

Lilah M. Besser, PhD, MSPH

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EDUCATION	<i>Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)</i> 2017 City and Regional Planning University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC Dissertation: Neighborhood Built Environment Characteristics and Cognition in Non-demented Older Adults
	<i>Master of Science in Public Health (MSPH)</i> 2004 Dual: Epidemiology; Environmental and Occupational Health Emory University, Atlanta, GA Thesis: Commute Time and Social Capital
	<i>Bachelor of Science (BS)</i> 1998 Major: Biology; Minor: Chemistry Oglethorpe University, Atlanta, GA <i>Cum laude</i>
ACADEMIC POSITION	<i>Assistant Professor</i> 2018-present Department of Urban and Regional Planning Institute for Human Health and Disease Intervention (I-HEALTH) Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton, FL
PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE	<i>Senior Research Scientist</i> 2011-2018 National Alzheimer's Coordinating Center Department of Epidemiology University of Washington, Seattle, WA
	<i>Research Health Science Specialist</i> 2009-2010 Veteran's Administration (VA) Puget Sound, Seattle, WA
	<i>Teaching Assistant ("Advanced Planning Methods"/statistics)</i> 2008-2009 Department of City and Regional Planning University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, NC
	<i>Graduate Research Assistant</i> 2009 Center for Community Capital University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, NC
	<i>Epidemiologist</i> 2004-2007 National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Atlanta, GA
	<i>Epidemiologist</i> 2004-2005 National Center for Environmental Health Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Atlanta, GA

Public Health Data Analyst 2003-2004
Division of Oral Health
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Atlanta, GA

Research Laboratory Technician 2001-2002
Respiratory Diseases Branch
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Atlanta, GA

AREAS OF INTEREST

- Community environments, urban planning, and brain health
- Alzheimer's disease and associated disorders prevention and public health
- Built and social environments including greenspaces and racial/ethnic segregation
- Health disparities and health equity
- Diversity, equity, and inclusion of faculty/staff, students, curricula, research, and outreach

PUBLICATIONS

Refereed Journal Articles

(As of 3/21/2021: 53 articles, h-index: 24, i-10 index: 35, citations: 3,425)

1. Besser L.M., Mitsova D., 2021. Associations between neighborhood green land cover and neighborhood-based walking among US older adults. *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*. *In Press*.
2. Besser, L.M., Lovasi, G.S., Michael, Y., Garg, P., Hirsch, J.A., Siscovick, D., Hurvitz, P., Biggs, M.L., Galvin, J.E., Bartz, T.M., Longstreth, W.T., 2021. Associations between neighborhood greenspace and brain imaging measures in non-demented older adults: The Cardiovascular Health Study. *Social Psychiatry and Psychiatric Epidemiology*. 2021 Jan 3. doi: 10.1007/s00127-020-02000-w. Online ahead of print.
3. Scholz, S., Chia, R., et al. including Besser, L.M. (>50 authors, full author list: <https://www.biorxiv.org/content/10.1101/2020.07.06.185066v1>), 2021. Genome sequencing analysis identifies new loci associated with Lewy body dementia and provides insights into the complex genetic architecture. *Nature and Genetics*. 2021 Mar;53(3):294-303. doi: 10.1038/s41588-021-00785-3. Epub 2021 Feb 15.
4. Dewan, R., Chia, R., et al including Besser, L.M. (>50 authors, full author list: https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0896627320308837?dgcid=rss_sd_all. *Besser, L.M. is consortium author*), 2021. Pathogenic Huntingtin Repeat Expansions in Patients with Frontotemporal Dementia and Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis. *Neuron*. 2021 Feb 3;109(3):448-460.e4. doi: 10.1016/j.neuron.2020.11.005. Epub 2020 Nov 26.
5. Besser, L.M., Chang, L-C., Kluttz, J., 2020. Individual and neighborhood characteristics associated with neighborhood walking among US older adults. *Preventive Medicine Reports*. 21:101291. doi: 10.1016/j.pmedr.2020.101291
6. Besser, L.M., Hirsch, J., Galvin, J.E., Renne, J., Park, J., Evenson, K.R., Kaufman, J.D., Fitzpatrick, A.L., 2020. Associations between neighborhood park space and cognition in older adults vary by US location: The Multi-Ethnic Study of Atherosclerosis. *Health Place*. 2020 Oct 10;66:102459.

