

Diana Treviño Cervantes

Associate Professor

<https://www.unthsc.edu/school-of-public-health/dr-diana-cervantes/>

University of North Texas Health Science Center
Department of Population and Community Health
3500 Camp Bowie, Fort Worth, TX 76107

Diana.Cervantes@unthsc.edu
(817) 846-6708

Education

- 2023 **MS, Gerontology.** Kansas State University
Capstone: A Model for the Delivery of Person-Centered Infection Prevention and Control in Nursing Homes
- 2013 **DrPH, Epidemiology.** The University of North Texas- Health Science Center
Dissertation: Transmission and Establishment of *Helicobacter pylori* in Childhood
- 2006 **MPH, Epidemiology.** The University of North Texas- Health Science Center
- 2002 **MS, Biology.** The University of Texas at Arlington
Thesis: A Survey of Sequence Diversity in Naturally Occurring Strains of Equine Infectious Anemia Virus
- 1999 **Honors BS, Biology.** The University of Texas at Arlington

Teaching Experience

Teaching & Administrative Positions

9/2023-Present **Associate Professor,** The University of North Texas Health Science Center, School of Public Health. Department of Community and Population Health. Fort Worth, TX.

- Course curriculum development and instruction, including online and classroom formats, to ensure horizontal and vertical integration of the competencies and accreditation standards for MPH, MS, and MHA students. Courses include:

Course Number & Title	Semester/Yr.	Format
EPID 6318 Epidemiologic Surveillance	Summer 2019- Summer 2020	Online
EPID 5317 Epidemiologic Surveillance	Spring 2022- Fall 2024	In-class
EPID 5320 Infectious Disease Epidemiology	Spring 2020-Fall 2024	In-class
EPID 5317 Chronic Disease Epidemiology	Spring 2023-Spring 2024	In-class

EPID 5314 Applied Data Analysis	Fall 2023	In-class
BMSC 5350 Epidemiology and Evidence-Based Medicine	Fall 2019- Fall 2022	Online
EPID 5313 Data Management and Statistical Computing	Spring 2023	In-class
PHED 5330 Foundations of Public Health	Spring 2019-Spring 2025	In-class
PHED 5297 Student Practice Experience	Summer 2019-Spring 2023	Faculty Advisor
BACH 5324 Introduction to Health Disparities	Fall II 2020	Online
BACH 5314 Applied Methods in Public Health	Spring 2025	In-class

6/2023-Present **Assistant Professor,** The University of North Texas Health Science Center, Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine. Department of Internal Medicine and Geriatrics. Fort Worth, TX.

5/2019-8/2023 **Assistant Professor and Director, MPH Epidemiology Program,** The University of North Texas Health Science Center, School of Public Health. Department of Biostatistics and Epidemiology. Fort Worth, TX.

5/2013-8/2018 **Adjunct Assistant Professor,** The University of North Texas Health Science Center. Fort Worth, TX.

- Course curriculum development, instruction including online and classroom formats, to ensure horizontal and vertical integration of MPH students' competencies and accreditation standards. Courses include:

Course Number & Title	Semester/Yr.	Format
EPID 6318 Epidemiologic Surveillance	Summer 2013-Summer 2018	Online
EPID 5320 Infectious Disease Epidemiology	Fall 2016- Fall 2017	In-class

1/2013-5/2013 **Course Instructor,** The University of North Texas Health Science Center. Fort Worth, TX.

- Prepare and deliver course materials and resources. Courses include:

Course Number & Title	Semester/Yr.	Format
EPID 5318 Chronic Disease Epidemiology	Fall 2013	In-class

Guest Lecturer & Facilitator

Spring 2023	Survey Methodology: APIC 2020 MegaSurvey Highlighting Sample Design. EPID 5312 Survey Research and Questionnaire Design. The University of North Texas Health Science Center.
Fall 2022	Introduction to Public Health Epidemiology for Healthcare Providers. BIOL 40111 Topics in Medicine: The Practice of Medicine; Texas Christian University.
Spring 2021	Critical Appraisal of Epidemiologic Studies and Literature. EPID 5310 Intermediate Epidemiology; The University of North Texas Health Science Center
Fall 2021	Evidence-Based Public Health and Communicable Diseases- class lecture and case study of a healthcare-associated infectious disease outbreak. PHED 5330 Foundations of Public Health; The University of North Texas Health Science Center.
Spring 2020	Interprofessional Practice Education (IPE)- Practice knowledge and application of the four core IPE competencies through an interprofessional team discussion of the COVID-19 pandemic; The University of North Texas Health Science Center.
Fall 2018	Cryptosporidiosis Response and Outbreak Management. KINE 3352 Introduction to Epidemiology; The University of Texas at Arlington.
Spring 2017	Outbreak Case Study in Healthcare-Associated Infections. PBHL 2310 Introduction to Epidemiology; Tarleton State University.

Dissertation Committees

8/2023-Present	Secondary Advisor, Brittany Krenek- PhD Epidemiology. The University of North Texas Health Science Center.
12/2019-8/2022	Committee Member, Leilani Dodgen- PhD Epidemiology. The University of North Texas Health Science Center.

