

L. Yaghjyan, September 2013

**LUSINE YAGHJYAN**

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**PRESENT TITLE AND AFFILIATION**

Assistant Professor, Department of Epidemiology  
College of Public Health and Health Professions, College of Medicine  
University of Florida, Gainesville, FL

**EDUCATION**

- 1997            **M.D. (with honors)**, Yerevan State Medical University, Armenia
- 2003            **M.P.H.**, College of Health Sciences, American University of Armenia (in affiliation with Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health), Armenia  
***MPH Thesis: Meat, cooking methods and risk of colorectal cancer: a case-control study in Armenia.*** The study explored the association between meat consumption and methods of meat cooking on risk of colorectal cancer in Armenian population
- 2009            **Ph.D. (Epidemiology)** Department of Environmental Health, University of Cincinnati College of Medicine, Ohio, USA  
***PhD Thesis: Determinants of Mammographic Breast Density in Different Subsets of Women.*** This retrospective study determines if the direction and degree of the association between risk factors for breast density and the breast density phenotype differ in the subsets of women stratified by menopausal status, hormone replacement therapy use, and a family history of breast cancer
- 2009-2013     **Postdoctoral Research Associate**, Division of Public Health Sciences, Department of Surgery, Washington University in St. Louis School of Medicine, Missouri, USA

**RESEARCH INTERESTS**

Epidemiology of breast cancer; mammographic breast density as a breast cancer risk factor; pathways from high breast density to breast cancer; epigenetic changes in breast cancer; environmental exposures (endocrine disruptors) and gene-environment interactions in etiology of breast cancer

## EMPLOYMENT

- 2013-present     **Assistant Professor:** Department of Epidemiology, College of Public Health and Health Professions, College of Medicine, University of Florida, Florida, USA
- 2009-2013       **Postdoctoral Research Associate:** Division of Public Health Sciences, Department of Surgery, Washington University in St. Louis College of Medicine, Missouri, USA
- 2004-2009       **Research Assistant:** Department of Environmental Health, College of Medicine, University of Cincinnati, Ohio, USA
- 2005             **Visiting Lecturer:** Research Seminar Series (MPH program), American University of Armenia, College of Health Sciences, Yerevan, Armenia
- 2004             **Institutional Research Manager/Accreditation Coordinator:** American University of Armenia, Yerevan, Armenia
- 2002-2003       Center for Health Services Research and Development, College of Health Sciences, American University of Armenia, Yerevan, Armenia
- Project Assistant:** Armenian Social Transition Project, Health Education/Promotion, funded by the USAID/Armenia and PADCO.
- Data Entry/Analyst:** UPENN, Nursing and Patient Survey
- Translator:** Malaria Training Project, sponsored by Fogarty International Center, USA
- Assistant/Translator:** "Population-Based Approaches to Graduate Level Public Health Education;" OSI Conference 2003
- 2001-2002       **Medical Representative of Help S.A. Pharmaceuticals (Greece), Management Consultant:** "Esculap" LTD, Yerevan, Armenia
- 1999-2001       **Research assistant,** laboratory of neurophysiology: Clinical Hospital #1, Yerevan State Medical University, Yerevan, Armenia
- 1997-1998       **General Physician,** Clinical Center "Erebuny", Yerevan, Armenia
- 1996             **Assistant Physician,** Clinical Hospital # 8, Yerevan, Armenia
- 1995             **Assistant of District Physician,** Clinical Hospital # 8, Yerevan, Armenia
- 1992             **Nurse:** Clinical Hospital # 8, Yerevan, Armenia

## PUBLICATIONS

1. Bekteshi V, **Yaghjian L**, Drake B. Health behaviors among prostate cancer survivors: National Health Interview Survey 2005 (under review).
2. Pinney S, Biro F, Windham G, Herrick R, **Yaghjian L**, et al. Serum Biomarkers of Polyfluoroalkyl Compound Exposure in Young Girls in Greater Cincinnati and the San Francisco Bay Area, USA. Environmental Pollution. Accepted.

