

# SLAWA ROKICKI, PH.D.

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**ORCID:** [0000-0001-9176-373X](https://orcid.org/0000-0001-9176-373X)

**Google Scholar:** [profile](#)

**Research interests:** maternal and child health; social and structural determinants; policy evaluation; perinatal mental health; health disparities; health services research; adolescent health; global health

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## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- 2023 – present    **Assistant Professor**  
Department of Health Behavior, Society, & Policy  
Rutgers School of Public Health
- 2019 – 2023    **Instructor**  
Department of Health Behavior, Society, & Policy  
Rutgers School of Public Health;
- 2018 – present    **Visiting Scientist**  
Department of Global Health and Population  
Harvard T. H. Chan School of Public Health,
- 2016 – 2019    **Post-Doctoral Fellow in Health Economics**  
Geary Institute for Public Policy  
University College Dublin, Dublin, Ireland

## EDUCATION

- 2016    Ph.D., Harvard University Health Policy, Evaluative Sciences and Statistics
- 2012    M.S., Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health  
Global Health & Population
- 2005    B.S., University of Maryland, College Park  
Mathematics

## PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

\* indicates graduate student or trainee co-author

- 2025    Rokicki, S., Oviedo, D., Perreault, N., Bates, M.A., Zhou, R.A., Baicker, K., McConnell, M.A. (2025) Impact of Nurse Home Visiting on Take-up of Social Safety Net Programs in a Medicaid Population. *Health Affairs Scholar*. [in-press]
- 2024    Ofrane, R. \*, **Rokicki, S.**, Kantor, L., Blumenfeld, J. (2025) [Financial Barriers to Expanded Birth Center Access in NJ: A Qualitative Thematic Analysis](#). *Journal of Midwifery & Women's Health*.
- Rokicki, S.**, Oviedo, D., Perreault, N., Zera, C., McGregor, A., Bates, M.A., Zhou, R.A., Baicker, K., McConnell, M.A. (2024) [Home Visits and the Use of Routine and Emergency Postpartum Care among Low Income Women: A Randomized Clinical Trial](#). *JAMA Network Open*.
- Rokicki, S.**, Patel, M. \*, Suplee, P. D'Oria, R. (2024) [Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Access to Community-Based Perinatal Mental Health Programs: Results from a Cross-Sectional Survey](#). *BMC Public Health*.