Professional Experience

5/2019-3/2021	Infection Prevention Surveillance Analyst (PRN) , Baylor Scott and White All Saints Medical Center. Fort Worth, TX. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Review of laboratory results and patient records to determine healthcare-associated infection status per the CDC National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) surveillance definition• Assistance in quality control initiatives pertaining to NHSN surveillance data
12/2017-5/2019	Infection Prevention Manager , Baylor Scott, and White All Saints Medical Center. Fort Worth, TX. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Leadership and management of key infection and control initiatives to reduce preventable infections by applying epidemiologic principles and statistical methods

- Oversight of the identification of complex infection control problems, inter-relationships of issues, and sources of infection, including the identification of infection risks and trends
- Develop an annual infection control plan and surveillance indicators, as well as coordinate collecting and analyzing data from the indicators. Ensure compliance with national standards and regulating bodies such as JCAHO, CDC, OSHA, FDA, and HCFA
- Development of policies and procedures relating to exposure to infectious diseases and prevention of cross-contamination
- Provide consultation to attending physicians, house staff, and nurses regarding the management of patients with infectious diseases and coordinate the implementation of appropriate isolation procedures
- Promotion and facilitation of continuous quality improvement (CQI) activities to achieve a multi-disciplinary patient approach to infection control
- Compilation, interpretation, and reporting of surveillance data, core measures, and other infection-related performance improvement data
- Dissemination of data to appropriate committees, hospital staff, and local health departments
- Planned, organized, developed, and implemented educational programs for employees to maintain compliance with regulatory agencies and increase employee awareness of nosocomial infections; devised techniques for avoidance and preventive measures to provide a safe environment for hospital employees and patients.
- Development, recommendation, and implementation of an annual infectious diseases budget; monitors expenditures and explains variances; Evaluated and recommended new products related to infection control
- Supervision of staff includes hiring, firing, performance evaluation, training, work allocation, and problem resolution. Plans and conducts staff development programs to improve the effectiveness

7/2013-12/2017

Regional Chief Epidemiologist, Texas Department of State Health Services, Region 2/3. Arlington, TX.

- Planning, development, and coordination of epidemiologic response and policies for a 49-county region in North Texas
- Design and implementation of data collection, data management, data evaluation, and data dissemination processes for advanced epidemiological investigations and studies
- Response to outbreaks of infectious diseases in a 49-county region in North Texas, including healthcare-associated outbreaks in acute care and long-term care facilities
- Supervision of five epidemiologists and two support staff
- Coordination and mentorship of graduate and undergraduate public health students

- Consultation to provide data-driven recommendations for the implementation of public health programs and policies
- Preparation and presentation of data for conferences and academic institutions to enhance overall knowledge and awareness of public health practice
- Establishment of working relationships with law enforcement, hospital-based laboratories, and other public health institutions to strengthen communication and preparedness among key stakeholders

6/2008-7/2013

Epidemiologist, Tarrant County Public Health. Fort Worth TX.

- Notifiable disease investigation and prevention activities, including outbreak prevention and control, including healthcare-associated outbreaks in acute care and long-term care facilities
- Conduct and coordinate infectious disease surveillance activities, including assistance in statistical analysis and interpretation of data generated from surveillance activities
- Preparation and presentation of infectious diseases information to community stakeholders and professional organizations
- Assistance in preparing funding and grant documentation relating to public health preparedness
- Preparation and maintenance of departmental and division quality control/management protocols and procedures

7/2002-5/2008

Microbiologist, Tarrant County Public Health. Fort Worth, TX

- Establishment of the Bioterrorism Response and Emerging Agents laboratory section, including writing and maintaining laboratory testing and quality control protocols, procedures, and forms
- Processing and testing environmental samples and clinical specimens utilizing BSL-3 conditions and molecular detection methods such as real-time PCR, RT-PCR, RNA, and DNA extraction and purification for enhanced infectious disease detection
- Conduct investigation and surveillance of emerging infectious agents, including potential agents of bioterrorism to mount a timely public health response
- Training and indirect supervision of other microbiologists in all aspects of environmental sample and clinical specimen processing and testing utilizing BSL-3 conditions

Certifications

Certified in Infection Prevention and Control, Certification Board of Infection Control and Epidemiology (CBIC), Certification number: 108969. Issued: 12/2016, Expiration: 12/2026

Long-Term Care Certification in Infection Prevention. Certification Board of Infection Control and Epidemiology (CBIC), Certification number: 108969. Issued: 12/2022, Expiration: 12/2027

Certified in Public Health, The National Board of Public Health Examiners (NBPHE), Certification number: 7563. Issued: 2/2012, Expiration: 6/2027

Certified Technologist in Molecular Biology, American Society for Clinical Pathologist (ACSP), Certification number: 1004. Issued: 8/2004, Expiration: 9/2025