3. **Yaghjian L**, Colditz GA, Rosner B, Tamimi RM. Mammographic Breast Density and Subsequent Risk of Breast Cancer in Postmenopausal Women according to the Time Since the Mammogram. *Cancer Epidemiology, Biomarkers, and Prevention* 2013; 22(6):1110-7.
4. **Yaghjian L**, Colditz GA, Wolin K. Physical activity and mammographic breast density: a systematic review. *Breast Cancer Research and Treatment* 2012; 135(2):367-80.
5. **Yaghjian L**, Colditz GA, Rosner B, Tamimi RM. Mammographic breast density and breast cancer risk by menopausal status, postmenopausal hormone use and a family history of breast cancer. *Cancer Causes Control* 2012: 1-6.
6. **Yaghjian L**, Mahoney MC, Succop P, Wones R, Buckholz J, Pinney SM. Relationship between breast cancer risk factors and mammographic breast density in the Fernald Community Cohort. *Br J Cancer* 2012; 106(5):996-1003.
7. **Yaghjian L**, Colditz GA, Drake B. Vitamin D and mammographic breast density: a systematic review. *Cancer Causes Control* 2012; 23 (1):1-13.
8. **Yaghjian L**, Colditz GA, Collins LC, Schnitt SJ, Rosner B, Vachon C, Tamimi RM. Mammographic breast density and subsequent risk of breast cancer in postmenopausal women according to tumor characteristics. *J Natl Cancer Inst* 2011; 103:1179-89
9. **Yaghjian L**, Pinney SM, Mahoney MC, Morton AR, and Buckholz J. Mammographic Breast Density Assessment: A Methods Study. *Atlas Journal of Medical & Biological Sciences* 2011; 1 (1): 13–19.
10. **Yaghjian L**, Colditz G. Estrogens in the breast tissue: a systematic review. *Cancer Causes Control* 2011; 22:529-40.
11. **Yaghjian L**. Determinants of mammographic breast density in different subsets of women. Cincinnati, Ohio: University of Cincinnati; 2009. Available from: [http://rave.ohiolink.edu/etdc/view?acc\\_num=ucin1250096767](http://rave.ohiolink.edu/etdc/view?acc_num=ucin1250096767)

## ABSTRACTS

1. Pinney SM, Biro FM, **Yaghjian L**, et al. Pilot study of serum biomarkers of polyfluoroalkyl compounds in young girls. *Reprod. Toxicol.* 2009; 27: 422-423
2. Pinney SM, Windham GC, Biro FM, Kushi LH, **Yaghjian L**, et al. Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA) and Pubertal Maturation in Young Girls. *Epidemiology* 2009; 20 (6): S80.
3. Pinney SM, Biro FM, Yaghjian L, Calafat AM, et al. Pilot Study of Serum Biomarkers of Polyfluoroalkyl Compounds in Young Girls. *Epidemiology* 2008; 19 (6): S311.
4. Pinney S, **Yaghjian L**, Wones, R. Uranium Exposure to a Community Population: Validation Using Urine Uranium With Isotopic Ratio. *Epidemiology, Suppl* September 2007: 18(5): S162.

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5. **Yaghjyan L**, Pinney SM, Brown KM, Ice AW. Effectiveness and efficiency of recruitment strategies for a breast cancer registry. *In Proceedings: American Association for Cancer Research Meeting Abstracts 2006*: 1261-a.
6. **Yaghjyan L**. Meat, Cooking Methods and Colorectal Cancer: A Case-Control Study in Armenia. *In: Proceedings of the 2<sup>nd</sup> International Young Medics Conference 2003*: 106.
7. Truzyan N., **Yaghjyan L**, Sargsyan N., Sargsyan V. Impact of an Educational Program on the Incidence of Worms in Pre-school Children in the Arabkir Region of Yerevan. *In: Proceedings of the 2<sup>nd</sup> International Young Medics Conference, Yerevan, Armenia, 2003*: 97-98.

