

NIHARIKA JHA

Curriculum Vitae

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EDUCATION

PhD in Epidemiology | 2023–2026

The University of Memphis

Masters in public health (Global Health) | 2021–2023

University of Washington, Seattle

Bachelor of Public Health | 2017

Purbanchal University, National Academy for Medical Sciences, Kathmandu, Nepal

PROFESSIONAL / RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

School of Public Health, The University of Memphis, TN, USA

Graduate Research Assistant | September 2023–August 2026

- Involved in various public health initiatives such as PH-Changemakers and EMPOWER.
- Data analysis and report writing.
- Data interpretation and dissemination of research findings.
- Field coordination.
- Data collection and management.
- Manuscript writing and assisting in grant writing.
- Teaching.

Creative Solutions for Health, Kathmandu, Nepal

Project Manager | June 2022–August 2023

- Proposal writing for baseline studies, evaluation studies, and other projects.
- Project planning and tool development for different studies.
- Field coordination and data management.
- Data analysis and report writing.
- Presentations with stakeholders and funders.

University of Washington, Seattle, WA, USA

Research Assistant, CHV-NEO | July 2022–September 2022

- Coding of KIIs and FGDs conducted with MCH-related stakeholders in Kenya.
- Report writing.
- Assisted with presentations for conferences and other programs.

Dhulikhel Hospital, Kathmandu University Hospital

Coordinator, Contact Tracing of COVID-19 Cases | March 2020–August 2021

- Collection of COVID-19 positive case lists.
- Contacted cases and traced sources of infection and other contacts.

- Identified and contacted people exposed to COVID-19 positive cases.
- Report writing and submission to Dhulikhel Hospital and District Public Health Office.

Dhulikhel Hospital, Kathmandu University Hospital

Research Coordinator, Translational Research Capacity Building Initiative to Address Cardiovascular Diseases in Nepal (NHLBI funded) | January 2019–August 2021

- Writing proposals for the national-level needs assessment of cardiovascular diseases and other cardiovascular disease studies.
- Developed study protocols and tools for studies across health-system levels, from policy makers to health consumers.
- Conducted KIIs, IDIs, and FGDs for cardiovascular disease studies.
- Data collection and other research activities, including seminars and workshops.
- Transcription and translation of interviews.
- Coding, recoding, and ICR calculations of collected data.
- Data management and data analysis.
- Drafting manuscripts for the national-level needs assessment and related cardiovascular disease studies.
- Data interpretation and dissemination of research findings.

FHI 360, Nepal

Consultant, LINKAGES Nepal Project | August 21, 2020–September 10, 2020

- Collection of qualitative data from ART sites in seven provinces for the LTFU study.
- Transcription and translation of interviews.
- Coding of transcripts.
- Report writing.

Dhulikhel Hospital, Kathmandu University Hospital

Research Assistant, Various Qualitative Research Studies | 2017–2018

- Scheduled participants and survey appointments and facilitated survey sessions.
- Updated the network team on progress and follow-up data collected.
- Conducted focus group discussions and interviews.
- Transcriptions and translations.
- Supported researchers in review papers and data analysis.
- Supported data collection and communication.

IPAS Nepal, Kathmandu

District Consultant for Reproductive Health, Kavre District | 2017

- Coordinated with District Health Office and health centers.
- Coordinated with Female Community Health Volunteers (FCHVs).
- Visited 16 rural villages.
- Conducted reproductive health orientation programs with FCHVs.
- Coordinated with Marie Stopes in conducting family planning camps in Kavre District.