7. Besser, L., 2020. Book Review: Urban public health: A research toolkit for practice and impact. *Cities & Health*. Published online: 06 Oct 2020. <https://doi.org/10.1080/23748834.2020.1827868>
8. Besser, L.M., Brenowitz, W.D., Park, J., Tolea, M.I., Galvin, J.E., 2020. Intention to Screen for Alzheimer's Disease by Residential Locale. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health* 17, 2261; doi:10.3390/ijerph17072261.
9. Brenowitz, W., Besser, L., Kukull, W., Keene, D., Glymour, M., Yaffe, K., 2020. Clinician judged hearing impairment and associations with neuropathologic burden. *Neurology* 10.1212/WNL.0000000000010575. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1212/WNL.0000000000010575>.
10. Geffen, T., Teylan, M., Besser, L., Pollner, E., Moshkovich, A., Weintraub, S., 2020. Measurement and characterization of distinctive clinical phenotypes using the Frontotemporal Lobar Degeneration Module (FTLD-MOD). *Alzheimer's & Dementia: the Journal of the Alzheimer's Association* 16:918–925.
11. Park, J., Tolea, M., Besser, L., Galvin, J., 2020. Intention to Be Screened for Alzheimer's Disease in Nondemented Older Adults: Integrative Behavioral Model. *Journal of Human Behavior in the Social Environment*. DOI: [10.1080/10911359.2020.1752349](https://doi.org/10.1080/10911359.2020.1752349).
12. Mock, C., Teylan, M., Beecham, G., Besser, L., Cairns, N., Crary, J., Nelson, P., Kukull, W., 2020. The utility of the National Alzheimer's Coordinating Center's databases for the rapid assessment of evolving neuropathologic conditions. *Alzheimer Disease and Associated Disorders* 34(2):105-111.
13. Besser, L.M., Teylan, M.A., Nelson, P.T., 2020. Limbic predominant age-related TDP-43 encephalopathy (LATE): Clinical and neuropathological associations. *Journal of Neuropathology and Experimental Neurology* Mar 1;79(3):305-313.
14. Teylan, M., Mock, C. Gauthreaux, K., Chen, Y.C., Chan, K.C.G., Hassenstab, J., Besser, L.M., Kukull, W.A., Crary, J.F., 2020. Cognitive trajectory in mild cognitive impairment due to primary age-related tauopathy. *Brain*. Feb 1;143(2):611-621.
15. Quintas-Neves, M., Teylan, M.A., Besser, L.M., Soares-Fernandes, J., Mock, C., Kukull, W.A., Crary, J.F., Oliveira, T.G., 2019. Magnetic resonance imaging brain atrophy assessment in primary age-related tauopathy (PART). *Acta Neuropathologica Communications* Dec 9;7(1):204.
16. Besser, L.M., Galvin J.E., Rodriguez R., Seeman T., Kukull W., Rapp S.R., Smith J., 2019. Associations between neighborhood built environment and cognition vary by apolipoprotein E genotype: Multi-Ethnic Study of Atherosclerosis. *Health & Place* Nov;60:102188.
17. Besser L.M., Galvin J.E., 2019. The diagnostic experience reported by caregivers of patients with frontotemporal degeneration. *Neurology Clinical Practice*. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1212/CPJ.0000000000000738>
18. Besser L.M., Mock C., Teylan M.A., Hassenstab J., Kukull W.A., Crary J.F., 2019. Differences in cognitive impairment in primary age-related tauopathy versus Alzheimer's disease. *Journal of Neuropathology and Experimental Neurology* Mar 1;78(3):219-228.

19. Teylan M., Besser L., Crary J.F., Mock C., Gauthreaux K., Barlow N., Chen Y-C., Kukull W., 2019. Clinical diagnoses among individuals with primary age-related tauopathy versus Alzheimer's neuropathology. *Laboratory Investigations* Jul;99(7):1049-1055.
20. Han J-Y., Besser L.M., Xiong C., Kukull W.A., Morris J.C., 2019. Cholinesterase inhibitors may not benefit mild cognitive impairment and mild Alzheimer disease dementia. *Alzheimer Disease and Associated Disorders* Apr-Jun;33(2):87-94.
21. Sugarman M.A., McKee A.C., Stein T.D., Yorghos Tripodis Y., Besser L.M., Martin B., Palmisano J.N., Steinberg E.G., O'Connor M.K., Rhoda Au R., McClean M., Killiany R., Mez J., Weiner M.W., Kowall N.W., Stern R.A., Alosco M.L., 2019. Failure to Detect an Association Between Self-Reported Traumatic Brain Injury and Alzheimer's Disease Neuropathology and Dementia. *Alzheimers & Dementia* May;15(5):686-698.
22. Besser L., Kukull W., Knopman D.S., Chui H., Galasko D., Weintraub S., Jicha G., Carlsson C., Burns J., Quinn J., Sweet R.A., Rascovsky K., Teylan M., Beekly D., Thomas G., Bollenbeck M., Monsell S., Mock C., Zhou X.H., Thomas N., Robichaud E., Dean M., Hubbard J., Jacka M., Schwabe-Fry K., Wu J., Phelps C., Morris J.C.; Neuropsychology Work Group, Directors, and Clinical Core leaders of the National Institute on Aging-funded US Alzheimer's Disease Centers, 2018. Version 3 of the National Alzheimer's Coordinating Center's Uniform Data Set. *Alzheimer Disease and Associated Disorders*. Oct-Dec;32(4):351-358.
23. Besser L.M., Galvin JE, 2018. Perceived burden among caregivers of patients with frontotemporal degeneration in the United States. *International Psychogeriatrics*. Nov 6:1-11.
24. Lee S., Zhou X., Gao Y., Vardarajan B., Reyes-Dumeyer D., Rajan K.B., Wilson R.S., Evans D.A., Besser L.M., Kukull W.A., Bennett D.A., Brickman A.M., Schupf N., Mayeux R., Barral S. Episodic memory performance in a multi-ethnic longitudinal study of 13,037 elderly, 2018. *PLoS One*. Nov 21;13(11):e0206803.
25. Besser L.M., Kukull W.A., Teylan M.A., Bigio E.H., Cairns N.J., Kofler J.K., Montine T.J., Schneider J.A., Nelson P.T., 2018. The revised National Alzheimer's Coordinating Center's neuropathology form-available data and new analyses. *Journal of Neuropathology and Experimental Neurology* 77(8):717-726.
26. Alosco M.L., Sugarman M.A., Besser L.M., Tripodis Y., Martin B., Palmisano J.N., Kowall N.W., Au R., Mez J., DeCarli C., Stein T.D., McKee A.C., Killiany R.J., Stern R.A., 2018. A clinicopathological investigation of white matter hyperintensities and Alzheimer's disease neuropathology. *Journal of Alzheimers Disease*. 63(4):1347-1360.
27. Besser, L.M., Rodriguez, D.A., McDonald, N., Kukull, W., Fitzpatrick, A., Rapp, S., Seeman, T., 2018. Neighborhood built environment and cognition in non-demented older adults: The Multi-Ethnic Study of Atherosclerosis. *Social Science & Medicine* 200:27-35.
28. Besser, L., Crary, J., Mock, C., Kukull, W., 2017. Comparison of symptomatic and asymptomatic persons with primary age-related tauopathy. *Neurology* 89(16):1707-1715.
29. Moulder, K., Besser, L., Beekly, D., Blennow, K., Kukull, W., Morris, J., 2017. Factors influencing successful lumbar puncture in Alzheimer research. *Alzheimer Disease and Associated Disorders* 31(4):287-294.

