

Curriculum Vitae

October 1, 2025

Bijan Andrew Niknam, PhD

Contact Information

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Philadelphia, PA 19147
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Citizenship

United States of America

Place of Birth

Dallas, TX

Current Employment

Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Biostatistics, 2023-present
Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Baltimore, MD
Advisor: Elizabeth A. Stuart, PhD

Postdoctoral Affiliate, Johns Hopkins Center for Gun Violence Solutions, 2025-present
Baltimore, MD

Postdoctoral Affiliate, Center for Health Policy Systems and Modeling, 2025-present
Department of Health Policy & Management,
Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Baltimore, MD

Education

PhD in Health Policy 2023
Harvard University Graduate School of Arts & Sciences, Cambridge, MA
Concentration: Methods for Policy Research
Advisor: Jose R. Zubizarreta, PhD
Thesis: "Optimal matched designs to study post-acute skilled nursing facility utilization and outcomes"

Huntsman Program in International Studies & Business 2011
University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA
Bachelor of Science, The Wharton School
Major: Economics
Concentration: Health Care Management & Policy

Bachelor of Arts, School of Arts & Sciences
Majors: International Studies & Business;
Russian Language, Literature, & Culture

Publications

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

1. Ne'eman AD, **Niknam, BA**. (2025) Home care workforce participation and household co-residence with people with LTSS needs. *Health Affairs Scholar* 8(3).

2. Ellenbogen MI, Kaplan S, **Niknam BA**, Kachalia AB, Brotman DJ. (2024) Evaluating the impact of 2011 tort reform limiting non-economic damages in North Carolina and Tennessee on utilization. *Health Services Research* Dec 25:e14424.
3. Kim K, **Niknam BA**, Zubizarreta JR. (2024) Scalable kernel balancing weights in a nationwide observational study of hospital profit status and heart attack outcomes. *Biostatistics* 25(3):736-753.
4. Han L, Li Y, **Niknam BA**, Zubizarreta JR. (2024) Privacy-preserving and communication-efficient causal inference for hospital quality measurement. *The Annals of Applied Statistics* 18(2):1337-1359.
5. **Niknam BA**, Zubizarreta JR. (2023) Examining sources of post-acute care inequities with layered target matching. *Health Services Research* 58(1):19-29.
6. **Niknam BA**, Zubizarreta JR. (2022) Using cardinality matching to design balanced and representative samples for observational studies. *Journal of the American Medical Association* 327(2):173-174.
7. Silber JH, Rosenbaum PR, Reiter JG, Hill AS, Jain S, Wolk D, Small DS, Hashemi S, **Niknam BA**, Neuman MD, Fleisher LA, Eckenhoff R. (2022) Alzheimer's dementia after exposure to anesthesia and surgery in the elderly: A matched natural experiment using appendicitis. *Annals of Surgery* 276(5):e377-e385.
8. Kelz RR, Sellers MM, **Niknam BA**, Sharpe JE, Rosenbaum PR, Hill AS, Zhou H, Hochman LL, Bilimoria KY, Itani K, Romano PS, Silber JH. (2021) A national comparison of operative outcomes of new and experienced surgeons. *Annals of Surgery* 273(2):280-288.
9. Lasater KB, McHugh MD, Rosenbaum PR, Aiken LH, Smith HL, Reiter JG, **Niknam BA**, Hill AS, Hochman LL, Jain S, Silber JH. (2021) Evaluating the costs and outcomes of hospital nursing resources: A matched cohort study of patients with common medical conditions. *Journal of General Internal Medicine* 36(1): 84–91.
10. Kelz RR, **Niknam BA**, Sellers MM, Sharpe JE, Rosenbaum PR, Hill AS, Zhou H, Hochman LL, Bilimoria KY, Itani K, Romano PS, Silber JH. (2020) Duty hour reform and the outcomes of patients treated by new surgeons. *Annals of Surgery* 271(4):599-605.
11. Lasater KB, McHugh MD, Rosenbaum PR, Aiken LH, Smith HL, Reiter JG, **Niknam BA**, Hill AS, Hochman LL, Jain S, Silber JH (2020). Valuing hospital investments in nursing: Multistate matched-cohort study of surgical patients. *BMJ Quality & Safety* 2020 Mar 27.
12. Silber JH, Rosenbaum PR, **Niknam BA**, Ross RN, Reiter JG, Hill AS, Hochman LL, Brown SE, Arriaga AF, Fleisher LA. (2020) Comparing outcomes and costs of medical patients treated at major teaching and non-teaching hospitals: A national matched analysis. *Journal of General Internal Medicine* 35(3):743-752.
13. Silber JH, Rosenbaum PR, **Niknam BA**, Ross RN, Reiter JG, Hill AS, Hochman LL, Brown SE, Arriaga AF, Kelz RR, Fleisher LA. (2020) Comparing outcomes and costs of surgical patients treated at major teaching and non-teaching hospitals: A national matched analysis. *Annals of Surgery* 271(3):412-421.
14. Silber JH, Rosenbaum PR, Ross RN, Reiter JG, **Niknam BA**, Hill AS, Bongiorno DM, Shah S, Even-Shoshan O, Fox KR. (2018) Disparities in breast cancer survival by socioeconomic