Other publications:

1. *Educational publication*: Pinney SM, **Yaghjyan L**, Beatty J. Biomarker description database. Series of .pdf files posted on BCERC intranet ([www.bccrc.org](http://www.bccrc.org)), September 2006.
2. *On-line book chapter*: **Yaghjyan L**. Quality Management Initiative at Nork Marash Medical Center. *In: Health Services Management. (E-book)*, American University of Armenia, Armenia 2002; Available from: <http://chsr.aua.am/e-book/>

Publications in progress:

1. **Yaghjyan L**, Pettersson A, Colditz GA, Collins LC, Schnitt SJ, Rosner B, Vachon C, Tamimi RM. Mammographic breast density and subsequent risk of breast cancer in postmenopausal women according to the statuses of selected tissue markers: a case-control study.
2. Drake B, **Yaghjyan L**, Bekteshi V. Healthy behaviors and recommended screening practices among cancer survivors and respondents without cancer in the National Health Interview Survey 2005.
3. **Yaghjyan L**, Colditz GA, Rosner B, Tamimi RM. Mammographic breast density and breast cancer-specific survival among postmenopausal women in the Nurses' Health Study.
4. Pinney SM, Biro FM, Windham G, Herrick RL, **Yaghjyan L**, et al. Serum biomarkers of polyfluoroalkyl compounds in young girls in the Midwest and California.
5. Pinney SM, **Yaghjyan L**, Buckholz JM, et al. Breast cancer incidence is related to uranium particulate exposure in a population living near a uranium refinery.
6. Pinney SM, Windham G, Biro FM, **Yaghjyan L**, et al. Polyfluoroalkyl Compound biomarkers and transition from pubertal stage 1 to 2, and other health effects.

**CONFERENCES/PRESENTATIONS**

**Yaghjyan L**, Colditz GA, Rosner B, Tamimi RM. *Mammographic Breast Density and Subsequent Risk of Breast Cancer in Postmenopausal Women According to the Statuses of Selected Tissue Markers: a Case-control Study*. Breast Cancer Research Program Retreat, February 20, 2012, Washington University in St. Louis, St. Louis, MO. Poster presentation.

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Pinney SM (speaker), Windham GC, Biro FM, Kushi LH, Herrick RL, **Yaghjian L**, et al. *Age at puberty in relation to prepubertal measures of PFOA-new findings*. The 23<sup>rd</sup> International ISEE conference, September 13<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup>, 2011, Barcelona, Spain. Oral Presentation.

**Yaghjian L**, Colditz GA, Rosner B, Tamimi RM. *Mammographic breast density and breast cancer risk by menopausal status, postmenopausal hormone use and a family history of breast cancer*. 7th Annual Postdoc Scientific Symposium, March 29, 2011, Washington University in St. Louis, St. Louis, MO. Poster presentation.

**Yaghjian L**, Colditz GA, Rosner B, Tamimi RM. *Mammographic breast density and breast cancer risk by menopausal status, postmenopausal hormone use and a family history of breast cancer*. Breast Cancer Research Program Retreat, February 28, 2011, Washington University in St. Louis, St. Louis, MO. Poster presentation.

Pinney SM, Biro FM, Herrick R, **Yaghjian L**, et al. *Exposure to perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and plasma lipid concentrations in young girls*. U.S. EPA's PFAA Days III Symposium, June 8 - 10, 2010, Research Triangle Park, NC. Poster presentation.

Pinney SM (speaker), Windham GC, Biro FM, Kushi LH, **Yaghjian L**, et al. *Timing of Exposure to Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA) and Benchmarks of Pubertal Maturation*. Breast Cancer and the Environment Research Centers Sixth Annual Early Environmental Exposures Meeting, November 19 - 20, 2009, Cavallo Point, Sausalito, CA. Oral presentation.

Pinney SM (speaker), Windham GC, Biro FM, Kushi LH, **Yaghjian L**, et al. *Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and Pubertal Maturation in Young Girls*. The 21<sup>st</sup> International ISEE Conference, August 26-29, 2009, Dublin, Ireland. Oral presentation.

**Yaghjian L** (speaker), Pinney SM. *Breast Cancer Incidence is Related to Uranium Particulate Exposure in a Population Living near a Uranium Refinery*. SUNY Downstate Medical Center, January 15, 2009, New York, NY. Oral presentation.

Pinney SM. (speaker), Biro FM., **Yaghjian L**, Calafat A, et al. *Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and Pubertal Maturation in Young Girls*. Emerging Topics in Breast Cancer and the Environment Research Fifth Annual Early Environmental Exposures Meeting, November 13-14, 2008, Birmingham, AL. Oral presentation.