- Rokicki, S.** (2024) [Perinatal depression associated with increased pediatric emergency department use in first year of life.](#) *Health Affairs*; 43(4).
- Rokicki, S.** & McConnell, M.A. (2024) [Racial and Socioeconomic Disparities in Preconception Health Risk Factors and Access to Care.](#) *Journal of Women's Health.*
- 2023 **Rokicki, S.,** Mackie, T., D’Oria, R., Flores, M., Watson, A., Byatt, N., Suplee, P. (2023) [A Qualitative Investigation of the Experiences of Women with Perinatal Depression and Anxiety during the COVID-19 Pandemic.](#) *Maternal and Child Health Journal.*
- Rokicki, S.,** Reichman, N., McGovern, M.E. (2023) [Association of Increasing the Minimum Wage in the US With Experiences of Maternal Stressful Life Events.](#) *JAMA Network Open*; 6(7): e2324018.
- McGovern, M.E., **Rokicki, S.,** Reichman, N. (2023) [Neighborhood-level housing affordability and maternal depression.](#) *SSM-Mental Health*, 3, 100192.
- 2022 **Rokicki, S.,** Steenland, M. W., Geiger, C. K., Gourevitch, R. A., Chen, L., Martin, M. W., & Cohen, J. L. (2022). [Trends in postpartum mental health care before and during COVID-19.](#) *Health Services Research.*
- McConnell, M.A., **Rokicki, S.,** Ayers, S., Allouch, F., Perreault, N., Gourevitch, R., Martin, M., Zhou, R.A., Zera, C., Hacker, M., Chien, A., Bates, M.A., and Baicker, K. (2022). [Effect of an Intensive Nurse Home Visiting Program on Adverse Birth Outcomes in a Medicaid-eligible Population: A Randomized Clinical Trial.](#) *JAMA.* 328(1):27-37.
- Clarke-Deelder, E.[1], **Rokicki, S.**[1], McGovern, M.E.[1], Birabwa, C., Cohen, J., Waiswa, P., Abbo, C. (2022). [Levels of depression, anxiety, and psychological distress among Ugandan adults during the first wave of the COVID-19 pandemic: cross-sectional evidence from a mobile phone-based population survey.](#) *Global Mental Health.* 1-11. [1]-joint first authors
- McGovern, M.E., **Rokicki, S.,** Reichman, N. (2022). [Maternal depression and economic well-being: a quasi-experimental approach.](#) *Social Science & Medicine.*
- McGovern, M.E. and **Rokicki, S.** (2022) [The Great Recession, Household Income, and Children's Test Scores.](#) *Review of Income & Wealth.*
- Chang, W.\*, Mwesigwa, B., Waiswa, P., Cohen, J., & **Rokicki, S.** (2022) [Impact of reliable light and electricity on job satisfaction among maternity health workers in Uganda: A Cluster Randomized Trial.](#) *Human Resources for Health*, 20, 30.
- Ramella L, Schaefer AJ, **Rokicki S,** Adachi J, Thompson AB, Byatt N, Moore Simas T, & Mackie TI. (2022) [A national survey on Perinatal Psychiatry Access Program adaptations to promote perinatal mental healthcare equity.](#) *Gen. Hosp. Psychiatry.*
- 2021 **Rokicki, S.,** McGovern, M.E., Von Jaglinsky, A., Reichman, N. (2021) [Depression in the postpartum year and life course economic trajectories.](#) *American Journal of Preventive Medicine.*
- Rokicki, S.,** Mwesigwa, B., Waiswa, P., & Cohen, J. (2021). [Impact of Solar Light and Electricity on the Quality and Timeliness of Maternity Care: A Stepped-Wedge Cluster-Randomized Trial in Uganda.](#) *Global Health: Science & Practice.*
- Steenland, M., Geiger, C., Chen, L., **Rokicki, S.,** Gourevitch, R.A., Sinaiko, A., Cohen, J. (2021). [Declines in Contraceptive Visits in the United States during the COVID-19 Pandemic.](#) *Contraception.*
- Rokicki, S.** (2021) [Impact of Family Law Reform on Adolescent Reproductive Health in Ethiopia: A Quasi-Experimental Study.](#) *World Development.* 144.

- Rokicki, S.**, Mwesigwa, B., & Cohen, J. (2021) [Know-do gaps in obstetric and newborn care quality in Uganda: a cross-sectional study in rural health centers](#). *Tropical Medicine & International Health*. 26(5).
- Dalsania, A., Fastiggi, M., Kahlam, A., Shah, R., Patel, K., Shiau, S., **Rokicki, S.**, Dalla Piazza, M., (2021). [The Relationship between Social Determinants of Health and Racial Disparities in COVID-19 Mortality](#). *Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities*.
- 2020 O’Sullivan, E.J.[1], **Rokicki, S.**[1], Kennelly, M., Ainscough, K., McAuliffe, F.M. (2020). [Cost-effectiveness of a mobile health-supported lifestyle intervention for pregnant women with an elevated body mass index](#). *Int J of Obesity*. [1]-joint first authors
- 2019 **Rokicki, S.**, Mwesigwa, B., Schmucker, L., Cohen, J. (2019). [Shedding light on quality of care: A study protocol for a randomized trial evaluating the impact of the Solar Suitcase in rural health facilities on maternal and newborn care quality in Uganda](#). *BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth*. 19(306).
- Rokicki, S.** and McGovern, M.E. (2019). [Heterogeneity in Early Life Investments: A Longitudinal Analysis of Children’s Time Use](#). *Review of Income and Wealth*, 66(3), 647-676.
- 2018 Carvalho, N. and **Rokicki, S.** (2018). [The Impact of India's Janani Suraksha Yojana Conditional Cash Transfer Programme: A Replication Study](#). *Journal of Development Studies*, 55(5), 989-1006.
- Klein, N., Kneib, T., Marra, G., Radice R., **Rokicki, S.**, McGovern, ME. (2018). [Mixed Binary-Continuous Copula Regression Models with Application to Adverse Birth Outcomes](#). *Statistics in Medicine*, 38(3).
- Rokicki, S.** and Merten, S. (2018). [The Context of Emergency Contraception Use Among Young Unmarried Women in Accra, Ghana: A Qualitative Study](#). *Reproductive Health*. 15(212).
- Rokicki, S.** and McGovern, M.E. (2018). [Unequal Opportunities for Play? How Children Spend Their Time in Ireland](#). *Children’s Research Digest*, 5(2), 11-19.
- Rokicki, S.**, Cohen, J., Fink, G., Salomon, J.A., & Landrum, M.B. (2018). [Inference With Difference-in-Differences With a Small Number of Groups: A Review, Simulation Study, and Empirical Application Using SHARE Data](#). *Medical Care*, 56(1), 97-105.
- 2017 **Rokicki, S.** and Fink, G. (2017). [Assessing the Reach and Effectiveness of mHealth: Evidence from a Reproductive Health Program for Adolescent Girls in Ghana](#). *BMC Public Health*, 17(969).
- Rokicki, S.**, Cohen, J., Salomon, J. A., & Fink, G. (2017). [Impact of a Text-Messaging Program on Adolescent Reproductive Health: A Cluster-Randomized Trial in Ghana](#). *American Journal of Public Health*, 107(2), 298-305.
- 2016 **Rokicki, S.**, Adamkiewicz, G., Fang, S. C., Rigotti, N. A., Winickoff, J. P., & Levy, D. E. (2016). [Assessment of Residents’ Attitudes and Satisfaction Before and After Implementation of a Smoke-free Policy in Boston Multiunit Housing](#). *Nicotine & Tobacco Research*, 18(5), 1282-1289.
- Fang, S. C., Chen, S., Trachtenberg, F., **Rokicki, S.**, Adamkiewicz, G., & Levy, D. E. (2016). Validity of self-reported tobacco smoke exposure among non-smoking adult public housing residents. *PloS one*, 11(5).
- 2014 **Rokicki, S.**, Montana, L., & Fink, G. (2014). [Impact of Migration on Fertility and Abortion: Evidence from the Household and Welfare Study of Accra](#). *Demography*, 51(6), 2229-2254.

