

Nadine Tassabehji, PhD, RDN, LDN

Curriculum Vitae

I. CONTACT INFORMATION

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II. EDUCATION

2017 *Dietetic Internship*, Tufts University, Boston, MA
2006 *Ph.D. in Nutrition*, Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL. *Concentration*: Neuroscience
2003 *M.S. in Nutrition*, Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL. *Concentration*: Clinical Nutrition
2001 *B.S. in Nutrition and Dietetics*, American University of Beirut, Beirut, Lebanon.

III. EMPLOYMENT HISTORY (ACADEMIC AND ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS)

Academic Appointments

2021 - Assistant Professor, Department of Comprehensive care, TUSDM, Boston, MA
2019- 2021 Clinical Instructor, Department of Comprehensive care, TUSDM, Boston, MA
2010-2011 Adjunct professor, STEM, Roxbury Community College, Boston, MA
2007-2008 Visiting Professor, American University of Beirut, Beirut, Lebanon
2003-2004 Teaching Assistant, Department of Nutrition, Food and Exercise Sciences, Florida State University, FL
2003-2004 Undergraduate advisor, Dept. of Nutrition, Food and Exercise Sciences, Florida State Uni., FL

Non-Academic Appointments

2019 - Dietetic Intern Preceptor, Frances Stern Nutrition Center, Tufts University, MA
2019- Co-course Director, Craniofacial Biology Course, TUSDM, Boston, MA
2003-2004 Undergraduate advisor, Department of Nutrition, Food and Exercise Sciences, Florida State University, FL.

IV. PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

Certification

2018- Registered Dietitian Nutritionist (RDN), Commission on Dietetic Registration. This is a national requirement for certification and practice for all dietitians.

Licensure

2018- Licensed Dietitian Nutritionist (LDN), Board of Registration of Dietitians and Nutritionists. This is a state mandate to practice in Massachusetts.

V. AWARDS, HONORS

2005 College of Human Sciences, Dissertation Research Grant, Florida State University, FL
2005 Gerber Foundation Predoctoral Fellowship, American Society for Nutritional Sciences, annual meeting.
2005, 2004 Susan Lucas Fellowship, College of Human Sciences, Florida State University, FL
2005, 2004 Robinson Endowed Fellowship, College of Human Sciences, Florida State University, FL
2004, 2003, 2002 Anne-Marie Erdman Scholarship, College of Human Sciences, Florida State University, FL
2002 Elsie Thomas Miller Scholarship, College of Human Sciences, Florida State University, FL
2002 Hallie Deaton Choate Scholarship, College of Human Sciences, Florida State University, FL

VI. TEACHING (DIDACTIC) AND EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP

Pre-Doctoral

Tufts University School of Dental Medicine

- 2021 Dietetic and Dental virtual Interprofessional Experience (Director for Virtual experience). February to May 2021.
- 2020 Mini Course-Care Comprehensive Risk Assessment (course preparation).
- 2020 Wellness course – Healthy eating for students (lecturer, 90min).
- 2019- Co-course director Craniofacial Biology Course (Dent 0115), TUSDM, Boston, MA.
- 2019- IDP-1 (DENT-0100) –Nutrition Counseling for dental students (lecturer, 90min).
- 2019- Cranio-facial biology (Dent 0115) –Introductory nutrition lectures (Lecturer 13 hours).
- 2019- Tissue injury and host defense (DENT-0121) – Nutrition and immune compromised patient (lecturer, 60min).
- 2019- Cardiovascular (Dent -0123) – Nutrition and Heart Disease (lecturer, 60min).
- 2019- Gastro-intestinal (Dent – 0126) - Nutrition and GI disorders (lecturer, 90min).
- 2019-2020 Gastro-intestinal (Dent – 0126) - Nutrition and Eating disorders (lecturer, 90min).
- 2019- Geriatrics seminar – Nutrition and aging D22, D23, D24 (lecturer, 60min).
- 2019- Geriatrics lecture series – Role of nutrition in oral health (lecturer, 60min).
- 2019- BaSiCSsss Seminar (Basic science faculty team Tantor and Lucy, (September to May).

Tufts University

- 2019- Dietetic Internship Preceptor, Frances Stern Nutrition Center, Tufts University, Boston, MA. (Preceptor and coordinator).
- 2021- Physician Assistant Program, Nutrition Course (PA-01218-01) – Role of Nutrition in Oral Health (lecturer, 90min).

Roxbury Community College

- 2010-2011 Undergraduate Biology I course (with laboratory), STEM, Roxbury Community College, Boston, MA.

Florida State University

- 2003-2004 Teaching assistant, Department of Nutrition, Food and Exercise Sciences, Florida State University, FL.