30. Weintraub, S., Besser, L., Dodge, H., Teylan, M., Ferris, S., Goldstein, F., Giordani, B., Kramer, J., Loewenstein, D., Marson, D., Mungas D., Salmon, D., Welsh-Bohmer, K., Zhou, X-H., Shirk, S., Atri, A., Kukull, W., Silverberg, N., Phelps, C., Morris, J., 2017. Version 3 of the Alzheimer's Disease Centers' neuropsychological test battery in the Uniform Data Set (UDS). *Alzheimer Disease and Associated Disorders* 32(1):10-17.
31. Besser, L.M., McDonald, N.C., Song, Y., Kukull, W.A., Rodriguez, D.A., 2017. Neighborhood environment and cognition in older adults: A systematic review. *American Journal of Preventive Medicine* 53(2), 241-251.
32. Alosco, M.L., Duskin, J., Besser, L.M., Martin, B., Chaisson, C.E., Gunstad, J., Kowall, N.W., McKee, A.C., Stern, R.A., Tripodis, Y., 2017. Modeling the relationships among late-life body mass index, cerebrovascular disease, and Alzheimer's disease neuropathology in an autopsy sample of 1,421 subjects from the National Alzheimer's Coordinating Center data set. *Journal of Alzheimers Disease* 57(3), 953-968.
33. Desikan, R.S., Fan, C.C., Wang, Y., Schork, A.J., Cabral, H.J., Cupples, L.A., Thompson, W.K., Besser, L., Kukull, W.A., Holland, D., Chen, C.H., Brewer, J.B., Karow, D.S., Kauppi, K., Witoelar, A., Karch, C.M., Bonham, L.W., Yokoyama, J.S., Rosen, H.J., Miller, B.L., Dillon, W.P., Wilson, D.M., Hess, C.P., Pericak-Vance, M., Haines, J.L., Farrer, L.A., Mayeux, R., Hardy, J., Goate, A.M., Hyman, B.T., Schellenberg, G.D., McEvoy, L.K., Andreassen, O.A., Dale, A.M., 2017. Genetic assessment of age-associated Alzheimer disease risk: Development and validation of a polygenic hazard score. *PLoS Medicine* 14(3), e1002258.
34. Tan, C.H., Hyman, B.T., Tan, J., Hess, C.P., Dillon, W.P., Schellenberg, G.D., Besser, L.M., Kukull, W.A., Kauppi, K., McEvoy, L.K., Andreassen, O.A., Dale, A.M., Fan, C.C., Desikan, R.S., 2017. Polygenic hazard scores in preclinical Alzheimer disease. *Annals of Neurology* 82(3), 484-488.
35. Besser, L.M., Alosco, M.L., Ramirez Gomez, L., Zhou, X.H., McKee, A.C., Stern, R.A., Gunstad, J., Schneider, J.A., Chui, H., Kukull, W.A., 2016. Late-life vascular risk factors and Alzheimer disease neuropathology in individuals with normal cognition. *Journal of Neuropathology and Experimental Neurology* 75(10), 955-962.
36. Besser, L.M., Litvan, I., Monsell, S.E., Mock, C., Weintraub, S., Zhou, X.H., Kukull, W., 2016. Mild cognitive impairment in Parkinson's disease versus Alzheimer's disease. *Parkinsonism and Related Disorders* 27, 54-60.
37. Graff-Radford, N.R., Besser, L.M., Crook, J.E., Kukull, W.A., Dickson, D.W., 2016. Neuropathologic differences by race from the National Alzheimer's Coordinating Center. *Alzheimers Dementia* 12(6), 669-677.
38. Monsell, S.E., Dodge, H.H., Zhou, X.H., Bu, Y., Besser, L.M., Mock, C., Hawes, S.E., Kukull, W.A., Weintraub, S., 2016. Results from the NACC Uniform Data Set neuropsychological battery crosswalk study. *Alzheimer Disease and Associated Disorders* 30(2), 134-139.
39. Bonham, L.W., Geier, E.G., Fan, C.C., Leong, J.K., Besser, L., Kukull, W.A., Kornak, J., Andreassen, O.A., Schellenberg, G.D., Rosen, H.J., Dillon, W.P., Hess, C.P., Miller, B.L., Dale, A.M., Desikan, R.S., Yokoyama, J.S., 2016. Age-dependent effects of APOE ϵ 4 in preclinical Alzheimer's disease. *Annals of Clinical and Translational Neurology* 3(9), 668-677.