Raifman, J. R., Lanthorn, H. E., **Rokicki, S.**, & Fink, G. (2014). [The Impact of Text Message Reminders on Adherence to Antimalarial Treatment in Northern Ghana: A Randomized Trial.](#) *PLoS one*, 9(10), e109032.

## **WORKING PAPERS**

Perinatal depression and emergency department use in the first two years postpartum

Strategies for recruitment and retention in contemporary longitudinal birth cohort studies

Job satisfaction, mental health, and wellbeing of community health workers

“In the beginning, there wasn't a day that didn't go by that I wasn't crying”: A qualitative exploration of wellbeing and job satisfaction among community health workers

## **RESEARCH SUPPORT**

- 2025-2027 **The Impact of New Jersey's Paid Family Leave Expansion on Maternal Health.** (New Jersey State Policy Lab)  
**Principal Investigator**  
Total costs: \$20,360
- 2023-2026 **Minimum wages and maternal health in the U.S.** (R01 HD110482-01, NICHD)  
**Principal Investigator** (with MPI Mark McGovern)  
Total costs: \$2,437,741
- 2023-2025 **Evaluation of Nurture New Jersey** (New Jersey Department of Human Services)  
Co-investigator (PI Leslie Kantor)  
Total costs: \$2,000,000; salary support 15%
- 2023-2026 **Perinatal Depression and Emergency Department Visits in the Postpartum Period** (New Jersey Integrated Population Health Data Project)  
**Principal Investigator** (with MPI Mark McGovern)  
Total costs: \$58,884
- 2021-2025 **Community Health Workers for COVID Response and Resilient Communities (CCR) Evaluation** (New Jersey Department of Health (via CDC))  
**Principal Investigator**  
Total costs: \$881,725; Salary support: 25%
- 2022-2025 **Empowered Postpartum: A Targeted mHealth Intervention to Reduce Information Gaps, Unmet Need for Postpartum Contraception, and Unintended Pregnancy in Kenya** (USAID/Harvard University Motsepe Presidential Research Accelerator Fund for Africa)  
**Principal Investigator** (with MPIs Jessica Cohen and Margaret McConnell)  
Total costs: \$147,390; Salary support 15%
- 2020-2024 **Comparative Effectiveness of Perinatal Psychiatry Access Programs** (HIS-2019C2-17367; Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute)  
Co-Investigator (MPIs Nancy Byatt and Tom Mackie)  
Total costs: \$4,192,436; Salary support 13%
- 2016-2023 **Evaluation of Nurse Family Partnership** (Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health (via Children's Trust of South Carolina))  
Collaborator (PI Margaret McConnell)  
Salary support: 10%
- 2020-2022 **An Academic-Community Partnership to Prevent Perinatal Depression Among Low-income and Black Women** (UL1TR003017 Pilot; NJ ACTS Partnership and Innovation Pilot Grant)  
**Principal Investigator**