Post-Graduate

Tufts University School of Dental Medicine

- 2021 PG Periodontology – Role of nutrition in periodontal disease (2-hour seminar).
- 2019-2020 PG (DEG 203-1) – Applied Nutrition in Dentistry for Pediatric Post-Graduate residents (Lecturer, 13 lectures).

Tufts University

- 2019- Master of Biomedical Sciences (MBS) Program (MBS-0209-01), Tufts University, Boston, MA – Nutrition and oral health (Lecturer, 60-minute).

American University of Beirut

- 2007-2008 Graduate nutrition course, American University of Beirut, Lebanon (Lecturer, 15 lectures).

Continuing Education

- 2021 Dental Education Learning Teaching Academy (D.E.L.T. A) mini residency, TUSDM, Boston, MA – Faculty Calibration: How to create an integrated course? (Lecturer, 50 minutes).

Student Advisement and Mentorship

Research Mentoring

- 2021- Tamara Biary (D23), Dean's Research Scholar
Title - A meta-analysis evaluating the Effects of Bariatric Surgeries on Salivary Flow Rate, Caries Risk, and DMFT Scores.
Role – Primary mentor.
- 2021- Christina Mesbah (D22), Dietetic Intern
IRB Title - Oral Health and Nutrition Literacy.
Book title – Lilly's amusing day at the dentist.
Role – Primary mentor
- 2021-2021 Maggie Wu (D22), Poster presentation, ADEA
Title: The Multi-Faceted Role of Academic Dentistry: Teaching, Research, Service.
Role: Faculty member.
- 2021-2021 Tahir Hamza (D21), Poster submission to ADEA annual meeting
Title: Adapting a postgraduate course to a virtual setting: Problem, solution, and results.
Role – Secondary mentor.
- 2020-2021 Leah Knizner (D21), Dietetic Intern – Children's Book
IRB Title - Oral Health and Nutrition Literacy.
Book title – Lilly's amusing day at the dentist.
Role – Primary mentor.
- 2020-2021 Zoe Tabakin (D21), Dietetic Intern – Children's Book
IRB Title - Oral Health and Nutrition Literacy.
Book title – Lilly's amusing day at the dentist.
Role – Primary mentor.

Career Mentoring

- 2020-2021 Maggie Wu (D22) – Predoctoral Dental Student.
 2020-2021 Priyanka Kumar (D22) – Predoctoral Dental Student.

Educational Leadership

Local

- 2020 Tufts University, Center for the Enhancement of Learning and Technology (CELT) - Course development training.
- 2020 AxUim Improvement project (in collaboration with Natalie Hagel)
- 2019- Craniofacial Biology course mapping project (in Collaboration with Irina Dragan)
- 2019 Tufts University, Center for the Enhancement of Learning and Technology (CELT) - Active learning training course (CDI)

National

- 2021 ADEA Emerging Leaders Program – Fellow

International

VII. SCHOLARSHIP, INVESTIGATION AND DISCOVERY

Detailed List of All Fellowships & Grants Received

- 2021** NIDCR UG3/ UH3 - Novel App-based intervention for group home caregivers to reduce oral health disparities among individuals with IDD.
Principal Investigator: John Morgan (TUSDM).
Team Members: Mathew Finkelman (TUSDM), Nadine Tassabehji (TUSDM), and Andrea Ferreira Zandona (TUSDM).
Status: Submitted.
- 2021** Tree Fund for Professional Development – to attend ADEA Emerging Leaders Program.
 Percent effort: 100%.
 Total award: \$2050.
- 2020** Developing a proposal to an intervention study to improve the oral health of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities
Principal Investigator: John Morgan (TUSDM).
Team Members: Mathew Finkelman (TUSDM), Ellen Patterson (TUSDM), Nadine Tassabehji (TUSDM), and Andrea Ferreira Zandona (TUSDM).
 Percent effort: 10 %.
 Total award: \$ 23,150.

Presentations (Oral/ Invited Lecture)

Local

- 2020** CAMBRA workshop, TUSDM, Boston, MA
2020 Faculty Webinar – connect to power of your wellbeing (In collaboration with Dr. Pastan), TUSDM, Boston, MA
2019- Role of Nutrition in Oral Health, Boston University, Boston, MA
2019- Class Day for Dietetic Interns in Boston – Nutrition and Oral health in the aging population
2019- Re-orientation for Dietetic Interns– The role of nutrition in oral health
2019 Mindful eating with Dr. Pastan – TUSDM, Boston, MA

National

- 2006** **Tassabehji, N.M.**, Somers, R.C., Reiter A., Alshingiti, A.M. and Levenson, C.W. Zinc regulation of adult stem cell proliferation and neurogenesis in the rat dentate gyrus. Experimental Biology Meeting, San Francisco, CA.