Honors and Awards

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| 2/2023 | 2022 “Valubility of the Year” Award , UNTHSC. University-wide recognition for actions that highlight the university’s values. |
| 5/2022 | 2022 University “Career Champion” Nominee , UNTHSC Center for Career Readiness. Awarded based on nomination from students. |
| 6/2021 | The 400: Fort Worth’s Most Influential People , Fort Worth Inc. Magazine. Awarded for outreach activities during the COVID-19 pandemic. |
| 5/2021 | SPH COVID-19 Response Trail Blazer Award , Public Health Student Government Association, The University of North Texas Health Science Center. Awarded for outreach activities during the COVID-19 pandemic. |
| 5/2017 | Delta Omega Honorary Society in Public Health , Alpha Sigma Chapter. Alumni inductee |
| 3/2015 | North Central Texas Emergency Preparedness Regional Service Award , North Central Texas Council of Governments. Awarded due to leadership role in the Dallas Ebola Response |

Service to Profession

Professional Service

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| 1/2022-Present | Section Editor, American Journal of Infection Control. |
| 11/2017-Present | Chair, The Tarrant County Infection Prevention Council. Fort Worth, Texas. |
| 5/2013-Present | Member, Infectious Disease Committee- Healthcare-Associated Infections Subcommittee. The Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists. |
| 9/2021-Present | Texas Public Health Association, Governing Council Member. |
| 1/2021-12/2023 | Member, Research Committee. Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology. |
| 5/2021-8/2023 | Chair, Epidemiology Section. Texas Public Health Association. |
| 10/2020-12/2022 | Workgroup member- infection prevention and control, Mobilizing Action for Preparedness (MAP) Long-term care collaborative. Fort Worth, Texas. |
| 4/2020-9/2020 | Workgroup member, COVID-19 Long-Term Care Task Force. Fort Worth, Texas. |
| 10/2020-5/2021 | Chair-elect, Epidemiology Section. Texas Public Health Association. |
| 4/2015-4/2016 | Section Lead, Epidemiology Section. The Texas Public Health Association. |

6/2016-5/2018	Co-Chair, Cross Cutting Committee- Epidemiology Methods Subcommittee. The Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists.
6/2012-6/2014	Workgroup Member, Epidemiology Workgroup. National Association of County and City Health Officials.
1/2009-10/2020	Member, Epidemiology Section. The Texas Public Health Association.

Consultation Service

10/2020-10/2020	Texas House of Representatives, Representative Chris Turner, House Higher Education Committee Meeting. General infection prevention and control measures regarding COVID-19 and in-person meetings/gatherings.
5/2020-9/2020	University of North Texas, Dallas. General infection control and public health consultation for SARS-CoV-2 University reopening policies and procedures.
4/2020-4/2020	Clinical Pathology Laboratories (CPL) and Catalyst Health. Epidemiology consultation for final SARS-CoV-2 Serology and RT-PCR testing result interpretation for alignment with public health practice guidelines.

Community Service

1/2021-Present	Certified Nursing Home Ombudsman, Texas Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program. Fort Worth, TX
04/2021-04/2021	Speaker, Sun P-TECH Public Health Mentorship Program. Dallas, TX
09/2020- 05/2022	Mentor, Academy 4. Manuel Jara Elementary School. Fort Worth, TX

University Service

UNTHSC Committees

1/2024- Present	Faculty Senator, The University of North Texas Health Science Center.
10/2024- Present	Member, High Impact Practices, Community of Practice. The University of North Texas Health Science Center.
10/2023- Present	Alternate, Faculty Grievance and Appeal Committee. The University of North Texas Health Science Center.
7/2022- 12/2022	Member, Monkeypox Response Taskforce. The University of North Texas Health Science Center.
10/2021- 12/2023	Member, Whole Health Initiative, Community Engagement. The University of North Texas Health Science Center.
6/2020-9/2020	Member, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion. The University of North Texas Health Science Center. (committee no longer in existence)
4/2020- 5/2023	Member, COVID-19 Taskforce The University of North Texas Health Science Center.
1/2020-5/2023	Member, Microcredentialing Committee. The University of North Texas Health Science Center.

School & Departmental Committees

09/2023- Present	Member, Promotion & Tenure Committee. College of Public Health, The University of North Texas Health Science Center.
09/2023- Present	Member, Research Advisory Committee. College of Public Health, The University of North Texas Health Science Center.
09/2023- Present	Member, Academic & Community Partnerships Committee. College of Public Health, The University of North Texas Health Science Center.
9/2021- Present	Member, Delta Omega Public Health Honor Society Committee. College of Public Health, The University of North Texas Health Science Center.
8/2019- Present	Member, Masters Admission Committee. College of Public Health, The University of North Texas Health Science Center.
9/2023- 03/2024	Member, Department Chair Search Committee, Department of Population and Community Health. The University of North Texas Health Science Center.
3/2023- 7/2023	Member, Faculty Search Committee- Assistant Professor, Epidemiology. The University of North Texas Health Science Center.
10/2019-11/2019	Member, Faculty Search Committee- Assistant Professor, Health Behavior and Health Systems. The University of North Texas Health Science Center.
9/2019-11/2019	Member, Curriculum Changes Subcommittee. Biostatistics and Epidemiology Department, The University of North Texas Health Science Center.
5/2019- 12/2023	Member, Public Health Practice Committee. The University of North Texas Health Science Center.
5/2019- 12/2023	Member, Program Director's Committee. The University of North Texas Health Science Center.