Pinney SM., **Yaghjian L**, Biro FM., Bornschein R. *Different patterns of oxidative metabolism of MEHP to MEHHP, MEOHP and MECPP*. Emerging Topics in Breast Cancer and the Environment Research Fifth Annual Early Environmental Exposures Meeting, November 13-14, 2008, Birmingham, AL (**Best Poster Award, First Prize**). Poster presentation.

Pinney SM (speaker), Biro FM, **Yaghjian L**, Calafat AM, et al. *Pilot Study of Serum Biomarkers of Polyfluoroalkyl Compounds in Young Girls*. 2008 Joint ISEE-ISEA Conference, October 12-16, 2008, Pasadena, CA. Oral presentation.

**Yaghjian L**, Pinney SM, Mahoney MC, Morton AR, et al. *Methods Study of Assessing Mammographic Breast Density*. 28th Annual Graduate Student Research Forum, College of Medicine, University of Cincinnati, November 15, 2007, Cincinnati, OH. Poster presentation.

Pinney SM, Killough GG., Nasuta J, **Yaghjian L**, et al. *Breast cancer incidence is related to uranium particulate exposure in a population living near a uranium refinery*. Emerging Topics in

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Breast Cancer and the Environment Research Fourth Annual Early Environmental Exposures Meeting, November 8 - 9, 2007, Cincinnati, OH. Poster presentation.

Pinney SM, Biro FM, **Yaghjian L**, Calafat AM, et al. *Pilot Study of Serum Biomarkers of Polyfluoroalkyl Compounds in Young Girls*. Emerging Topics in Breast Cancer and the Environment Research Fourth Annual Early Environmental Exposures Meeting, November 8 - 9, 2007, Cincinnati, OH. Poster presentation.

**Yaghjian L**, Pinney SM, Mahoney MC, Morton AR, et al. *Methods Study of Assessing Mammographic Breast Density*. Emerging Topics in Breast Cancer and the Environment Research Fourth Annual Early Environmental Exposures Meeting, November 8 - 9, 2007, Cincinnati, OH. Poster presentation.

Pinney S, **Yaghjian L**, Wones, R. *Uranium Exposure to a Community Population: Validation Using Urine Uranium With Isotopic Ratio*. 19th Conference International Society for Environmental Epidemiology (ISEE), September 5-9, 2007, Mexico City, Mexico. Poster presentation.

Pinney SM, Biro FM, **Yaghjian L**, Calafat AM, et al. *Pilot Study of Serum Biomarkers of Polyfluoroalkyl Compounds in Young Girls*. Future Research on Endocrine Disruption: Translation of Basic & Animal Research to Understand Human Disease, August 27-29, 2007 (NIEHS), Durham, North Carolina. Poster presentation.

**Yaghjian L**, Pinney SM, Brown KM, Ice AW. *Effectiveness and efficiency of recruitment strategies for a breast cancer registry*. 2006 AACR Annual Meeting, April 1-5, 2006, Washington, DC. Poster presentation.

**Yaghjian L**, Pinney SM, Brown KM, Ice AW. *Effectiveness and efficiency of recruitment strategies for a breast cancer registry*. Graduate Poster Forum, March 3, 2006, Cincinnati, OH. Poster presentation.

Pinney SM, **Yaghjian L**, et al. *Choice to Join a Breast Cancer Registry: Racial Differences*. Emerging Topics in Breast Cancer and the Environment Research, 2nd annual BCERC Symposium. November 9-11, 2005, Lansing, MI. Poster presentation.

Pinney SM, **Yaghjian L**, Brown MK, Ice AW. *Effectiveness and Efficiency of Recruitment Strategies for a Breast Cancer Registry*. Emerging Topics in Breast Cancer and the Environment Research, 2nd annual BCERC Symposium. November 9-11, 2005, Lansing, MI. Poster presentation.

**Yaghjian L**. (speaker) *Meat, Cooking Methods and Colorectal Cancer: A Case-Control Study in Armenia*. 2nd International Young Medics Conference, September 26-28, 2003, Yerevan, Armenia. Oral presentation.