Presentations (Poster)

Local

National

- 2021** Hamza, T., Banasr, A., Dragan, I.F., **Tassabehji, N.M.** Adapting a Postgraduate Course to a Virtual Setting: Problem, Solution, and Results. ADEA Annual Meeting. Virtual.
2006 Experimental Biology “Zinc deficiency induces depression-like symptoms in adult rats”.
2006 Somers, R.C., **Tassabehji, N.M.** and Levenson, C.W. Zinc deficiency impairs adult stem cell proliferation in the dentate gyrus and induces neuronal precursor cell apoptosis via p53-mediated mechanisms. Society for Neuroscience, Atlanta, GA.
2005 **Tassabehji, N.M.**, VanLandingham, J.W., Somers, R.C. and Levenson, C.W. Zinc Deficiency alters limbic system gene expression and induces depression-like behaviors. Experimental Biology Meeting, San Diego, CA.
2005 Graduate Vitamins and Minerals, “Vitamins and Minerals: article review session”.
2005 Tallahassee Memorial Hospital, “Role of dietary zinc on stem cell proliferation & differentiation”
2004 HUN 3224 Metabolism, “Apoptosis and the cell cycle” .
2004 Tallahassee Memorial Hospital, “Role of dietary zinc on adult neurogenesis”
2004 Food and Society, “The Mediterranean Diet”.
2003 VanLandingham, J.W., **Tassabehji, N.M.**, Levenson, C.W. Use of oligonucleotide arrays to identify mechanisms of p53 function in copper-mediated neuronal apoptosis. Society for Neuroscience, New Orleans, LA.
2003 **Tassabehji, N.M.**, VanLandingham, J.W. and Levenson, C.W. Copper alters the transcriptional activity of the tumor suppressor p53. Experimental Biology Meeting, San Diego, CA.
2003 VanLandingham J.W., **Tassabehji, N.M.** and Levenson, C.W. Copper regulation of neuronal apoptosis. Experimental Biology Meeting, San Diego, CA.
2003 Evans, S.A., Alshingiti, A.M., **Tassabehji, N.M.**, VanLandingham, J.W., Parsons, A.D., Gagnon, S.P., Williams, T.D., Chambers, J.B, Overton, J.M. and Levenson, C.W. Zinc Deficiency Induces Anxiety-Like Behaviors in Rats. Experimental Biology Meeting, San Diego, CA.

International

VIII. PUBLICATIONS

- 2021** **Nadine Tassabehji** and Jillian Kaye. *Nutrition and Oral Health: Exploring the Need for Intradisciplinary Collaboration*. Nutritional Educators of Health Professionals Newsletter, Winter **2021**, Volume 77, Issue 2.
2008 **Tassabehji, N.M.**, Corniola, R.S., Alshingiti, A. and Levenson, C.W. Zinc deficiency induces depression-like symptoms in adult rats. *Physiol. Behav.* 95: 365-369, **2008**.
2008 Corniola, R.S., **Tassabehji, N.M.**, Hare J., Sharma, G. and Levenson, C.W. Zinc deficiency impairs neuronal precursor cell proliferation and induces apoptosis via p53-mediated mechanisms. *Brain Res.* 1237: 52-61, **2008**.
2005 **Tassabehji, N.M.**, VanLandingham, J.W. and Levenson, C.W. Copper alters the conformation and transcriptional activity of the tumor suppressor protein p53 in human Hep G2 cells *Exp. Biol. Med.* 230: 699-708, **2005**.

- 2005** VanLandingham, J.W., **Tassabehji, N.M.**, Somers, R.C. and Levenson, C.W. Expression profiling of p53-target genes in copper-mediated neuronal apoptosis. *Neuromol. Med.* 7: 311-324, **2005**
- 2005** Levenson, C.W. and **Tassabehji, N.M.** Role and regulation of copper and zinc transport proteins in the central nervous system. *Handbook of Neurochemistry and Molecular Neurobiology*, 3rd Edition, A. Lajtha, Ed., 257-284, **2005**.
- 2004** Levenson, C.W. and **Tassabehji, N.M.** Iron and ageing: an introduction to iron regulatory mechanisms. *Ageing Res. Rev.* 3: 251-263, **2004**.