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

1. Joshi A, El-Metwally A, de Almeida Sampaio L, Sarria-Santamera A, Kastrup E, Kalediene R, Figueras J, Otok R, Amde W, Surenthirakumaran R, Reis R, Yotive W, Brown M, McGoldrick BB, **Jha N**, Tsai KH, Yu X, Levy M, Karimi M, et al. (2026). Advancing regional and international cooperation in public health diplomacy: summary of the methods and outcomes of the 2nd University of Memphis School of Public Health Diplomacy Summit (2026). *Frontiers in Public Health*, 14, 1923425. doi:10.3389/fpubh.2026.1923425.
2. Joshi A, Sharma N, **Jha N**, Cruz JP, Mukashev N, Nazarzoda K, Saliev S, Sharshenova AA, Sarria-Santamera A. (2026). Public Health Diplomacy in Central Asia: A Scoping Review. *Frontiers in Public Health*, 14, 1926850. doi:10.3389/fpubh.2026.1926850.
3. Joshi A, McGoldrick B, Mittal N, Roy S, Zeba Z, Ofori MA, Dockery S, **Jha N**, et al. (2026). Investigating the use of generative AI policies among ASPPH member schools and programs of public health. *Frontiers in Public Health*, 14, 1796810. doi:10.3389/fpubh.2026.1796810.
4. Joshi A, **Jha N**, Geron K, Jeu M, Granack L, Shular S, Kumar M, Kaur T, Guleria P, Kumar S, Calleja N, Ward L, Elmetwally A, Alwatban N, Bhatnagar M, Rosário R. (2026). Leading public health innovation in high schools across local and global settings. *Frontiers in Public Health*, 14, 1733013. doi:10.3389/fpubh.2026.1733013.
5. Joshi A, **Jha N**, Jeu M, Geron K, Ward L. (2026). Public Health Hackathon: empowering high school students as tomorrow's leaders and innovators in public health. *Frontiers in Public Health*, 14, 1745900. doi:10.3389/fpubh.2026.1745900.
6. Adhikari B, Neupane B, Rice J, **Jha N**, Dahal K, et al. (2026). Determinants of coexistence of undernutrition and anemia among children aged 6–59 months in Nepal: Evidence from the 2022 Nepal Demographic and Health Survey. *PLOS ONE*, 21(1), e0339985. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0339985.
7. Joshi A, Magana L, **Jha N**, Otok R, Kapologwe NA, Sampaio LA, Kastrup E, Amde W, Surenthirakumaran R, El-Mohandes A, Reis R, Kim SY, Kane C, Mackey TK, Yotive W, Barros H, Kalediene R, Figueras J, Brown MD. (2025). Health diplomacy training, pedagogical approaches, and skills assessment: a scoping review. *Frontiers in Public Health*, 13, 1729728. doi:10.3389/fpubh.2025.1729728.
8. Zeba Z, Lartey ST, Durneva P, Roy S, **Jha N**, Ofori MA, Mittal N, Dockery S, Scarboro NS, Taylor M, Joshi A. (2025). Best Practices for Data Modernization Across the United States Public Health System: Scoping Review. *Journal of Medical Internet Research*, 27, e70946. doi:10.2196/70946.
9. Roy S, Lartey ST, Durneva P, **Jha N**, Ofori MA, Zeba Z, Dockery S, Scarboro NS, Taylor M, Joshi A. (2025). Digital Health Technology Infrastructure Challenges to Support Health Equity in the United States: Scoping Review. *Journal of Medical Internet Research*, 27, e70856. doi:10.2196/70856.
10. Neupane B, Adhikari B, **Jha N**, Brooks I, Varga C. (2025). Spatial clustering and sociodemographic factors impacting obesity and hypertension in Nepal: Analysis of a national demographic and health survey, 2022. *Spatial and Spatio-temporal Epidemiology*, 54, 100743. doi:10.1016/j.sste.2025.100743.
11. Ofori MA, Bekalo DB, Mensah DK, et al. (2025). Modelling the risk factors associated with female genital mutilation among the under-five children in Ethiopia, a retrospective study. *Journal of Health, Population and Nutrition*, 44, 196. doi:10.1186/s41043-025-00962-8.
12. Ofori MA, Lartey S, Durneva P, **Jha N**, Mittal N, Roy S, Zeba Z, Chirwa S, Saulsberry-Scarboro N, Taylor M, Joshi A. (2025). Visual communication of public health data: a scoping review. *Frontiers in Digital Health*, 7, 1555231. doi:10.3389/fdgth.2025.1555231.
13. **Jha N**, Maharjan R, Bajracharya S, Shrestha S, Thapa B, et al. (2025). Contributing and mitigating factors of brain drain among healthcare workers from cardiac care facilities in Nepal: a qualitative case study. *PLOS Global Public Health*, 5(3), e0004260. doi:10.1371/journal.pgph.0004260.

14. Ofori MA, Bekalo DB, Mensah DK, **Jha N.** (2025). Female genital mutilation among children in Ethiopia: A time-to-event analysis of age at circumcision. *PLOS ONE*, 20(1), e0317966. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0317966.
15. Shrestha A, **Jha N.** (2022). Implementation Research in Nepal – A Scoping Review, 2015–2022. *Europasian Journal of Medical Sciences*, 4.
16. Shrestha R, Parajuli S, Aryal A, et al. (2021). Status of Health Financing on Cardiovascular Diseases in Nepal—Findings from a National Needs Assessment. *Kathmandu University Medical Journal*, 58–67.
17. Thapa B, Sharma S, Shrestha A, et al. (2021). Human Resources for Cardiovascular Disease Management in Nepal: A National Need Assessment. *Kathmandu University Medical Journal*, 19(75), 3–10.
18. Pradhan PM, Bhatt RD, Pandit R, et al. (2021). Needs Assessment of Leadership and Governance in Cardiovascular Health in Nepal. *Kathmandu University Medical Journal*, 19(75), 30–39.
19. Suwal PS, Prajapati D, Bajracharya S, et al. (2021). Assessment of Health Service Delivery to Address Cardiovascular Diseases in Nepal. *Kathmandu University Medical Journal*, 19(75), 40–50.
20. Karmacharya RM, Shrestha AP, Shrestha A, et al. (2021). National Needs Assessment of Health Information System to Address Cardiovascular Diseases in Nepal: A Mixed Method Study. *Kathmandu University Medical Journal*, 51–57.
21. Sapkota S, Shrestha S, Bista D, et al. (2021). Medical Products for Cardiovascular Disease Management in Nepal: a need assessment study. *Kathmandu University Medical Journal*, 18–29.
22. Shrestha A, Maharjan R, Karmacharya BM, et al. (2021). Health system gaps in cardiovascular disease prevention and management in Nepal. *BMC Health Services Research*, 21, 655. doi:10.1186/s12913-021-06681-0.
23. Bhattarai S, Aryal A, Pyakurel M, et al. (2020). Cardiovascular disease trends in Nepal—An analysis of Global Burden of Disease data 2017. *International Journal of Cardiology Heart & Vasculature*, 30, 100602. doi:10.1016/j.ijcha.2020.100602.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Oral Presentations

