

RAJ DESAI, MS, PhD Candidate

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EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

University of Florida, Gainesville, FL, USA

Ph.D. Pharmaceutical Outcomes and Policy

Expected January 2022

St. John's University, NY, USA

M.S. Pharmacy Administration

July 2017

Institute of Chemical Technology, Mumbai, India

Bachelor of Pharmacy

June 2015

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida

August 2017-Present

Department of Pharmaceutical Outcomes and Policy, Graduate Research Assistant

- Conducting (study design, statistical analysis and drafting manuscripts) health outcomes research studies in the therapeutic areas of cancer, pain, mental health, and cardiovascular diseases using administrative claims data (IBM MarketScan, PharMetrics Plus, United States Renal Data System, SEER-Medicare) and electronic medical records.

AbbVie, Chicago, Illinois

Intern, Health Economics and Outcomes Research (Immunology)

May 2020-August 2020

- Led (generating, consolidating, and presenting) real world evidence studies using in-house databases to inform internal stakeholders such as brand leads, analytics, market access, and medical affairs
 - Generated and consolidated evidence on the economic burden of fatigue associated with Inflammatory Bowel Disease
 - Identified suboptimal outcomes and unmet needs in Inflammatory Bowel Disease for internal decision making and strategy development to support launch of current and new products
- Participated in the Evidence Generation teams to develop and align on strategies to support launch of new products

Vertex Pharmaceuticals, Boston, Massachusetts

May 2019-August 2019

Intern, Real World Evidence

- Conducted systematic literature reviews and consolidated evidence on the global epidemiology of acute pain to inform commercial viability of assets under development
- Conducted administrative claims data analyses to characterize:
 - Epidemiology, aspects of the patient journey, healthcare utilization and cost of care analyses to inform assessments of the commercial viability of potential assets being considered by business development
- Developed hands on experience with conducting claims database analyses using the Amazon RedShift data warehouse including SQL based tools to analyze claims data in a cloud computing platform
- Participated in the Evidence Generation teams to develop and align on strategies to support launch and life cycle management of new products

UF Health, Department of Neuromedicine, Gainesville, Florida

May 2018-December 2018

Quality Improvement Graduate Intern

- Conducted data analysis of Electronic Health Records and collaborated on abstracts for projects to be presented in major forums
- Designed the "TeachBack study" where we successfully developed and implemented an adherence assessment of specialty specific TeachBack protocol to ensure that providers effectively communicate with patients and family members

The ISPOR Oncology Health Economics Modeling Special Interest Group (SIG)

September 2016- Present

Student Researcher/Abstract Reviewer

- Participated in a team based systematic literature review for health economics modeling for oncology treatment using PRISMA guidelines. Reviewed over 5000 articles with the team consisting of students and Research Associates from the industry.

PROFESSIONAL SKILLS

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|---|--|
| • Research- Outcomes, Qualitative, Quantitative | • SAS/SPSS/TreeAge/MS Excel/MS Power Point |
| • Qualitative and Quantitative Data Analysis | • Primary Data Collection |

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Articles

Health Economics/Healthcare Utilization

1. Hong, YR., Huo, JH., **Desai, R.**, Cardel, M., Deshmukh, AA. Excess Costs and Economic Burden of Obesity-Associated Cancers in the United States. *Value in Health* (2019). doi:10.1016/j.jval.2019.07.004
2. Dietrich E., **Desai R.**, Garg M., Park H., Smith SM. Reimbursement of ambulatory blood pressure monitoring in the US commercial insurance marketplace. *J Clin Hypertens*. 2019;00:1–10. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jch.13772>
3. **Desai, R.**, Hong, Y. R. & Huo, J. Utilization of pain medications and its effect on quality of life, health care utilization and associated costs in individuals with chronic back pain. *Journal of Pain Research* (2019). doi:10.2147/JPR.S187144
4. Huo, J., **Desai, R.**, Hong, YR., Turner, K., Mainous, AG, Bian, J. Use of Social Media in Health Communication: Findings From the Health Information National Trends Survey 2013, 2014, and 2017. *Cancer Control* **26**, 1073274819841442 (2019).
5. **Desai, R.**, Jo, A. & Marlow, N. M. Risk of medication non-adherence among Medicaid enrollees with fibromyalgia: Development of a validated risk prediction tool. *Pain Pract. Off. J. World Inst. Pain* (2018). doi:10.1111/papr.12743.
6. **Desai, R.** & Nayak, R. Effects of Medication Nonadherence and Comorbidity on Health Resource Utilization in Schizophrenia. *J. Manag. Care Spec. Pharm.* 25, 37–46 (2019).
7. **Desai, R.** & Sonawane, K. Depression treatment use among stroke individuals with depression: A cross-sectional analysis of the Medical Expenditure Panel Survey. *Res. Soc. Adm. Pharm. RSAP* (2018). doi:10.1016/j.sapharm.2018.11.009