	Total costs: \$10,000
2021-2022	<b>Budget Impact Analysis of Community Doula Programs</b> (Burke Foundation) <b>Principal Investigator</b> Total costs: \$10,500
2020-2021	<b>The economic and social impacts of COVID-19 public health policies in Uganda</b> (Center for COVID-19 Response and Pandemic Preparedness and Center for COVID-19 Response and Pandemic Preparedness) <b>Principal Investigator</b> (with MPI Mark McGovern) Total costs: \$29,776
2020-2021	<b>The Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Health System Resilience in Uganda</b> <b>(Rutgers Research Council)</b> <b>Principal Investigator</b> (with MPI Mark McGovern) Total costs: \$4,638
2017-2020	<b>We Care Solar Evaluation Project</b> (UBS Optimus Foundation) <b>Principal Investigator</b> (with MPI Jessica Cohen) Total costs: \$479,720
2013-2016	<b>Study on mHealth and Reproductive Health in Teens</b> (Weiss Fund for Research in Development Economics) <b>Principal Investigator</b> Total costs: \$59,698
2013-2015	<b>Impact of India's JSY cash transfer programme: a replication study</b> (The International Initiative for Impact Evaluation (3ie) Replication Grant) <b>Principal Investigator</b> (with MPI Natalie Carvalho) Total costs: \$15,000

## HONORS AND DISTINCTIONS

2024	Rutgers Health Chancellor Excellence in Clinical or Health Sciences Research Award
2022	Rutgers University Faculty Community Engagement Award
2017	Universitas 21 for Early Career Researcher Development representative, Interculturality and Multiculturalism: the challenges for changing societies
2016	Irish Economic Association Conniffe Award for best paper by an early career economist
2015 – 2016	Population Reference Bureau U.S. Policy Communication Training Fellowship
2014 – 2015	Harvard Global Health Institute Advanced Doctoral Research Award (tuition & stipend)
2012 – 2014	Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality Training Grant (tuition and stipend)

## TEACHING AND SUPERVISION

### Teaching:

Rutgers	<i>Health Care Economics</i> ; Spring 2024; Fall 2024 <i>Health Systems &amp; Policy</i> ; Fall 2020-2022, Spring 2023
UCD	<i>Health Economics</i> ; Spring 2017, Spring 2018
Harvard	Teaching Fellow– <i>The Business and Politics of Health</i> ; Fall 2014 Teaching Assistant– <i>Measuring Population Health</i> ; Spring 2012 Instructor – <i>Math Camp for first-year doctoral students</i> ; Summer 2014

### Selected Guest lectures:

Rutgers	“Perinatal mental health” - <i>Repr. &amp; Perinatal Epi</i> (2022)
	“Social determinants of maternal & perinatal health” - <i>Repr. &amp; Perinatal Epi</i> (2020; 2021)
	“A Health Systems Approach to Maternal Mortality”, <i>Health Systems &amp; Policy</i> (2020-2022)
	“Disparities and determinants of maternal mortality in the United States” - <i>Foundations of Maternal &amp; Child Health</i> (2020; 2021)
	“Maternal health across the life course” - <i>Long Term Effects of Child Inequality &amp; Adversity</i> (2020; 2021; 2023; 2024)
Harvard	“Synthetic Control Method: Theory and Application” - <i>Econometric Methods in Impact Evaluation</i> (2019; 2020; 2021)
UCD	“Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals” – <i>Discovery Module</i> (2017; 2019)

### Supervision:

#### DrPH Committee Member:

Melanie Shefchik; Rutgers School of Public Health, 2023-2025  
Camille Walker; Rutgers School of Public Health, 2023-2025  
Rebecca Ofrane; Rutgers School of Public Health, 2022-2023  
Marie O’Mir, University College Dublin, 2018-2019

#### MPH Capstones:

Over 15 MPH capstone theses supervised from 2020-2025, Rutgers School of Public Health

## **PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY**

### Memberships

2020-present	American Society of Health Economists
2011-present	Population Association of America
2016-2019	Centre for Health Research at the Management School (CHaRMS) at Queen’s University Belfast
2017-2019	Childhood and Human Development Research Centre at University College Dublin