- **Jha N**, et al. (2026). Determinants of cognitive decline among early older adults aged 65–79: Evidence from NHATS. Oral presentation at the American Public Health Association (APHA) Annual Meeting & Expo.
- **Jha N**, et al. (2026). Models and frameworks for collaboration in community-based public health: A scoping review. Oral presentation at the American Public Health Association (APHA) Annual Meeting & Expo.
- **Jha N**, Zeba Z, Ofori MA, Roy S, Mittal N, McGoldrick BB, Dockery S, Saulsberry-Scarboro N, Taylor M, Joshi A. (2025). The role of health diplomacy in global health crises, conflicts and peace-making: A scoping review. Oral presentation at the American Public Health Association (APHA) Annual Meeting & Expo.
- Lartey ST, Fu X, Ofori MA, **Jha N**, Saulsberry-Scarboro N, Taylor M, Joshi A. (2024). Feasibility study of emotional literacy, trauma-informed care, and collective well-being intervention (ELiT-C Intervention). Oral presentation at the American Public Health Association (APHA) Annual Meeting & Expo, Minneapolis, MN. Presenter: **Niharika Jha**.

Poster Presentations

- **Jha N**, et al. (2026). Evaluation frameworks for assessing public health interventions: A scoping review. Poster presentation.

- **Jha N**, et al. (2026). Cognitive trajectories in early older adults: A group-based analysis using NHATS data. Poster presentation.
- **Jha N**, Adhikari B, Neupane B, Geron K, Jeu M, Ward L, Joshi A. (2025). Trend and association of suicidal ideation/attempt with social media use and sleep patterns among USA adolescents. Poster presentation at the American Public Health Association (APHA) Annual Meeting & Expo, Washington, DC.

RESEARCH & ANALYTICAL SKILLS

Quantitative Analysis: R, SAS, SPSS, STATA, EPI Data

Qualitative Analysis: Dedoose, NVivo

Data Collection & Management: KoboToolbox, REDCap

Reference Management: Mendeley, Paperpile, Zotero

Productivity: Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint

Communication: Presentation skills and techniques

AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS

- Public Health Informatics and Technology (PHIT) fellowship, California State University, 2026
- Academic Equity Fellowship, University of Memphis, 2024
- Doctoral scholarship, University of Memphis, 2023
- Cardiometabolic Research Training Fellowship, University of Washington, 2021
- Academic Excellence Award, National Academy for Medical Sciences, Purbanchal University, 2017
- Academic Scholarship, National Academy for Medical Sciences, Purbanchal University, 2012 to 2017

LANGUAGES

English (Very Good), Nepali (Excellent), Maithili (Excellent), Hindi (Excellent), Bhojpuri (Basic)

SELECTED TRAINING & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Public Health Informatics and Technology (PHIT)
- Systemic Review and Meta-analysis, three months training, 2021
- Training on Grant Proposal Writing conducted by NHRC, DH-KUH, Nepal and NHLBI, USA (18 CPD credit points), 2020
- Introduction to Epidemiology for Global Health, University of Washington
- Leadership and Management in Health, University of Washington
- Training on Infection Prevention and Control, WHO and University of Washington, 10 April 2020
- Fundamentals of Implementation Science by University of Washington, 7.5 CEUs, December 2019
- The Data Scientist's Toolbox, Johns Hopkins University
- Summary Statistics in Public Health, Johns Hopkins University

- Epidemiology for Public Health, a 3-course specialization by Imperial College London on Coursera. Specialization Certificate earned on September 24, 2019
- Researchers, Human research, Public Health Research, Grant proposal writing courses by CITI programs, August 2019
- Online training on NCD and CHW – 4 country study hosted by Webex Institute of Tropical Medicine
- Writing in sciences by Stanford University on Coursera, May 2019