Scholarly Activity

Grants

Current

11/12/2024	CK20-2003. <i>Model and Framework for Obtaining and Maintaining DIS Certification to Enhance Disease Intervention Capacity and Response in Public Health.</i> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Role: Principal investigator (24% effort). The project aims to create a model and framework to support public health disease intervention specialists in obtaining and maintaining a professional certification in disease intervention.
7/01/2024	U1QHP287350100. <i>Geriatrics Workforce Enhancement Program Competing Supplement (GWEP).</i> Principal Investigator: Janice Knebl. Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). Role: Co-investigator (10% effort).

The project aims to provide training and support to nursing home staff related to infection prevention and resident rights.

Completed

- 9/24/20-3/23/21 **AHRQ 75Q80120C00003.** *The National Nursing Home COVID Action Network.* Principal Investigator: Randolph, A.J., Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, University of New Mexico Health Sciences. **Role: Co-investigator (10% effort).**
- The project aimed to provide best practices for preventing the spread of COVID-19 among nursing home residents, staff, and visitors while building staff confidence and retention utilizing a case-study model.
- 10/1/21-6/30/23 **U1QHP287350100.** *Geriatrics Workforce Enhancement Program Competing Supplement (GWEP).* Principal Investigator: Janice Knebl. Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). **Role: Co-investigator (10% effort).**
- The project aimed to train the current nursing home workforce to integrate best practices in managing and treating older adults living in homes impacted by COVID-19 and to provide value-based care that improves health outcomes for nursing home residents. Additionally, this project provided outreach and community resources to nursing home residents and their families and caregivers to reduce the impact of isolation, separation, and bereavement on mental health.
- 7/01/2023-6/30/24 **U1QHP287350100.** *Geriatrics Workforce Enhancement Program Competing Supplement (GWEP).* Principal Investigator: Janice Knebl. Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). **Role: Co-investigator (30% effort).**
- The project aimed to train the current nursing home workforce to integrate best practices in managing and treating older adults living in homes impacted by COVID-19 and to provide value-based care that improves health outcomes for nursing home residents. Additionally, this project provided outreach and community resources to nursing home residents and their families and caregivers to reduce the impact of isolation, separation, and bereavement on mental health.

Publications

Cervantes, D., Krenek, B., Ross, S., & Knebl, J. A. (2025). Integrating residents' rights and infection prevention in nursing homes: Summary of the Infection Control Advocate and Resident Education (ICARE) learning modules pilot for long-term care ombudsmen, residents, and other nursing home advocates. *American journal of infection control*, 53(1), 157–159. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ajic.2024.09.013>

Dodgen L, Spence E, Kitzman H, Ajoku B, Walters ST, **Cervantes D.** (2024). A Closer Look: Examining Cultural-Contextual Influences on Weight Management Through Focus Groups With Church-Going African American Women. *Qual Health Res.* 2024 Sep 21:10497323241274327. doi: 10.1177/10497323241274327.

Cervantes, D. Infection Prevention for Specialty Care Populations: Older Adults. In Dean R., Popescu, S. eds. APIC Text. 2024. Available at <https://text.apic.org/toc/infection-prevention-for-specialty-care-populations/older-adults>. Accessed October 10, 2024.

Merrill K., **Cervantes D.,** Hebden J.N., Pogorzelska-Maziarz M., Piatek D., Monsees E., Hessels A. Infection preventionists in public health, consultant and academic roles: Results from the 2020 APIC MegaSurvey. (2023). *Am J Infect Control.* Sep 7:S0196-6553(23)00606-5. doi: 10.1016/j.ajic.2023.09.001.

Dodgen, L., Kitman, H., Spence, E., Mamun, A., Walters, S.T., & **Cervantes, D.** (2023). What's theory got to do with it: measuring effects of theory on lifestyle behaviors and weight in the Better Me Within Randomized Trial. American Journal of Health Education. <https://doi.org/10.1080/19325037.2022.2163007>

Hebden, J.N., **Cervantes, D.**, Monsees, E. (2023). The barriers and facilitators to hand hygiene practice in Nigeria: A qualitative study, American Journal of Infection Control 51(3). <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ajic.2022.12.007>.

Teasley J, Bodily-Bartrum M, **Cervantes D.** Journal Club: Implementation of an evidence-based bundle to reduce surgical site infection after cesarean section-Review of the interventions. Am J Infect Control. 2022 Oct;50(10):1190-1191. doi: 10.1016/j.ajic.2022.07.014. PMID: 36150796.