### Conference Session Organizer/Chair

2024-2025	Rutgers Equity Alliance for Community Health Symposium Organizer
2024	American Society of Health Economists
2020-2021	Population Association of America Annual Meeting
2012	Annual Harvard University African Development Conference
2010-2012	Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health Africa Health Forum Annual Conference

### Grant Reviewer

2025	Medical Research Council (UK Research and Innovation) Applied Global Health Research
2024	National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR) Global Health Policy and Systems Research Programme (UK Research & Innovation)
2020	Irish Research Council

2018 Medical Research Council (UK Research and Innovation)

Presentations at national and international conferences

2021 American Society of Health Economists Annual Conference  
2013, 2015- 17, 2020, 2022, 2025 Population Association of America  
2016, 2020 Advances in Field Experiments  
2020 Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management  
2019 International Health Economics Association World Congress  
2016, 2018 Irish Economic Association  
2018 Improving Maternal Health – From Evidence into Action  
2017 U21 Early Career Researcher Workshop  
2016 Economics and Human Biology  
2015 North East Universities Development Consortium  
2015 Centre for Study of African Economies at Oxford University  
2013 Global Health Metrics and Evaluation Conference

Invited Presentations

2024 Panelist - New Jersey Health Communities Network Community of Practice Event, “Maternal, Paternal, Caregiver, and Child Health”  
2024 Panelist - Health Affairs Issue Briefing and Virtual Forum, “Perinatal Mental Health & Well-Being”  
2023 University of Michigan, Program on Women's Health Care Effectiveness Research Seminar  
2022 Rutgers Center for COVID-19 Response and Pandemic Preparedness Retreat  
2021 Harvard University Department of Global Health & Population Brown Bag Seminar  
2020 Princeton University Fragile Families Working Group  
2020 Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, Willows Impact Evaluation Seminar  
2019 Maynooth University, Department of Economics  
2018 University College Dublin, Childhood and Human Development Research Centre  
2016 Queen’s University Belfast, Department of Economics  
2016 Trinity College Dublin, Global Health Institute  
2015 Harvard University, Department of Economics  
2015 Harvard Medical School, Department of Health Care Policy

Ad hoc Journal Reviewer

Health Affairs, JAMA Health Forum, Social Science and Medicine, Journal of Health Economics, Demography, Health Services Research, The Lancet Regional Health, Scientific Reports, International Journal of Gynecology and Obstetrics, Bulletin of the World Health Organization, Statistics in Medicine, World Development, BMJ Public Health, Journal of Women’s Health, Archives of Women’s Mental Health, SSM – Qualitative Research in Health, Statistics and Public Policy, Maternal and Child Health Journal, Family Medicine and Community Health, The Economic and Social Review, Journal of Midwifery

**OUTREACH AND MEDIA**

- New Jersey State Policy Lab, policy brief: ["Advancing Perinatal Mental Health Equity in New Jersey."](#)
- Bloomberg News (mentioned by 46 news outlets): [Raising Minimum Wage Benefits Health of Poor Mothers and Their Babies, Study Finds](#)
- Healio: [Maternal depression linked with long-term economic instability](#)
- WebMD: [Postpartum Depression Can Harm Women's Finances](#)
- msn.com: [Postpartum Depression Can Do Long-Term Harm to Women's Finances](#)
- U.S. News: [For Poor Kids, Less Time Spent on Reading, Exercise: Study](#), 09/2019
- Irish Independent: [Middle-aged still enjoy brain power benefits of being breastfed as babies](#), 12/2017
- Washington Post: [Why 2016 Was Actually One of The Best Years on Record](#), 12/2016
- Pulse.gh: [IPA research reveals how mobile phones improve reproductive health knowledge](#), 04/2016
- World Bank Development Impact Blog: [The Opposite of Sexting: Using Text Messages to Reduce Adolescent Pregnancy in Ghana](#), 10/2015

## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

### **Innovations for Poverty Action**

*Research assistant*

**Cape Coast/Tamale, Ghana**

*05/2011 – 08/2011*

### **Harvard Decision Science Lab**

*Research assistant*

**Cambridge, MA**

*02/2011 – 03/2013*

### **Vertex Pharmaceuticals**

*Senior Research Associate*

**Cambridge, MA**

*08/2008 – 08/2010*

### **United States Peace Corps**

*Math Teacher and Community Organizer*

**Brouwal Tappé, Guinea**

*06/2005 – 03/2007*

## **LANGUAGES**

English (native), French (conversational), Polish (conversational)