40. Brenowitz, W.D., Nelson, P.T., Besser, L.M., Heller, K.B., Kukull, W.A., 2015. Cerebral amyloid angiopathy and its co-occurrence with Alzheimer's disease and other cerebrovascular neuropathologic changes. *Neurobiology of Aging* 36(10), 2702-2708.
41. Besser, L.M., Gill, D.P., Monsell, S.E., Brenowitz, W., Meranus, D.H., Kukull, W., Gustafson, D.R., 2014. Body mass index, weight change, and clinical progression in mild cognitive impairment and Alzheimer disease. *Alzheimer Disease and Associated Disorders* 28(1), 36-43.
42. Monsell, S.E., Besser, L.M., Heller, K.B., Checkoway, H., Litvan, I., Kukull, W.A., 2014. Clinical and pathologic presentation in Parkinson's disease by apolipoprotein e4 allele status. *Parkinsonism and Related Disorders* 20(5), 503-507.
43. Qiu, W.Q., Mwamburi, M., Besser, L.M., Zhu, H., Li, H., Wallack, M., Phillips, L., Qiao, L., Budson, A.E., Stern, R., Kowall, N., 2013. Angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitors and the reduced risk of Alzheimer's disease in the absence of apolipoprotein E4 allele. *Journal of Alzheimers Disease* 37(2), 421-428.
44. Fan, V.S., Bridevaux, P.O., McDonnell, M.B., Fihn, S.D., Besser, L.M., Au, D.H., 2011. Regional variation in health status among chronic obstructive pulmonary disease patients. *Respiration* 81(1), 9-17.
45. Shin, M., Besser, L.M., Siffel, C., Kucik, J.E., Shaw, G.M., Lu, C., Correa, A. 2010. Prevalence of spina bifida among children and adolescents in 10 regions in the United States. *Pediatrics* 126(2), 274-279.
46. Shin, M., Besser, L.M., Kucik, J.E., Lu, C., Siffel, C., Correa, A. 2009. Prevalence of Down syndrome among children and adolescents in 10 regions of the United States. *Pediatrics* 124(6), 1565-1571.
47. Besser, L.M., Marcus, M., Frumkin, H., 2008. Commute time and social capital in the U.S. *American Journal of Preventive Medicine* 34(3), 207-211.
48. Correa, A., Gilboa, S.M., Besser, L.M., Botto, L.D., Moore, C.A., Hobbs, C.A., Cleves, M.A., Riehle-Colarusso, T.J., Waller, D.K., Reece, E.A., 2008. Diabetes mellitus and birth defects. *American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology* 199(3), 237.e231-239.
49. Shin, M., Besser, L.M., Correa, A., 2008. Prevalence of spina bifida among children and adolescents in metropolitan Atlanta. *Birth Defects Research Part A Clinical and Molecular Teratology* 82(11), 748-754.
50. Besser, L.M., Shin, M., Kucik, J.E., Correa, A., 2007. Prevalence of Down syndrome among children and adolescents in metropolitan Atlanta. *Birth Defects Research Part A Clinical and Molecular Teratology* 79(11), 765-774.
51. Besser, L.M., Williams, L.J., Cragan, J.D., 2007. Interpreting changes in the epidemiology of anencephaly and spina bifida following folic acid fortification of the U.S. grain supply in the setting of long-term trends, Atlanta, Georgia, 1968-2003. *Birth Defects Research Part A Clinical and Molecular Teratology* 79(11), 730-736.
52. Besser, L.M., Dannenberg, A.L., 2005. Walking to public transit: Steps to help meet physical activity recommendations. *American Journal of Preventive Medicine* 29(4), 273-280.

53. Quinn, C.P., Semenova, V.A., Elie, C.M., Romero-Steiner, S., Greene, C., Li, H., Stamey, K., Steward-Clark, E., Schmidt, D.S., Mothershed, E., Pruckler, J., Schwartz, S., Benson, R.F., Helsel, L.O., Holder, P.F., Johnson, S.E., Kellum, M., Messmer, T., Thacker, W.L., Besser, L., Plikaytis, B.D., Taylor, T.H. Jr., Freeman, A.E., Wallace, K.J., Dull, P., Sejvar, J., Bruce, E., Moreno, R., Schuchat, A., Lingappa, J.R., Martin, S.K., Walls, J., Bronsdon, M., Carlone, G.M., Bajani-Ari, M., Ashford, D.A., Stephens, D.S., Perkins, B.A., 2002. Specific, sensitive, and quantitative enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay for human immunoglobulin G antibodies to anthrax toxin protective antigen. *Emerging Infectious Diseases* 8(10):1103-10.

Submitted Refereed Articles

1. Besser, L.M. Green space exposure and brain health over the life course: A rapid review. *BMJ Open*. (revise and resubmit)
2. Besser, L.M., Chang, L., Evenson, K.R., Hirsch, J., Michael, Y., Galvin, J.E., Rapp, S.R., Fitzpatrick, A.L., Heckbert, S.R., Ding, J., Kaufman, J.D., Hughes, T.M. Associations between neighborhood park access and longitudinal change in cognition in older adults: The Multi-Ethnic Study of Atherosclerosis. *Journal of Alzheimer's Disease*. (revise and resubmit)
3. Besser, L., Chang, L., Hirsch, J., Rodriguez, D.A., Renne, J., Rapp, S., Fitzpatrick, A., Heckbert, S., Kaufman, J., Hughes, T. Longitudinal associations between the neighborhood built environment and cognition in older adults: The Multi-Ethnic Study of Atherosclerosis. (submitted)

Manuscripts in Progress

(** Involves FAU student)

1. Meyer, O.L., Besser, L., Booker, M., DeCarli, C., Farias, S.T., Luu, E., Mitsova, D., Mungas, D., Tobias, M., Whitmer, R. Neighborhood Racial Segregation and Cognition in Older Adults.
2. Besser, L., Meyer, O., Tran, D., Booker, M., Mitsova, D., Peterson, R., Bateman, J.R., Hayden, K., Hughes, T. Neighborhood racial/ethnic segregation and cognition: The Multi-Ethnic Study of Atherosclerosis (MESA).
3. Godina, S.L., Rosso, A.L., Lovasi, G.S., Besser, L.M., Hirsch, J.A., Platt, J., Fitzpatrick, A.L., Michael, Y.L. Neighborhood Greenspace and Cognition: The Cardiovascular Health Study.
4. Besser, L., Lovasi, G., Michael, Y., Garg, P., Hirsch, J., Siscovick, D., Hurvitz, P., Biggs, M.L., Galvin, J.E., Bartz, T., Longstreth, W. Associations between longitudinal change in neighborhood greenspace and MRI outcomes: The Cardiovascular Health Study.
5. Besser, L., Park, J., Hajat, A., Brenowitz, W., Chang, L., Hughes, T. Outdoor physical activity and longitudinal changes in stress and cognition: The Multi-Ethnic Study of Atherosclerosis.
6. Besser, L.M., Brenowitz, W., Meyer, O.L. Methods to address self-selection and reverse causation in studies of neighborhood environments and brain health.
7. Warner, S.** , Besser, L.M. Urban design perspective on the influence of built environments on brain health: A scoping review.