- status despite Medicare and Medicaid insurance. *Milbank Quarterly* 96(4):706-754.
15. Reese PP, Abt PL, Blumberg EA, Van Deerlin VM, Bloom RD, Potluri VS, Levine M, Porrett P, Sawinski D, Nazarian SM, Naji A, Hasz R, Suplee L, Trofe-Clarke J, Sicilia A, McCauley M, Gentile C, Smith J, **Niknam BA**, Bleicher M, Reddy KR, Goldberg DS. (2018) Twelve month outcomes after transplantation of hepatitis-C infected kidneys into uninfected recipients: A single-arm trial. *Annals of Internal Medicine* 169(5):273-281.
 16. Silber JH, Reiter JG, Rosenbaum PR, Zhao Q, Small DS, **Niknam BA**, Hill AS, Hochman LL, Kelz RR, Fleisher LA. (2018) Defining multimorbidity in older general surgery patients. *Medical Care* 56(8): 701-710.
 17. **Niknam BA**, Arriaga AF, Rosenbaum PR, Hill AS, Ross RN, Even-Shoshan O, Romano PS, Silber JH. (2018) Adjustment for atherosclerosis diagnosis distorts the effects of percutaneous coronary intervention and the ranking of hospital performance. *Journal of the American Heart Association* 7(11).
 18. Silber JH, Arriaga AF, **Niknam BA**, Hill AS, Ross RN, Romano PS (2018). Failure-to-rescue after acute myocardial infarction. *Medical Care* 56(5):416-423.
 19. Sellers MM, **Niknam BA**, Kelz RR. (2017) A framework for the assessment of Graduate Medical Education. *JAMA Surgery* 152(8):715-716.
 20. Koyowala N, Silber JH, Rosenbaum PR, Wang W, Hill AS, Reiter JG, **Niknam BA**, Even-Shoshan O, Bloom RD, Sawinski D, Nazarian S, Trofe-Clark J, Lim Mary Ann, Schold J, Reese PP. (2017) Comparing outcomes between antibody induction therapies in kidney transplantation. *Journal of the American Society of Nephrology* 28(7): 2188-2200.
 21. Silber JH, Rosenbaum PR, Ross RN, Ludwig JM, Wang W, **Niknam BA**, Hill AS, Even-Shoshan O, Kelz RR, Fleisher LA. (2016) Indirect standardization matching: Assessing specific advantage and risk synergy. *Health Services Research* 51(6): 20-2357.
 22. Silber JH, Rosenbaum PR, McHugh MD, Ludwig JM, Smith HL, **Niknam BA**, Even-Shoshan O, Fleisher LA, Kelz RR, Aiken LH. (2016) Comparison of the value of nursing work environments in hospitals across different levels of patient risk. *JAMA Surgery* 151(6):527-36.
 23. Silber JH, Rosenbaum PR, Kelz RR, Gaskin DJ, Ludwig JM, Ross RN, **Niknam BA**, Hill A, Wang M, Even-Shoshan O, Fleisher LA. (2015) Examining causes of racial disparities in general surgical mortality: Hospital quality versus patient risk. *Medical Care* 53:619-629.
 24. Silber JH, Rosenbaum PR, Ross RN, **Niknam BA**, Ludwig JM, Wang W, Clark AS, Fox KR, Wang M, Even-Shoshan O, Giantonio BJ. (2014) Racial disparities in colon cancer survival: A matched cohort study. *Annals of Internal Medicine* 161(12): 845-854.
 25. Silber JH, Rosenbaum PR, Ross RN, Ludwig JM, Wang W, **Niknam BA**, Saynisch PA, Kelz RR, Fleisher LA. (2014) A hospital-specific template for benchmarking its cost and quality. *Health Services Research* 49(5): 1475-1497.
 26. Silber JH, Rosenbaum PR, Ross RN, Ludwig JM, Wang W, **Niknam BA**, Mukherjee N, Saynisch PA, Kelz RR, Fleisher LA. (2014) Template matching for auditing hospital cost and quality. *Health Services Research* 49(5): 1446-1474.