Clinical/Health Services Research

1. **Desai, R.**, Park, H., Dietrich, E. A. & Smith, S. M. Trends in ambulatory blood pressure monitoring use for confirmation or monitoring of hypertension and resistant hypertension among the commercially insured in the U.S., 2008–2017. *International Journal of Cardiology Hypertension* 100033 (2020) doi:10.1016/j.ijchy.2020.100033.
2. **Desai, R.**, Dietrich, E. A., Park, H. & Smith, S. M. Out-of-Pocket Payment for Ambulatory Blood Pressure Monitoring Among Commercially Insured in the United States. *Am J Hypertens* doi:10.1093/ajh/hpaa120.
3. **Desai, R.**, Camacho, F., Tan, X., LeBaron, V., Blackhall, L., & Balkrishnan, R. (2019). Mental Health Comorbidities and Elevated Risk of Opioid Use in Elderly Breast Cancer Survivors Using Adjuvant Endocrine Treatments. *Journal of Oncology Practice*, JOP1800781. <https://doi.org/10.1200/JOP.18.00781>
4. Renfro, C. P., Turner, K., **Desai, R.**, Counts, J., Shea, C. M., & Ferreri, S. P. (2019). Implementation process for comprehensive medication review in the community pharmacy setting. *Journal of the American Pharmacists Association: JAPhA*. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.japh.2019.07.007>
5. Park H., **Desai, R.**, Liu, Xinyue L., Smith, S., Hincapie-Castillo, J., Goodin, A., Gopal, S., Pepine, C., Mohandas, R. Effects of Medicare Bundled Payment Policy on Anemia Care, Major Adverse Cardiovascular Events, and Mortality Among Adults Undergoing Hemodialysis: A Cohort Study. *Journal of the American Society of Nephrology* (in press)

Selected Posters Presentations

- **Desai R.**, Marlow NM. Effect of medication non-adherence on healthcare resource utilization in patients with Fibromyalgia syndrome (FMS): A retrospective cohort study, *ISPOR, Baltimore, MD, May 2018 (Finalist)*
- **Desai R.**, Nayak R. Non-adherence to antipsychotics and disease comorbidity: A double whammy in schizophrenia management, *ISPOR, Baltimore, MD, May 2018*
- **Desai R.**, Nayak R. Evaluating the healthcare utilization and economic burden due to depression comorbidity in Dementia: A propensity score matched analysis, *AMCP, Boston, MA, April 2018*

- **Desai R**, Camacho F, Tan X, LeBaron V, Blackhall L, Balkrishnan R. Mental Health Comorbidities and Elevated Risk of Opioid Use in Elderly Breast Cancer Survivors using Adjuvant Endocrine Treatments, *ISPOR, Barcelona, Spain, November 2018 (Finalist)*
- Salloum RG, Huo JH, **Desai R**, Jesse D, Thomas WG, Graham W. Tobacco and nicotine product use among cancer survivors in the United States: Population Assessment of Health and Tobacco Study, 2013-2014. *The 25th Annual Meeting of the Society for Research on Nicotine and Tobacco. San Francisco, California, February 2019*
- **Desai R**, Dietrich E, Park H, Garg M, Smith S. Reimbursement of Ambulatory Blood Pressure Monitoring in the commercial insurance marketplace: A claim analysis of Truven Marketscan, *ISPOR, New Orleans, May 2019*
- **Desai R**, Dietrich E, Park H, Garg M, Smith S. The Out of Pocket Burden of Ambulatory Blood Pressure Monitoring: A United States Perspective in the commercial Insurance Marketplace, *ISPOR, New Orleans, May 2019*
- **Desai R**, Camacho F, Balkrishnan R. Impact of Depression and Anxiety on Adherence to Adjuvant Endocrine Treatments in Elderly Breast Cancer Survivors, *ISPOR, New Orleans, May 2019 (Finalist)*
- Smith, S, **Desai, R**, Dietrich, E, Park, H. Trends in Ambulatory and Home Blood Pressure Monitoring Use for Confirmation of Hypertension or Resistant Hypertension Among the Commercially Insured in the U.S., 2008-2017, *Hypertension 2019 Scientific Sessions, New Orleans, September 2019*
- **Desai R**, Smith SM, Mohandas R, Park H, Comparative Safety Of Epoetin Versus Darbepoetin In Prevention Of Major Adverse Cardiovascular Events In Patients Undergoing Hemodialysis, *ICPE All Access, September 2020*

Podium Presentations

- **Desai R**, Thai T, Pham P, S Stephan, Winterstein A, Brown J, Risk of thrombosis associated with drug-drug interactions between oral hormonal contraceptives and verapamil or diltiazem, *ISPE Mid year, April 2021*

PROFESSIONAL AWARDS

- **Graduate Student Superhero award**, College of Pharmacy, University of Florida, May 2021
- **ISPOR Distinguished Service Award**, May 2021
- **Best Poster Award**, Comparative Safety of Epoetin Versus Darbepoetin In Prevention of Major Adverse Cardiovascular Events In Patients Undergoing Hemodialysis, *ICPE All Access, September 2020*
- **Graduate Student Publishing POP Star Award**, Department of Pharmaceutical Outcomes and Policy, College of Pharmacy, University of Florida, February 2020

LEADERSHIP

- President, University of Florida ISPOR student Chapter (2021-2022)
- Vice President, University of Florida ISPOR student Chapter (2020-2021)
- Secretary, University of Florida ISPOR student Chapter (2019-2020)
- ISPOR Student Network Planning Committee (2019-present)
- Graduate Student Representative, Department of Pharmaceutical Outcomes and Policy, University of Florida (2020-2021)