Cervantes, D., Hessels, A., Franck, J., Pogorzelska-Maziarz, M. (2022). State of Infection Prevention and Control in Non-Acute Care U.S. Settings: 2020 APIC MegaSurvey, American Journal of Infection Control. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ajic.2022.08.005>

Tao, M. Liu, J. **Cervantes, D.** (2022). Association between magnesium intake and cognition in US older adults: National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES) 2011-2014. Alzheimer's & Dementia: Translational Research & Clinical Interventions. 8(1). <https://doi.org/10.1002/trc2.12250>

Adams, J., Mauldin, T., Yates, K., Ashe, T., **Cervantes, D.**, Tao, M. (2022). Factors related to the accurate application of NHSN surveillance definitions for CAUTI and CLABSI in Texas hospitals: A cross-sectional survey. American Journal of Infection Control. 50(1), 111-113. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ajic.2021.07.007>

Cervantes, D. and Hei, H. (2022). Journal Club: Racial disparities in catheter-related urinary tract infections among elderly trauma patients in the US. American Journal of Infection Control. 50(1), 120-121. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ajic.2021.10.006>

Ananth S., Shrestha N., Treviño C J.A., Nguyen U.S., Haque U., Angulo-Molina A., Lopez-Lemus U.A., Lubinda J., Sharif R.M., Zaki R.A., Sánchez Casas R.M., **Cervantes D.**, Nandy R. Clinical Symptoms of Arboviruses in Mexico. Pathogens. (2020) Nov 19;9(11). doi: 10.3390/pathogens9110964.

Shrestha N., Shad M.Y., Ulvi O., Khan M.H., Karamchic-Muratovic A., Nguyen U.D.T., Baghbanzadeh M., Wardrup R., Aghamohammadi N., **Cervantes D.**, Nahiduzzaman K.M., Zaki R.A., Haque U. The impact of COVID-19 on globalization. One Health. (2020). Oct 13;100180.

Cervantes D., Honza H., Lynch D., *et al.* Notes from the Field: Mumps Outbreak Associated with Cheerleading Competitions — North Texas, December 2016–February 2017. MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep 2018; 67:1019–1020.

Vaidehi, S., Kirsch, KR., **Cervantes, D.**, Zane, DF., Haywood, T. and Horney, JA. (2017) Flash Flood Swift Water Rescues, Texas, 2005-2014. Climate Risk Management (17), 11-20.

Cervantes, DT., Ball, JM., Edwards, J., Payne, SL. (2016). Horses naturally infected with equine infectious anemia virus (EIAV) harbor 2 distinct populations of surface protein (SU) but are monophyletic with respect to integrase (IN). Virus Genes, 52 (1), 71-80.

Cervantes, DT., Chen, S., Sutor, L. J., Stonecipher, S., Janoski, N., Wright, D.J., & Busch, MP. (2015). West Nile Virus Infection Incidence Based on Donated Blood Samples and Neuroinvasive Disease Reports, Northern Texas, USA, 2012. Emerging Infectious Diseases, 21(4), 681–683.

Fritschel, E., Sanyal, K., Threadgill, H., & **Cervantes, D.** (2015). Fatal Legionellosis after Water Birth, Texas, USA, 2014. Emerging Infectious Diseases, 21(1), 130–132.

Chevalier MS, Chung W, Smith J, Weil LM, Hughes SM, Joyner SN, Hall E, Srinath D, Ritch J, Thathiah P, Threadgill H, **Cervantes D**, Lakey DL; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). (2014). Ebola virus disease cluster in the United States--Dallas County, Texas, 2014. *MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep*. Nov 21; 63(46):1087-8.

Cervantes, D., Fischbach, L.A., Goodman, KJ., Phillips, C., Chen, S., & Broussard, C. (2010). Exposure to *Helicobacter pylori*-positive Siblings and Persistence of *Helicobacter pylori* Infection in Early Childhood. *Journal of Pediatric Gastroenterology and Nutrition*, 50(5), 481–485.

Cervantes, DT., & Fischbach, LA. (2010). Gastric cardia adenocarcinoma in Taiwanese men: Positive associations due to selection bias. *World Journal of Gastroenterology: WJG*, 16(12), 1553–1554.

Ojha RP, **Cervantes D**, Fischbach LA. (2007). Oral pentoxifylline and pentavalent antimony for treatment of leishmaniasis: promising but inconclusive evidence of superiority, compared with antimony monotherapy. *Clinical Infectious Diseases*. 45(8):1104.

Abstracts

Cervantes, D. and Krenek-Schneider, BN. (2025). Integrating Residents' Rights and Infection Prevention in Nursing Homes: ICARE Education and Skills Fair Pilot Assessment. *American Journal of Infection Control*, 53:6(S25).

Cervantes, D. (2023). Infection Control Advocate and resident education (ICARE): Person-centered infection prevention for quality care, *Innovation in Aging*, Volume 7, Issue Supplement_1, December 2023, Page 480, <https://doi.org/10.1093/geroni/igad104.1579>

Ross, S., **Cervantes, D.**, Severance, J. and Knebl, J. (2022). Promoting resident safety through training for certified nurse aides, residents, families, and ombudsmen. Gerontological Society of America Annual Scientific Meeting, Indianapolis, IN.