27. Silber JH, Rosenbaum PR, Clark AS, Giantonio BJ, Ross RN, Teng Y, Wang M, **Niknam BA**, Ludwig JM, Wang W, Even-Shoshan O, Fox KR. (2013) Characteristics associated with differences in survival among black and white women with breast cancer. *Journal of the American Medical Association* 310:389-397.

Research Manuscripts Published on arXiv

28. Arbour D, Parikh H, **Niknam B**, Stuart E, Rudolph K, Feller A. Regularizing extrapolation in causal inference. <https://www.arxiv.org/abs/2509.17180>.
29. Han L, Li Y, **Niknam BA**, Zubizarreta JR. Privacy-preserving and communication-efficient causal inference for hospital quality measurement. <https://arxiv.org/abs/2203.00768>.
30. Kim K, **Niknam BA**, Zubizarreta JR. Scalable kernel balancing weights in a nationwide observational study of hospital profit status and heart attack outcomes. <https://arxiv.org/abs/2311.00568>.

Research Manuscripts Under Review or in Revision

29. **Niknam BA**, Desjardins MR, Richardson J, Stuart EA, Webster DW. Effects of two community violence interruption programs on firearm violence in Washington, DC. *American Journal of Epidemiology*, revision in progress.
30. Tilchin C, Wagner E, Doucette M, **Niknam BA**, Biggs SA, Desjardins M, Webster DW. The impact of Safe Streets, a community violence intervention, on youth violence in Baltimore City. *BMJ Injury Prevention*, revision under review.

Research Manuscripts in Preparation

31. **Niknam BA**, Grabowski DC, Landrum MB, McWilliams JM, Zubizarreta JR. Impact of skilled nursing facility care on post-acute outcomes: A Health shock design based on market supply.
32. **Niknam BA**, McWilliams JM, Landrum MB, Grabowski DC, Zubizarreta JR. Persistent racial inequities in skilled nursing facility characteristics and post-acute outcomes despite concordant geography and hospitals.

Articles, Editorials, and Publications, Not Peer Reviewed

33. Silber JH, Rosenbaum PR, **Niknam BA**, Kelz RR, Fleisher LA. (2021) Response to comment on "Comparing outcomes and costs of surgical patients treated at major teaching and non-teaching hospitals: A national matched analysis." *Annals of Surgery* 274(6):e753-e754.