## FELLOWSHIPS

2007                      University of Cincinnati Research Council Graduate Student Summer Research Fellowship

## HONORS AND AWARDS

- 2008-present     **AAAS membership award** through AAAS/Science Program for Excellence in Science
- 2008             **Best Poster Award, First Prize (co-author).** Different patterns of oxidative metabolism of MEHP to MEHHP, MEOHP and MECPP. Emerging Topics in Breast Cancer and the Environment Research Fifth Annual Early Environmental Exposures Meeting, November 13-14, 2008, Birmingham, AL
- 2004-2009       **University Graduate Assistantship**, University of Cincinnati
- 2004-2009       **Environmental Health Scholarship**, University of Cincinnati
- 2002-2003       **Merit Scholarship**, American University of Armenia
- 1991-1997       **Governmental Scholarship**, Yerevan State Medical University
- 1997             **Diploma with Honor (MD)**, Yerevan State Medical University

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2005             **Visiting Lecturer:** Research Seminar Series (MPH program), American University of Armenia, College of Health Sciences, Yerevan, Armenia  
(Summer)
- 2007 (Spring)   **Trainer:** Training for the Study Helpers with the Growing Up Female study, Cincinnati, OH
- 2007 (Spring, Fall)   **Teaching Assistant:** Cancer Epidemiology, Department of Environmental Health, University of Cincinnati College of Medicine, Cincinnati, OH
- 2011 (Fall)       **Teaching Assistant:** Introduction to Epidemiology (MPHS Program), Division of Public Health Sciences, Washington University in St. Louis School of Medicine

## EDITORIAL SERVICES (Peer Reviewer)

- 2009-present     Environmental Science and Technology
- 2011-present     International Journal of Women's Health
- 2012               World Cancer Research Fund International

## OTHER PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

### **Service:**

- 2013-present     Faculty Committee; Department of Epidemiology, College of Public Health and Health Professions, College of Medicine, University of Florida
- 2013-present     Curriculum Committee; Department of Epidemiology, College of Public Health and Health Professions, College of Medicine, University of Florida
- 2013-present     Admission Committee; Department of Epidemiology, College of Public Health

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and Health Professions, College of Medicine, University of Florida  
2009-2013 Coordinator, Division of Public Health Sciences' Journal Club, Washington University in St. Louis School of Medicine  
2012 Reviewer, Tissue Utilization Committee (TUC) for the Siteman Cancer Center (SCC), Washington University in St. Louis School of Medicine

***Professional Memberships:***

2004-2009 Breast Cancer and Environment Research Centers, Cincinnati  
2008-present American Association for the Advancement of Science AAAS/Science Magazine  
2004-present Armenian Medical Association  
1993-1997 Scientific Council of the Yerevan State Medical University  
1994-1998 Scientific Association of the Medical Students of Armenia

**RESEARCH FUNDING**

***Received support***

**Title:** Mammographic Breast Density Assessment: A Methods Study

**Agency:** University of Cincinnati Research Council (Graduate Student Summer Research Fellowship)

**Description:** This pilot study was designed to find the best way to characterize mammographic breast density for future epidemiologic studies.

**Role:** PI

***Pending support***

**Title:** Association between breast stem cell markers and breast density: potential pathway from high density to breast cancer.

**Agency:** US Department of Defense

**Role:** PI

**PROFESSIONAL REFERENCES**

**Graham A. Colditz, MD DrPH**

Niess-Gain Professor of Surgery, Professor of Medicine  
Chief, Division of Public Health Sciences, Department of Surgery  
Washington University School of Medicine  
Associate Director Prevention and Control, Alvin J. Siteman Cancer Center  
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Saint Louis, MO 63110  
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**Rulla M. Tamimi, ScD**

Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine, Harvard Medical School  
Assistant Professor, Department of Epidemiology, Harvard School of Public Health  
Associate Epidemiologist, Channing Laboratory, Brigham and Women's Hospital  
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**Susan Pinney, PhD**

Associate Professor, Department of Environmental Health  
University of Cincinnati College of Medicine  
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**Lauren Arnold, MPH, PhD**

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**Robert Bornschein, PhD**

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