Dodgen, L., Kitzman, H., Spence, E., Abdullah, M., Walters, S.T., & **Cervantes, D.** (2022). What's theory got to do with it: measuring effects of theory on lifestyle behaviors and weight in the Better Me Within Trial. American Public Health Association Annual Meeting & Expo, Boston, MA, United States.

Mauldin, T., Adams, J., Zumwalt, C. **Cervantes, D.**, Ashe, T., Tao, M. (2021). Factors related to the accurate application of NHSN surveillance definitions for CAUTI and CLABSI in Texas hospitals. *American Journal of Infection Control*. 49(6):S16-17.

Dang, T., **Cervantes, D.**, Honza, H. (2018). Infection control measures in healthcare facilities amidst a community outbreak of mumps. *American Journal of Infection Control*. 46(6):S23.

Cervantes, D., Fischbach, LA., Goodman, KJ., and Cardenas, V. (2006). Exposure to *H. Pylori*-positive siblings and persistence of *H. Pylori* infection in early childhood. *American Journal of Epidemiology*. 163(suppl_11):S12-S12.

Conference and Professional Meeting Presentations

Podium Presentations

Cervantes, D. and Ducayet, P. (August 2024). Infection Control Advocate and Resident Education (ICARE) Program: Balancing Infection Control and Resident Rights in Nursing Home Communities. Annual Conference, Quality in Long-Term Care Conference. Austin, TX.

Cervantes, D. (November 2023). Infection Control Advocate and Resident Education (ICARE): Person-Centered Infection Prevention for Quality Care. Annual Conference, Gerontological Society of America, Tampa, FL.

Cervantes, D. (October 2023). Infection Control Advocate and Resident Education (ICARE): Balancing Infection Control & Resident Rights in Nursing Home Communities. Annual Conference, National Consumers Voice, Baltimore, MD.

Cervantes, D. (June 2023). Preventing Infections and Protecting Resident Rights: Infection Control Advocate and Resident Education (ICARE) Program for Nursing Home Care Quality Improvement. Annual Conference, Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists. Salt Lake City, UT.

Cervantes, D. (June 2022). Next steps for infection prevention & control in non-acute care settings: 2020 APIC MegaSurvey Review. Annual Conference, Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology. Indianapolis, IN.

Cervantes, D. (June 2021). APIC 2020 MegaSurvey: Infection prevention in non-acute care settings. Annual Conference, Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology. Virtual Conference.

Dieyi, C. and **Cervantes, D.** (July 2017). Establishment of midwifery guidelines for waterbirth. Research Rounds, Texas Department of State Health Services. Austin, TX.

Cervantes, D., Honza, H., Retana, JD., Pulvino, S., VanAuker, L., LaMandoza, K., Lockwood, L., and Cohlma, C. (June 2017). Mumps Outbreak in Johnson County, Texas, November 2016-March 2017. Annual Conference, Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists. Boise, ID.

Cervantes, D. and Dang, T. (June 2017). Infection control training and certification: lessons learned from public health epidemiologists and infection preventionists. Annual Conference, Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists. Boise, ID.

Cantu, V., Leos, G., Abanyie, F., Herwaldt, B., **Cervantes, D.**, Hall, E., Srinath, D., Thibodaux, C., Broussard, J., and Wellman, A. (June 2014). Cyclosporiasis outbreak in Texas, 2014. Annual Conference, Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists. Boston, MA.

Poster Presentations

Krenek-Schneider, BN. and **Cervantes, D.** (June 2025). Integrating Residents' Rights in Nursinig Homes: ICARE Education and Skills Fair Pilot Assessment. Annual Conference, Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology. Phoenix, AZ.

Krenek-Schneider, BN. and **Cervantes, D.** (May 2025). Integrating Residents' Rights in Nursnig Homes: ICARE Education and Skills Fair Pilot Assessment. Research Appreciation Day, The University of North Texas Health Science Center. Fort Worth, Texas. **Winner: 2025 Community Engaged Research Award and 1st Place- Excellence in Patient Safety Research.**

Adams, J., Mauldin, T., Yates, K., Zumwalt, C., Ashe, T., **Cervantes, D.** and Tao, M. (June 2021). Factors Related to the Accurate Application of NHSN Surveillance Definitions for CAUTI and CLABSI in Texas Hospitals: A Cross-Sectional Survey. Annual Conference, Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology. Virtual Conference.

Retana, JD., **Cervantes, D.** (June 2016). Study of cyclospora outbreaks using the case-chaos study design. Annual Conference, Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists. Anchorage, AK.

Pulvino, S., **Cervantes, D.**, Migala, W. (April 2016). Study of cyclospora outbreaks using the case-chaos study design. 93rd Annual Education Conference, Texas Public Health Conference. Galveston, TX.

Cervantes, D., Fritschel, E. and Fordjour, Emmanuel. (June 2015). Infection control and midwifery: a survey of waterbirth practices. Annual Conference, Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists. Boston, MA.

Jones, R., **Cervantes, D.**, Rodriguez, J., and Wiseman, R. (June 2014). North Texas measles outbreak, 2013. Annual Conference, Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists. Nashville, TN.