Honors and Awards

Top Reviewers of 2023 <i>Annals of Internal Medicine</i>	2024
Top Reviewers of 2022 <i>Annals of Internal Medicine</i>	2023

Student Paper Travel Award <i>International Conference on Health Policy Statistics,</i> <i>American Statistical Association</i>	2023
Certificate of Distinction in Teaching Harvard College	2022
Certificate of Distinction in Teaching Harvard College	2021

Presentations

Invited Sessions and Talks

“Design and analysis of difference-in-differences studies in challenging real-world contexts”
International Conference on Health Policy Statistics 2025
San Diego, CA
January 7, 2025

“Design choices in a study of a local community violence interruption program”
2nd Ingram Olkin Forum Workshop on Gun Violence
Pennsylvania State University
May 10, 2024

“Covariate adjustment in disparities applications: Lessons from a study of post-acute care”
Center for Health Outcomes and Policy Research
University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing
November 28, 2023

Conference Presentations

“Design-based approaches for difference-in-difference studies with multiple treated units”
Eastern North American Region 2025
New Orleans, LA
March 26, 2025

“Effects of community violence interruption programs on firearm violence in Washington, DC”
2024 National Research Conference for the Prevention of Firearm-Related Harms
Seattle, WA
December 10, 2024

“Building a stronger instrument for estimating the effect of skilled nursing facility care on post-acute outcomes”
Eastern North American Region 2024
March 11, 2024
Baltimore, MD

“Small weights for big data: Scalable kernel balancing weights”
International Conference on Health Policy Statistics 2023
January 10, 2023
Scottsdale, AZ

“Examining sources of post-acute care inequities with layered target matching”

International Conference on Health Policy Statistics 2023
January 9, 2023
Scottsdale, AZ

"A kernel balancing approach that scales to big data"
Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS) 2022
Workshop: Causal Machine Learning for Real-World Impact
December 2, 2022
New Orleans, LA

Research Experience

Graduate Research Assistant Department of Health Care Policy, Harvard Medical School	2019-2023
Assistant Director for Research/Clinical Research Project Manager Center for Outcomes Research, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia	2016-2017
Program Manager Center for Outcomes Research, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia	2015-2016
Research Assistant Center for Outcomes Research, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia	2011-2014

Teaching Experience

Instructor Department of Biostatistics Summer Institute, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health <i>140.632.11: Introduction to the SAS Statistical Package</i>	2025
Instructor Department of Biostatistics, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health <i>140.632.01/02: Introduction to the SAS Statistical Package (4th term)</i>	2025
Head Teaching Fellow Harvard College <i>GHHP50: The Quality of Health Care in America</i> (Professor: Anupam B. Jena, MD, PhD) Student Performance Evaluation: 5.0/5.0	2021-2022
Teaching Fellow Harvard College <i>GHHP50: The Quality of Health Care in America</i> (Professor: Anupam B. Jena, MD, PhD) Student Performance Evaluation: 4.93/5.0	2021-2022
Teaching Assistant	2012-2017

The Wharton School,
University of Pennsylvania
*HCMG 212: Health Care Quality and Outcomes:
Measurement and Management*
(Professor: Jeffrey H. Silber, MD, PhD)

Academic Service

Ad-Hoc Reviewer

Annals of Internal Medicine
BMJ Medicine
Health Services Research
JAMA Health Forum
Pharmaceutical Statistics

Professional Associations

Member, American Statistical Association	2022-present
Member, International Biometrics Society	2023-present

Other Affiliations

Stuart Lab, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health (Director: Elizabeth A. Stuart, PhD)	2023-present
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CAUSALab, Harvard TH Chan School of Public Health (Director: Miguel A. Hernán, MD, DrPH)	2022-present
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Consulting Work

TerraCarbon LLC	2024-2025
Center for Outcomes Research, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia	2018-2021