IX. CLINICAL INSTRUCTION, EXPERTISE AND INNOVATION

Clinical Experience

- 2017 Tufts Medical Center, Boston, MA – *inpatient clinical rotation in cardiology, gastroenterology, pediatric, ICU, general medicine, and oncology.*
- 2006 Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP), Tallahassee, FL – *The EFNEP is the nation's first nutrition education program for low-income populations and remains at the forefront of nutrition education efforts to reduce nutrition insecurity of low-income families and youth today. EFNEP uses education to support participants' efforts toward self-sufficiency, nutritional health, and well-being. EFNEP combines hands-on learning, applied science, and program data to ensure program effectiveness, efficiency, and accountability.*
- 2005 Healthsouth Rehabilitation Hospital, Tallahassee, FL – *worked with inpatient on menu selection and diet/ nutrition management.*
- 2005 Capital Health Plan, Tallahassee, FL – *helped this insurance company educate client on preventative nutrition and dietary measure.*
- 2003 Thagard Student Health Center, FSU, Tallahassee, FL – *worked on nutrition education material for college students.*
- 2003 Tandem Healthcare, Tallahassee, FL - *is a national leading provider of senior healthcare services, specializing in post-acute care. Worked with senior inpatient on nutrition and dietary assessment, management and follow up care.*
- 2002 Women, Infant, and Child (WIC), Tallahassee, FL – *worked on counseling session for pregnant women, nursing mothers, and infant nutrition.*
- 2002 Florida Department of Education, Tallahassee, FL – *worked with the department of education on school menu and lunch program.*
- 2002 Leon County School Foodservice (SODEXO), Tallahassee, FL – *worked with this leading school foodservice company in menu planning, dietary evaluation of their menus and staff in-service on common nutrition topics.*

Clinical Teaching

- 2019 - Dietetic Intern Preceptor, TUSDM, Boston, MA

X. SERVICE, CITIZENSHIP AND PROFESSIONALISM

Professional Memberships and Affiliations

- 2020- Nutrition and Dietetic Educators and Preceptors (NDEP).
- 2019- ADEA (American Dental Education Association).
- 2016- Member for the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (AND).
- 2019- American Society for Nutrition (ASN).
- 2019- Massachusetts Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (MAND).

Committees

- 2020- Comprehensive care department retreat committee, TUSDM, Boston, MA.
Worked on planning and preparing departmental retreats both in person and virtual.
- 2019- 2020 Ad hoc travel committee, Comprehensive care department, TUSDM, Boston, MA
Worked on best practices to assign travel grants to faculty and staff within the department.

National/International Committees

Local

- 2019- Food is Medicine, MA (FIMMA). *Food is Medicine Massachusetts (FIMMA) is a statewide coalition of health care stakeholders, academics, and community-based organizations dedicated to advancing the integration of nutrition interventions into the Massachusetts health care landscape. As part of this work, FIMMA's Provider Nutrition Education and Referral (PNER) Task Force is working to develop core*

competencies and learning objectives for Massachusetts dental and medical schools to improve the ability of dentists and physicians to identify and effectively address nutrition issues in their patient populations.

National

2020 Peer reviewed – the *Heal Your Oral Microbiome* book for a CE course registered dietitian.

International

- 2021- Oral Health Alliance - *The Oral Health Alliance, with representatives from oral health providers, nutrition, and public health professional organizations, groups representing children and older adults, industry, and consumer groups, seeks federal health and nutrition policies that incorporate and promote routine oral health preventive practices. The target policies have been the Dietary Guidelines for Americans, the Healthy People 2030 Objectives, and the Surgeon General's Report on Oral Health.*
- 2020- Reviewer for "Topics in Clinical Nutrition" journal - *Evaluate manuscript submissions based on journal criteria which includes logical ordering of ideas, originality, scholarly presentation, use of sound methods of research, adequate and up-to-date references, consistency with the purpose of the journal, readability, and timeliness and implications for dietetic practice. Provide feedback, suggest improvements, and make recommendations to the editor to accept, reject, or revise the manuscript.*
- 2020- Dental Task Force. *The Dental Task Force of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Foundation is an invited nine-member cohort of registered dietitians and registered dental hygienists actively involved as practitioners or faculty within their respective field. The goal of the Task Force is to investigate the feasibility of designing an innovative original global dental-nutrition education program. using social media, app technology, and other forms of unique and customized outreach methods.*

Community Service

- 2021 Community Input Team (CIT) for full in person return post-pandemic at the Lexington Public Schools, Lexington, MA.
- 2019- WAAAUB, New England Chapter, Executive Board Member.
- 2019- 2020 Fiske Elementary library volunteer.
- 2019-2016 Board member of Center for Arabic culture.
- 2018 Pan Mass Challenge Kids ride parent volunteer.
- 2012-2011 Room Parent at the International School of Boston.
- 2011-2010 Parent Teacher Organization at the International School of Boston.