Cervantes, D., Busch, MP., Sutor, LJ., Moerbe, M., Janoski, N., Marshall, K. and Kurian, A. (June 2013). West Nile Virus Infections in North Texas, 2012: estimation based on viremic blood donors and neuroinvasive disease. Annual Conference, Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists. Pasadena, CA.

Invited Seminars & Presentations

“ICARE: Infection Control Advocate and Resident Education- Integrating Infection Prevention and Residents’ Rights”. LeadingAge, Kansas. 16-17 October 2024.

“ICARE: Infection Control Advocate and Resident Education- Resident Rights and Infection Prevention”. Texas Long-Term Care Ombudsman Office. 28 February 2023.

“Introducing ICARE: Infection Control Advocate and Resident Education”. TMF Nursing Home Educational Session. 13 March 2023.

“Nursing home advocacy”. NETX Counts Health Champion Community Meeting. Tarleton State University. 13 October 2022.

“Lessons from COVID-19: What has Tarrant County learned?”. Community Panel Discussion, Fort Worth Report. 19 October 2022.

“Person-centered prevention: The key to pandemic progress”. TEDx, The University of North Texas. 1 October 2021. <https://youtu.be/Grp68nSQAU0>

“Chancellor’s UNT World Town Hall: COVID-19 Update”. 29 Sept 2021. <https://youtu.be/BDK0sGfty3I>

“Aging through a pandemic: what you need to know to help your older adult patients”. Grand Rounds- Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine, Health Science Center. 9 June 2021.

“COVID-19 Variants- Update for Providers”. TMF Community Coalition (Wichita Falls, Sherman, North Texas). 3 June 2021.

“Leadership in Public Health: Panel Discussion”. Texas Public Health Association, 2021 Annual Education Conference. 19 May 2021.

“COVID-19 Vaccine: Expert Community Panel”. DeSoto Police Clergy and Community COVID-19 Vaccine and Virus Informational Town Hall. 23 March 2021.

“B Movies and Bad History: Outbreaks- exploring the stories behind on-screen outbreaks”. Bullock Museum. Online Program. 28 January 2021.

“COVID-19: The press and the public’s health”. Opening Keynote Speaker for the American Society for Microbiology- Texas Branch, Annual Conference. 5 November 2020. Virtual Conference.

“Infection Control and Health Literacy”. Texas Women’s Policy Forum, symposium. 23 October 2020.

“COVID-19 Status Update”. UNTHSC Safety Town Hall. 4 September 2020. Virtual Town Hall.

“TLA Talks: COVID-19 Safety & Managing Risk When Opening”. Texas Library Association. Webinar. 30 June 2020.

“Safe return to school: COVID-19 state and national trends”. Crowley Independent School District. Virtual Town Hall. 16 June 2020.

“Coronavirus: Overview and FAQs”. The University of North Texas, Dallas. 17 March 2020. Dallas, TX.

“Epidemiology data and beyond”. 13th Weatherford College Annual Coyote Area Math Championship. 6 February 2015. Weatherford, TX.

“Foodborne outbreaks among vulnerable populations”. The Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology, Dallas-Fort Worth Chapter. 3 September 2015.

Dallas, TX. “West Nile regional response”. Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity (ELC) Epidemiology Workshop, Texas Department of State Health Services. 23 February 2003. Austin, TX.

Fellowships and Scholarships

2022-current Fellow, Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology (FAPIC). Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology.

2019-2021 Fellow, Steps Toward Academic Research (STAR) Fellowship. Texas Center for Health Disparities. The University of North Texas Health Science Center.

Additional Training

12/2020 Higher Education Teaching Certificate. The Derek Bok Center for Teaching and Learning, Harvard.

6/2019 Course Design Seven Day Working Retreat. Center for Integrative Learning, The University of North Texas Health Science Center.

Professional Societies

Memberships

09/2022- Present The Gerontological Society of America

05/2001- Present The American Society for Microbiology

08/2008-Present Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists

03/2013-Present American Society for Clinical Pathology

06/2013-Present Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Prevention and Epidemiology

06/2016-Present Texas Public Health Association

07/2014-Present Texas Society for Infection Control & Prevention

12/2018-Present Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America

Media Appearance and Interviews

News Op-Ed

Cervantes, D and Mansdorfer, D. (2020). “Fort Worth, here are the steps to take to prepare for coronavirus”. *The Star-Telegram*. 5 March 2020. Retrieved from <https://www.star-telegram.com/opinion/opn-columns-blogs/other-voices/article240911486.html>

News Interviews (Subject Matter Expert)

Fauzia, M. (2025). 5 years after COVID, what public health lessons has North Texas learned?. Dallas Morning News. 14 March 2025. <https://www.dallasnews.com/news/2025/03/14/5-years-after-covid-what-public-health-lessons-has-north-texas-learned/>

Fauzia, M. (2025). As the measles outbreak grows in Texas, what makes the virus so contagious? Dallas Morning News. 7 March 2025. <https://www.dallasnews.com/news/2025/03/07/as-the-measles-outbreak-grows-in-texas-what-makes-the-virus-so-contagious/>