8. Besser, L.,M., Galvin, J.E. Differences by residential locale in associations between caregiver self-efficacy and social networks and psychosocial outcomes.

GRANT FUNDING - External

Funded

- National Institutes of Health/National Institute on Aging - K01 AG063895, “Longitudinal associations between neighborhood greenspace and brain aging in cognitively normal older adults”, (Role: PI, 75% FTE), 5/15/2020-5/14/2025; Total Direct: \$585,250

Pending (fundable score)

- National Institutes of Health/National Institute on Aging - R01, “Contribution of Longitudinal Neighborhood Determinants to Cognitive Health and Dementia Disparities within a Multi-Ethnic Cohort”, (Role: consultant for years 4 and 5), 4/2021-3/2026, Total Direct: \$4,533,788

Pending (submitted)

- National Institutes of Health/National Institute on Aging – R21, “Objectively measured neighborhood greenness in midlife and late life cognitive and brain imaging outcomes for Alzheimer’s disease: The Multi-Ethnic Study of Atherosclerosis”, (Role: PI; 15% FTE), 12/1/2021-11/30/2023, Total Direct: \$259,792
- Alzheimer’s Association Research Grant, “Neighborhood segregation and longitudinal change in brain health measures”, (Role: PI: 8% FTE), 9/14/2021-9/14/2024, Total Direct: \$150,000

GRANT FUNDING - Internal

Funded

- MacArthur Foundation, Neighborhood greenspace, health, and quality of life in South Florida and other US regions (Role: PI), Besser, Lilah, 01/2020-05/2021, \$12,500
- NSF Advance Research Mentoring Fellowship (Role: Mentee), 6/2020-7/2020

PRESENTATIONS

Refereed– International Conferences

1. Teylan, M. (presenter), Schwabe-Fry, K., Hughes, T.M., Besser, L.M., Brenowitz, W.D., Keene, C.D., Gauthreaux, K., Culhane, J.E., Miller, Z., Chen, Y-C. Chan, K.C.G., Mock, C., Kukull, W.A. Cognitive performance among participants with Alzheimer’s disease and cerebral amyloid angiopathy. 2020 Alzheimer’s Association International Conference.
2. Besser, L.M. (presenter, talk), Galvin, J.E., Renne, J., Hirsch, J., Kaufman, J., Fitzpatrick, A. Neighborhood park space and cognition in non-demented older adults: The Multi-Ethnic Study of Atherosclerosis. *Alzheimer’s & Dementia*. 15(7):P1255. 2019 Alzheimer’s Association International Conference.

3. Besser, L.M. (presenter, poster), Brenowitz, W.D., Galvin, J.E. Intention to screen for Alzheimer's disease among non-demented individuals living in urban, suburban, and rural communities. 2019 International Conference on Alzheimer's and Parkinson's Diseases. (no published abstract)
4. Brenowitz, W.D. (presenter), Besser, L.M., Kukull, W.A., Keene, D., Glymour, M.M., Yaffe, K. Exploring the link between hearing loss and dementia: Is impaired hearing associated with common neuropathologies. 2019 International Conference on Alzheimer's and Parkinson's Diseases. (no published abstract)
5. Teylan, M.A. (presenter), Mock, C., Gauthreaux, K., Chen, Y-C., Chan, K.C.G., Hassenstab, J., Besser, L.M., Kukull, W.A. Cray, J.F. Trajectory of neuropsychological test scores in mild cognitive impairment comparing primary age-related tauopathy versus Alzheimer disease. *Alzheimer's & Dementia*. 15(7):P1143. 2019 Alzheimer's Association International Conference.
6. Brenowitz, W.D. (presenter), Besser, L.M., Keene, D., Kukull, W.A., Yaffe, K. Hearing loss and neuropathologic burden in dementia. 2019 International Conference on Alzheimer's and Parkinson's Diseases. (no published abstract)
7. Besser, L.M. (presenter, talk), Mock, C., Teylan, M.A., Hassenstab, J., Kukull, W.A., Cray, J.F. Cognitive impairment in primary age-related tauopathy versus Alzheimer's disease. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jalz.2018.06.3043>. 2018 Alzheimer's Association International Conference.
8. Besser, L.M. (presenter, poster), Teylan, M., Cray, J., Mock, C., Gauthreaux, K., Barlow, N., Chen, Y., Kukull, W. Clinical diagnoses among individuals with primary age-related tauopathy versus Alzheimer's neuropathology. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jalz.2018.06.509>. 2018 Alzheimer's Association International Conference.
9. Teylan, M. (presenter), Gauthreaux, K., Besser, L.M., Barlow, N., and Kukull, W. Rheumatoid arthritis, inflammation treatment, and Alzheimer's disease: A cross-sectional descriptive study using the NACC database. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jalz.2018.06.1941>. 2018 Alzheimer's Association International Conference.
10. Gefen, T. (presenter), Teylan, M., Besser, L.M., and Weintraub, S. The Frontotemporal Lobar Degeneration Module (FTLD-MOD) of the Uniform Data Set: Performance on language and behavior measures in primary progressive aphasia (PPA) and behavioral variant frontotemporal dementia (bvFTD). <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jalz.2018.06.1851>. 2018 Alzheimer's Association International Conference.
11. Rascovsky, K. (presenter), Teylan, M., McMillan, C.T.; Barlow, N.; Gonzalez, H.M.; Salmon, D.P., Galasko, D.R., Besser, L.M., Kukull, W.A., and Grossman, M. Risk factors for clinical AD in US Latino populations: An analysis of the NACC database. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jalz.2018.06.1931>. 2018 Alzheimer's Association International Conference.
12. Besser, L.M. (presenter, talk), Nation, D.A., Hughes, T.M., Barlow, N., Kukull, W.A., 2017. Pulse pressure in late-life and Alzheimer's and cerebrovascular neuropathology. *Alzheimers & Dementia* 13(7) (Suppl), p1473. 2017 Alzheimer's Association International Conference.

