role: Research Assistant

Summary: Research broadly focused on a public health systems approach to generate valid and reliable criteria and metrics to assess, and ultimately improve, public health emergency preparedness (PHEP) in the United States

Grant title: Linking Assessment and Measuring Preparedness: Preparedness Emergency Response Research Center

Funding: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (Co-PI: Stoto)

Period: 9/30/08-9/29/13

Role: Research Assistant

Summary: Research broadly focused on a public health systems approach to generate valid and reliable criteria and metrics to assess, and ultimately improve, public health emergency preparedness (PHEP) in the United States

PRESENTATIONS

Invited Presentations

1. Understanding Vaccine Hesitancy: Trends and Outlook, Massachusetts Association of Boards of Health, June 2021.
2. How can we address vaccine hesitancy?, LeadingAge, Quickcast Online, February 2021
3. Legal Challenges & Emergency Risk Communication Best Practices, MassHousing, Online, November 2020.
4. Staff and Resident COVID-19 Communications, LeadingAge, Online, September 2020.
5. Risk Communication Best Practices for COVID-19, New York Human Resources Council, Online, May 2020.
6. COVID-19 Risk Communication Strategies, Frazer Jones, Online, July 2020.
7. Scenario-Based Nominal Group Technique in P/CVE System-Level Evaluation, North Atlantic Treaty Organization Countering Violent Extremism Summit, Online, Summer 2020.
8. Learning from Experience in Practice, North Atlantic Treaty Organization Countering Violent Extremism Summit, Bologna, IT, June 2019.

9. Informing US Residents' Perception of Zika Risk: Knowledge, Decision-Making, and Receptivity to Public Health Interventions, Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists, Notes from the Field Webinar, November 2017.

Scientific Meetings

1. Piltch-Loeb, R., Kraemer J.D., Stoto, M.A., A Public Health Emergency Preparedness Critical Incident Registry, Dynamics of Preparedness Conference, Pittsburgh, October 2012
2. Piltch-Loeb, R., Stoto, M.A., Kraemer J.D., Nelson, C., Savoia, E., Lee, E., Bump, J., Implementation of a Critical Incident Registry for Public Health Emergency, Advancing and Redefining Communities for Emergency Preparedness Conference, Washington, DC, October 2012
3. Piltch-Loeb, R. N., Kraemer, J.D., Nelson C., Savoia E., Bump J., Lee E.C., Stoto M.A., Implementation of a Critical Incident Registry for Public Health Emergency Preparedness, Public Health Systems Research Interest Group, AcademyHealth, Baltimore, June 2013.
4. Piltch-Loeb, R., Nelson C., Kraemer J.D., Stoto, M.A., Using Root Cause Analysis in Public Health Emergency Preparedness, Public Health Systems Research Interest Group, AcademyHealth, San Diego, CA, June 2014
5. Piltch-Loeb, R. and Stoto, M., Using Peer Assessment and Root Cause Analysis to Assess and Improve Health System Emergency Response, Preparedness Emergency Response Learning Center Webinar, August 2014
6. Piltch-Loeb, R. Abramson, D., Merdjanoff, A., Stress of Resources Lost: Examining The Relationship Between Mental Health, Housing Damage, And Resource Loss Following Hurricane Sandy, American Public Health Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL, November 2015
7. Piltch-Loeb, R. Abramson, D., Merdjanoff, A., A Balancing Act: Recovery from Hurricane Sandy and Compensating Capitals, International Conference on Healthcare System Preparedness and Response to Emergencies & Disasters, Tel Aviv, Israel, January 2016
8. Piltch-Loeb, R. Abramson, D., Merdjanoff, A., A Drawing on Political Capital: Promoting Mental Health and Recovery Following Hurricane Sandy, APHA, Denver, CO, November 2016
9. Piltch-Loeb, R. Abramson, D. US Residents' Perception of Zika Risk: Knowledge, Decision-Making, and Receptivity to Public Health Interventions, Public Health Emergency Preparedness Summit, Atlanta, GA, April 2017.
10. Piltch-Loeb, R. Abramson, D. Connecting the National, Clinical, and Women's Perspectives on Zika, Public Health Emergency Preparedness Summit, Atlanta, GA, April 2018.
11. Piltch-Loeb, R. Influence of Information Source and Communication on US Residents' Receptivity to Zika Public Health Interventions. National Conference on Health Communication, Marketing, and Media, Atlanta, GA, September 2018.

SERVICE

Advisor, The TuttleFund, NY, NY

Board Member, Neighborhood Coalition for Shelter, NY, NY

Founding Chair, NextGen Committee, Neighborhood Coalition for Shelter, NY, NY

Founding Board Member, Hark Society NY, NY

MEDIA

Media coverage in *Real Simple*, *Al Jazeera*, *The Atlantic*, *BBC News*, *Bloomberg News*, *Elite Daily*, *Fox 5 New York*, *YahooNews*, *Crain's Business*, *NBC Nightly News*, *New York Times*, *Yahoo Finance*, *Gothamist*, *New York Magazine*, *Politco*, *USAToday*