

Denish Moorthy

EDUCATION

The Gerald J. & Dorothy R. Friedman School of Nutrition Science & Policy, Tufts University, Boston
Masters of Science, Food Policy & Applied Nutrition - 2006

Mysore Medical College, K.R. and Cheluvamba Hospitals, Mysore University, Mysore, India
Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery, M.B.B.S. - 1998

EXPERIENCE

Jean Mayer USDA Human Nutrition Research Center on Aging, Tufts University
Post Doctoral Research Associate, January 2008– present

Currently engaged in an independent study of identification of nutrition-responsive (specifically folate and vitamin B12) genetic-risk factors for age-related cognitive dysfunction: work includes genotyping in the lab, data analysis, research report writing. Other activities include grant writing, literature review and presentation, coordination with research partners.

Positive Deviance Initiative, Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy, Tufts University
Research Assistant, December 2004 – December 2007; Teaching Assistant, January – May 2006; January – May 2007

Responsibilities included documentation of grant activities, and grant report writing, coordination with network partners and update and maintenance of the Positive Deviance website (both content and design). Planned class teaching sessions, participated in student class projects, and assisted in final grading

Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy, Tufts University
Teaching Assistant for Nutrition 211 – Nutrition Data Analysis, September 2006 – December 2006

Provided guidance to students through in-class data analysis exercises, answering questions on the mechanics of data analysis and conducting formal and informal review classes on SPSS and SAS. Reviewed and graded weekly homework assignments and assisted students with bivariate and multivariate analysis as part of the final course assignment.

“Child Nutrition in Israel & Palestine – Seeking Joint Initiatives” Conference (A joint collaboration of Tufts University, Al Quds University, and Ben-Gurion University), Beersheva, Israel. This was an effort to promote collaboration between academics from Israel and Palestine, as well as their Departments of Public Health.
Research Assistant, October 2004 - February 2005

Coordinated the conference with partners in Israel and Palestine, Collected and compiled background literature on micronutrient deficiency in Israel & Palestine for the conference; Member of the Working Group on Micronutrients and Working Group on Communication for Behavior Change; Presented on the application of real world applications of “Positive Deviance”

Iron Deficiency Project Advisory Services (IDPAS), Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy, Tufts University
Research Assistant, October 2004 – February 2005

Conducted a complete and ongoing update of the IDPAS database on iron deficiency, including a weekly cycle of literature searches, creation of endnote libraries, HTML coding and online synchronization. Other tasks included answering queries related to iron and iron deficiency and conducting special search requests; Responsible for background literature search, collection and compilation of country activities, and contributed to a final report as part of the team that created the “2004 Global Report on Activities Related to Iron” for the 2005 UN Standing Committee on Nutrition’s Working Group on Micronutrients

Indian Coalition for Control of Iodine Deficiency Disorders, Centre for Community Medicine, All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi, India

Consultant, July 2000 – August 2004

Headed the team that conducted cross-sectional assessments on “Tracking Progress Towards Sustainable Elimination of Iodine Deficiency Disorders in Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Rajasthan, Bihar, Orissa and Goa, India.” Intimately involved in all steps of the process, from planning and design to logistics, coordination and training and implementation. Conducted extensive data and laboratory analysis as well as report writing and advocacy; Gave numerous presentations advocating elimination of iodine deficiency disorders at the central and state (provincial) policy level in India. Audiences included policy makers at the national and provincial levels of government, as well as bureaucrats and civil service officers, public health officials and international agencies involved in public health in India, and the general public; WHO-AIIMS-ICCIDD Inter-country workshop in iodine monitoring, laboratory techniques and National IDD Elimination programs: Designed the agenda and all training protocols, and conducted hands-on demonstrations and training in laboratory and field epidemiology methods. Conducted team-based annual workshops for training laboratory technicians on public health and biochemical aspects of assessing iodine deficiency.