13. Teylan, M. (presenter), Besser, L.M., Brenowitz, W.D., Wilk, S., Barlow, N., Kukull, W.A., 2017. Associations of neuropathology and apolipoprotein E genotype with dementia in the oldest old compared to younger-old age groups. *Alzheimers & Dementia* 13(7) (Suppl), p1189. 2017 Alzheimer's Association International Conference.
14. Han, J. (presenter), Besser, L.M., Xiong, C., Kukull, W.A., Morris, J.C., 2017. Cholinesterase inhibitor use and cognitive decline in mild cognitive impairment and mild dementia due to Alzheimer disease. *Alzheimers & Dementia* 13(7) (Suppl), p1054. 2017 Alzheimer's Association International Conference.
15. Han, F. (presenter), Bonnett, T., Brenowitz, W.D., Teylan, M., Besser, L.M., Cao, K., Gao, Y., Zhou, X.H., Kukull, W.A., 2017. Association between antidepressant use and incident MCI in older adults with depression. *Alzheimers & Dementia* 13(7) (Suppl), P1520–P1521. 2017 Alzheimer's Association International Conference.
16. Bollenbeck, M. (presenter), Schwabe-Fry, K., Teylan, M., Beekly, D., Thomas, G., Hubbard, J., Jacka, M., Wu, J., Besser, L., Kukull, W., 2017. The National Alzheimer's Coordinating Center: Querying the database and requesting data. *Alzheimers & Dementia* 13(7), P507. 2017 Alzheimer's Association International Conference.
17. Ahmed, M. (presenter), Besser, L., Galasko, D., Salmon, D., Kukull, W., 2016. Traumatic brain injury (TBI) and dementia progression. *Alzheimers & Dementia* 12(7) (Suppl), 703-704. 2016 Alzheimer's Association International Conference.
18. Graff-Radford, N.R. (presenter), Besser, L.M., Crook, J.E., Kukull, W.A., Dickson, D.W., 2016. African American brain autopsies from the National Alzheimer's Coordinating Center. *Alzheimers & Dementia* 12(7):P557-P558. 2016 Alzheimer's Association International Conference.
19. Besser, L. (presenter, poster), Monsell, S., Beekly, D., Kukull, W. Clinical characteristics among non-demented subjects with neuropathological Lewy body disease in the Uniform Data Set. 2015 International Dementia with Lewy Bodies Conference. (no published abstract)
20. Besser, L. (presenter, poster), Monsell, S., Heller, K., Litvan, I., Kukull, W., 2014. Mild cognitive impairment among Parkinson's disease subjects in the Uniform Data Set. *Alzheimers & Dementia* 10, P689-690. 2014 Alzheimer's Association International Conference.
21. Heller, K. (presenter), DeCarli, C., Beekly, D., Besser, L., Bollenbeck, M., Wu, J., Carmichael, O., Phelps, C., Kukull, W., 2014. The National Alzheimer's Coordinating Center MRI database. *Alzheimers & Dementia* 10, P833-834. 2014 Alzheimer's Association International Conference.
22. Besser, L. (presenter, poster), Hawes, S., Bristow, K., Monsell, S., Kukull, W., 2013. Pulse pressure and atherosclerosis, arteriolosclerosis and cortical microinfarcts in individuals with clinical Alzheimer's disease. *Alzheimers Dement* 9(4) (Suppl), p441. 2013 Alzheimer's Association International Conference.
23. Bristow, K. (presenter), Besser, L.M., Monsell, S.E., Brenowitz, W., Hawes, S., Kukull, W.A., 2013. Consensus diagnosis and predictors of diagnostic accuracy in the national Alzheimer's Disease Centers. *Alzheimer's Dement* 9(4):P321. 2013 Alzheimer's Association International Conference.

24. Besser, L.M. (presenter, poster), Monsell, S., Kukull, W.A., 2012. Comparison of neuropsychological test scores among English and Spanish speakers in a multi-regional sample of cognitively normal subjects. *Alzheimers Dement* 8, p548. 2012 Alzheimer's Association International Conference.
25. Beekly, D. (presenter), Monsell, S., Besser, L., Gill, D., Robichaud, E., Knopman, D., Kukull, W., 2012. The NACC FTLD Module data. *Dementia and Geriatric Cognitive Disorders* 34 (Suppl 1). 2012 Alzheimer's Association International Conference.