Smith, A. (2024). It’s respiratory illness season: should you wear a mask when you vote? Dallas Morning News. 01 November 2024. <https://www.dallasnews.com/news/elections/2024/11/01/its-respiratory-illness-season-should-you-wear-a-mask-when-you-vote/>

McCarthy, C. (2023). ‘Risk of measles outbreak in Tarrant County increases as vaccinations fall in kids.’. Fort Worth Star-Telegram 23 January 2023. <https://www.star-telegram.com/news/local/crossroads-lab/article271609062.html>

Church, A. (2022). “Tarrant County COVID positivity, spread rates at record highs”. Fort Worth Star-Telegram. 04 January 2022. <https://www.star-telegram.com/news/coronavirus/article257010862.html>

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Allison, A. (2021). “Listen: How does the flu differ from COVID-19? Fort Worth expert explains”. Fort Worth Report. 27 October 2021. <https://fortworthreport.org/2021/10/27/listen-how-does-the-flu-differ-from-covid-19-fort-worth-expert-explains/>

Allison, A. (2021). “What you need to know about the delta variant”. Fort Worth Report. 28 July 2021. <https://fortworthreport.org/2021/07/28/what-you-need-to-know-about-the-delta-variant/>

Allen, S. (2021) “How will Fort Worth TX schools deal with the COVID-19 surge?”. Fort Worth Star-Telegram. 30 July 2021. <https://www.star-telegram.com/news/local/crossroads-lab/article252884073.html>

Gram, S. (2021). “Untreatable fungus spreads in two Dallas-area hospitals”. Fort Worth Star-Telegram. 23 July 2021. <https://www.star-telegram.com/news/local/article252975523.html>

Smith, K. (2021). “We asked 3 health experts: what do parents of kids under 12 need to know about the new mask recommendation”. Dallas Morning News. 22 July 2021. <https://www.dallasnews.com/news/2021/07/22/we-asked-3-health-experts-what-do-parents-of-kids-under-12-need-to-know-about-the-new-mask-recommendation/>

Lopez, B. (2021). “Delta variant COVID cases increasing”. Fort Worth Star-Telegram. 6 July 2021. <https://www.star-telegram.com/news/coronavirus/article252630023.html>

Robb, J. (2021). "COVID safe? CWS brings uncertain virus risks, especially for unvaccinated". Omaha World Herald. 16 June 2021. https://omaha.com/lifestyles/health-med-fit/covid-safe-cws-brings-uncertain-virus-risks-especially-for-unvaccinated/article_d6ff3ea0-cdf3-11eb-9d73-2369e8c9c4f9.html

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Wilson, J. (2021). "The Texas Rangers opened Globe Life Field a month ago. There's been no COVID spike." *Fort Worth Star Telegram*. 7 May 2021. <https://www.star-telegram.com/sports/mlb/texas-rangers/article251216364.html>

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Maddox, W. (2020). "The vaccine is not 'fairy dust', and normalcy may still be months away." *D Magazine*. 31 December 2020. <https://www.dmagazine.com/healthcare-business/2020/12/the-vaccine-is-not-fairy-dust-and-normalcy-may-still-be-months-away/>

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Kennedy, B. (2020). "Thanksgiving safety tips include a warning: Watching Dallas Cowboys can be dangerous". *Fort Worth Star Telegram*. 1 November 2020. <https://www.star-telegram.com/entertainment/restaurants/eats-beat/article246850622.html>

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Najmabadi, S. and Walters, E. (2020). "How a glitchy computer system skewed Texas' coronavirus data and hampered its pandemic response". *Texas Tribune*. 24 September 2020. <https://www.texastribune.org/2020/09/24/texas-coronavirus-response-data/>

Smith, M. (2020). "UTEP COVID-19 testing program yet to reach capacity, though campus has low positivity rate". *El Paso Times*. 23 September 2020. <https://www.elpasotimes.com/story/news/education/2020/09/23/utep-covid-19-testing-program-yet-reach-weekly-capacity/5828153002/>

Carter, S. (2020). "Dallas Cowboys home game could lead to surge in coronavirus cases, health experts warn". *Dallas Observer*. 14 September 2020. <https://www.dallasobserver.com/news/dallas-cowboys-game-could-lead-to-surge-in-coronavirus-cases-public-health-experts-warn-11942575>

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Dent, M. (2020). "COVID hasn't hit these 4 Texas counties, where 'social distancing is kind of the norm'. *Fort Worth Star Telegram*. 4 August 2020. <https://www.star-telegram.com/article244689182.html>

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Lopez, B. (2020). "UT Arlington has eyes on fall reopening, expects more coronavirus cases on campus". *Fort Worth Star Telegram*. 13 July 2020. <https://www.star-telegram.com/news/local/education/article244156287.html>

Dent, M and Weinberg, T. (2020). "Testing and tracing are needed to stop COVID. Why Tarrant County is struggling with both". *Fort Worth Star Telegram*. 10 July 2020. <https://www.star-telegram.com/news/coronavirus/article244107537.html>

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