Department of Endocrinology & Metabolism, All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi, India
Research Assistant, September 1999 - July 2000

Conducted a laboratory based cross-sectional study to assess the changes in iodine metabolism as a result of universal salt iodization: the tasks involved volunteer recruitment, general physical and thyroid work-up, blood and urine specimen collection, biochemical analysis, data entry, data cleaning, data analysis, scientific paper and report writing and publication; Analyzed data from a randomized trial to test the efficacy of Tibetan medicine as an adjunct to diet and lifestyle changes, in control of type 2 diabetes mellitus.

RESEARCH

Selected Papers

1. Berg A, Levinson J, **Moorthy D**. **Reflections from the Front Lines: Swimming Upstream with Optimism**. A survey of the international nutrition community. *SCN News*. Mid-2008 (36):44-50. [[Link](#)]
2. **Moorthy D**, Patro BK, Das BC, Sankar R, Karmakar MG, Pandav CS. **Tracking progress towards sustainable elimination of iodine deficiency disorders in Orissa**. *Indian J Public Health*. 2007 Oct-Dec;51(4):211-5.
3. **Moorthy D**, Cappellano KL, Rosenberg IH. **Nutrition and Crohn's disease: an update of print and Web-based guidance**. *Nutr Rev*. 2008 Jul;66(7):387-97. [[Link](#)]
4. Sankar R, **Moorthy D**, Pandav CS, Tiwari JS, Karmakar MG. **Tracking progress towards sustainable elimination of iodine deficiency disorders in Bihar**. *Indian J Pediatr* 2006; 73(9):799-802. [[Link](#)]
5. **Moorthy D**. Commentary on K. D. Renuka R. Silva and D. Lalani L. Munasinghe. **Urinary iodine concentration of pregnant women and female adolescents as an indicator of excessive iodine intake in Sri Lanka**. *Food and Nutrition Bulletin*, 2006, 27 (1): 12-18. [[Link](#)]
6. Anand K, Baridalyne N, **Moorthy D**, Kapoor SK, Sankar R, Pandav CS. **Ethical issues in public health policy**. *Natl Med J India* 2002; 15(2): 97-100.

Selected Books and Technical reports

1. Sood A, Moorthy D. “The Effects of Salt Iodination on Normal Thyroid Physiology and Graves Disease in India.” In *Comprehensive Handbook of Iodine* (Eds: Victor R. Preedy, Gerard Burrow, and Ronald Watson). Elsevier, San Deigo, 2009
2. Contributing Author: **Towards the Global elimination of Brain Damage Due to Iodine Deficiency** (Eds: Hetzel BS, Delange F, Dunn J, Ling J, Mannar V, Pandav CS), Oxford University Press, New Delhi, 2004
3. Co-Author: **National Iodine Deficiency Disorders Control Program (NIDDCP)**, Technical Report Series, National Institute of Health and Family Welfare, New Delhi, 2003
4. Technical Report: **Tracking progress towards sustaining elimination of iodine deficiency disorders in Kerala, India**. ICCIDD/Government Medical Colleges of Kerala, Centre for Community Medicine, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, UNICEF, India, November 2001

SOFTWARE APPLICATIONS

Statistical: Proficient in the use of SPSS, SAS, Epiinfo, ANTHRO, Bioinformatic tools (QUANTO, R, HAPMAP, SNPbrowser)

Word Processing: Proficient in the use of Microsoft Office Suite

Miscellaneous: Graphical software (Adobe Suite – Photoshop, Premiere, Dreamweaver, Hometown), Blackboard, Endnote,

AWARDS AND HONORS

1. The Gerald J. Friedman Fellows in Nutrition and Citizenship, Gerald J. and Dorothy R. Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy, Boston, 2005
2. The First Professor Vulimiri Ramalingaswami Fellow for Research on Iodine, Vulimiri Ramalingaswami Foundation, New Delhi, October 2003
3. Best research paper for the presentation on “Tracking Progress towards Sustainable Elimination of Iodine Deficiency Disorders in Tamil Nadu”, presented at the XIV Annual Conference of the Indian Clinical Epidemiology Network (IndiaCLEN), held at Lucknow, 23rd – 26th September 2003.
4. I have had the honor of being felicitated by His Holiness the Dalai Lama for my contribution to the study on the efficacy of Tibetan medicine as an adjunctive treatment of Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus, 5th December 2000.