Refereed– National Conferences

1. Park, J. (presenter), Tolea, M., Besser, L., & Galvin, J. Intention to receive cognitive screening for Alzheimer's disease in nondemented older adults. 2020 Gerontological Society of America Conference.
2. Duskin, J. (presenter), Alosco, ML, Besser, L.M., Martin, B., Chaisson, C.E., Kowall, N.W., McKee, A.C., Stern, R.A., Tripodis, Y. Modeling the Relationships Among Late-Life Body Mass Index, Cerebrovascular Disease, and Alzheimer's Disease Neuropathology in 1,421 Participants from the National Alzheimer's Coordinating Center Neuropathology Data Set. 2017 American Academy of Neurology Conference.
3. Correa, A. (presenter), Gilboa, S.M., Besser, L.M., Botto, L.D., Rasmussen, S.A., Waller, D.K., Cleves, M., Hobbs, C.A., Riehle-Colarusso, T., and the National Birth Defects Prevention Study, 2008. Maternal prepregnancy body mass index and congenital heart defects. *American Journal of Epidemiology* 167(Suppl), S213. 2008 Society for Epidemiologic Research Conference.
4. Adolfo Correa (presenter), A., Gilboa, S.M., Besser, L.M., Botto, L.D., Moore, C.A., Hobbs, C.A., Cleves, M.A., Riehle-Colarusso, T.J., Waller, D.K., Reece, E.A., National Birth Defects Prevention Study. Diabetes and birth defects. <https://professional.diabetes.org/abstract/diabetes-and-birth-defects>. 2007 (67th) Annual Meeting of the American-Diabetes Association.
5. Besser, L. (presenter, poster), Shin, M., Kucik, J.E., Lu, C., Siffel, S., Correa, A. Down Syndrome Prevalence among Children in Regions of the United States. 2007 Society for Pediatric and Perinatal Epidemiologic Research conference. (no published abstract)
6. Besser, L. (presenter, poster), Kucik, J.E., Lu, C., Siffel, S., Correa, A. Anencephaly and Spina Bifida Epidemiology in Atlanta, 1968-2003, 2006 Society for Pediatric and Perinatal Epidemiology conference (no published abstract)
7. Besser, L. (presenter, poster), Kucik, J.E., Lu, C., Siffel, S., Correa, A. Maternal Fever or Flu and Cardiovascular Malformations, 2006 Society for Pediatric and Perinatal Epidemiology conference (no published abstract)
8. Besser, L. (presenter, poster), Alverson, C.J., Correa, A. Hypertension Medications and Cardiovascular Malformations. *American Journal of Epidemiology*, 163(Suppl_11), S56. 2006 Society for Epidemiological Research Conference.

9. Besser, L.M. (presenter, talk), Dannenberg, A. Walking to public transit: Steps to help meet physical activity recommendations. 2005 American Public Health Association Conference. (no published abstract)
10. Besser, L.M. (presenter, poster), Correa, A., Alverson, C.J. Prevalence of Spina Bifida among Children and Adolescents, Metropolitan Atlanta, 1979–2002. American Journal of Epidemiology, 161(Suppl_1):S112. 2005 Society for Epidemiological Research Conference.
11. Besser, L.M. (presenter, poster), Correa, A., Alverson, C.J., Spina Bifida Prevalence among Children and Adolescents in Metropolitan Atlanta, 1979-2002, https://aphanew.confex.com/apha/133am/techprogram/paper_107331.htm, 2005 American Public Health Association Conference.

Non-refereed– National (Selected)

1. Besser, L. (presenter, talk), Neighborhood park space and cognition: Multi-Ethnic Study of Atherosclerosis, MESA Environment Health working group, 2019 (invited)
2. Besser, L. (presenter, talk), Longitudinal associations between neighborhood built environment/park space and cognition: Multi-Ethnic Study of Atherosclerosis, Multi-Ethnic Study of Atherosclerosis cognitive working group, 2019 (invited)
3. Besser, L. (presenter, talk), Papers recently published using NACC data. 2017 Fall Alzheimer's Disease Center Meeting (biannual), San Diego, CA
4. Besser, L. (presenter, talk), Clinical and neuropathological characteristics of symptomatic primary age-related tauopathy (PART), 2016 Fall Alzheimer's Disease Center Meeting (biannual), Baltimore, MD
5. Besser, L. (presenter, talk), Research publications using the NACC database. 2015 Alzheimer's Disease Center Meeting (biannual), Chicago, IL
6. Besser, L. (presenter, talk), Research using NACC data. 2014 Alzheimer's Disease Center Meeting (biannual), Baltimore, MD

Non-refereed – Local (Selected)

1. Besser, L. (presenter, talk), Social and Built Environments and Healthy Brain Aging, BRAAIN Conference Series, Wake Forest University, March 3, 2021 (invited)
2. Besser, L. (presenter, talk), URP's Diversity and Inclusion Committee, College of Science, March 2021 (invited)
3. Besser, L. (presenter, talk), Your Brain on Nature, FAU Research Cafe. Fall 2020. (invited)
4. Besser, L. (presenter, talk), Neighborhood greenspace and late-life cognition and dementia risk, FAU Department of Geosciences Colloquium. Fall 2019. (invited)
5. Besser, L. (presenter, talk). Neighborhood Environment and Cognition in Older Adults. FAU Healthy Aging Seminar, 2017 (invited)

6. Besser, L (presenter, talk). Neighborhood Environment and Cognition in Older Adults. Presentation to FAU Department of Urban and Regional Planning faculty and students. 2017.
7. Besser, L. (presenter, talk), University of Washington's Department of Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences Colloquium (invited)
8. Besser, L. (presenter, talk), Spina Bifida Prevalence in Atlanta using Metropolitan Atlanta Congenital Defects Program Data, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention abstractors' meeting, 2006.
9. Besser, L. (presenter, talk), Prevalence of Down Syndrome in Atlanta, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention birth defects team Research in Progress meeting, 2006.
10. Besser, L. (presenter, talk), Prevalence of Spina Bifida in Atlanta, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Division Research in Progress meeting, 2005.
11. Besser, L. (presenter, talk), Prevalence of Spina Bifida Survival in Atlanta, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention birth defects team Research in Progress meeting, 2004.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

2020	Fundamentals of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) (online), UC Davis
2020	Statistics & Data Analysis in Public Health (using R) (online), Imperial College London
2017	The Basics of Fluid Biomarkers in AD, Continuing education, Alzheimer's Association International Conference
2016	Core Strengths Accountability (management skills), Continuing education, University of Washington
2015	Mild Cognitive Impairment: Implications for Clinicians, Continuing education, American Academy of Neurology (AAN) Conference
2015	History of Neurology: The History of Neurologic Disease from Cortex to Peripheral Nerve, Continuing education, AAN Conference
2015	Balance and Gait Disorders, Continuing education, AAN Conference
2015	Genetics in Neurology, Continuing education, AAN Conference
2015	Vascular Cognitive Impairment and Dementia: Current Status and Future, Continuing education, AAN Conference
2015	Dementia Overview, Continuing education, AAN Conference
2015	Approach to the Shaky Patient, Continuing education, AAN Conference
2015	Advances in ALS and Other Motor Neuron Diseases, Continuing education, AAN Conference
2015	Basic Neuroimaging in Dementia, Continuing education, Alzheimer's Association International Conference
2015	Increasing Your Influence (management skills), Continuing education, University of Washington
2015	Rapid Process Improvement (management skills), Continuing education, University of Washington
2015	Strategic Leadership Program, Continuing education, University of Washington
2014	Introduction to R programming, Continuing education, Society for Epidemiological Research Conference
2014	NIH Grant Writing, Continuing education, Society for Epidemiological Research Conference

- 2014 Basic Neuropathology of Age-Associated Neurodegenerative Diseases, Continuing education, Alzheimer's Association International Conference
- 2012 Analyzing Correlated Data (BIOST 540) (audited), University of Washington

CREATIVE ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Survey Development (Author)

- "Life-course Sociodemographics and Neighborhood Exposures Questionnaire", 2020, 5 pages, Primary author (Added to Washington University of St. Louis Alzheimer's Disease Research Center annual cohort assessments)
- "Neighborhood questionnaire", 2020, 1 page, Primary author (Added as instrument to NIH/NIA R01 award 7R01NS101483, "Reducing Disparities in Dementia and VCID Outcomes in a Multicultural Rural Population", PI: Galvin, J.E.)
- "South Florida Neighborhood Satisfaction Survey" 2020, Co-author (Assisted in writing/editing health-related questions)

Other (** Work involved FAU graduate students)

- *Primary author*, Diversity and Inclusion Plan** (2019, 2020), Department of Urban and Regional Planning
- *Lead Guest Editor*, Special Issue on "Social and Built Environment and Healthy Brain Aging", International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health (to be published in summer 2021)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Health and Built Environment (URP 4930/6930)

- Developed in Fall 2019, taught in Spring 2020 and Spring 2021, Florida Atlantic University

SERVICE

Service to the Department (** Involves FAU student)

- 2018-present Chair, Diversity and Inclusion Committee, Department of Urban and Regional Planning ***recruit and work with undergraduate/graduate student representative*
- 2018-present Member, Undergraduate Program Committee, Department of Urban and Regional Planning

Service to the University

- 2020 Invited Panel Speaker, FAU's Research Café, December 9, 2020
- 2020 Invited Panel Discussant, FAU's Early Career Academy, September 28, 2020
- 2019-present Member, the FAU Brain Institute

Service to the Discipline/Profession

- 2019-present Section Editor, Mental Health, International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health

2019	Reviewer, National Institute on Aging (NIA) Study Section (P30 grants)
2020	Reviewer, National Institute on Aging (NIA) Study Section (R01 grants)
2020	Member, Environment Section, American Public Health Association
2020	Member, Aging and Public Health Section, American Public Health Association
2005-present	Journal Peer Reviewer (e.g., <i>Alzheimer Disease and Associated Disorders</i> , <i>American Journal of Preventive Medicine</i> , <i>Alzheimer's & Dementia</i> , <i>Health & Place</i>)
2018-present	Member, Health and Built Environment Committee, Consortium for a Healthier Miami-Dade, FL
2018-present	Member, International Society to Advance Alzheimer's Research and Treatment (ISTAART)
2018-present	Member, American Planning Association (APA)
2018-2019	Member, Society for Epidemiologic Research (SER)
2017	Chair, NACC Data Session, Fall Alzheimer's Disease Center Directors Meeting, CA
2016-2018	Chair, Research Support Group, National Alzheimer's Coordinating Center, WA
2017-2018	Chair, Intramural Research Group, National Alzheimer's Coordinating Center, WA
2011-2016	Chair, Quality Assurance Group, National Alzheimer's Coordinating Center, WA
2003-2004	Member, Web Committee, American Public Health Association
2003-2004	Member, Green Committee, American Public Health Association
2002-2004	Web Chair and Member, 2002-2004 Rollins Environmental Health and Action Committee, Emory University, GA
2001	Laboratory Volunteer, Anthrax Investigation, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, GA

Service to the Community/Public

2008	Commission Member, Durham Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission, NC
2008-2009	Co-leader/Secretary, UNC Student Parent Association, NC
2008	Member, PhD Policy Committee, UNC Department of City and Regional Planning, NC

HONORS & AWARDS

2021	Selected as a FAU's College of Science Representative at AAC&U 2021 TIDES Institute (Teaching to Increase Diversity and Equity in STEM), June 2021
2020	Nominated by American Public Health Association Environment Section to serve on Editorial Board for American Journal of Public Health
2018	Poster competition finalist: Alzheimer's Association International Conference: "Clinical Diagnoses among Individuals with primary age-related tauopathy versus Alzheimer's disease neuropathology".
2009	Third author on paper nominated for Charles C. Shepard Science Award, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
2004	Master's thesis nominated for Emory University's Shepard Science Award
2002-2004	Training-based grant for dual-degree studies at Emory University
2002	Department of Health and Human Services award for participation in anthrax Investigation
1994-1998	Dean's List, Oglethorpe University
1994-1998	Merit-based scholarship, Oglethorpe University