

Curriculum Vitae

MUGE AKPINAR-ELCI, M.D., M.P.H.

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Recent position

Associate professor, Saint George's University School of Medicine, Department of Public Health and Preventive Medicine, Saint George's, Grenada, WI

Profile

- Clinical and field research experience on occupational health.
- Areas of expertise
 - Occupational health
 - Epidemiology
 - Occupational respiratory diseases
 - Respiratory research methods including:
 - pulmonary function test,
 - induced sputum,
 - exhaled breath condensate,
 - exhaled nitric oxide,
 - nasal nitric oxide,
 - nasal lavage

Academic background

- **Master of Public Health**, Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, New Orleans, LA, 2004
- **Pulmonology and Tuberculosis residency**, Chest Diseases and Surgery Training Research Hospital, Izmir, Turkey, 1997
- **Certificate of occupational health practice**, Turkish Medical Association - Izmir, Turkey, 1994
- **Pulmonology internship**, Budapest Postgraduate Medical School, Institute of Pulmonology, Budapest, Hungary, 1992
- **M.D.**, Dokuz Eylul University, School of Medicine - Izmir, Turkey, 1991

Academic and professional experiences

Associate Professor, Saint George's University School of Medicine, Department of Public Health and Preventive Medicine, Saint George's, Grenada, The Caribbean, 2008-present

- Instructor, MPH curriculum courses:
 - PUBH-807 Principles of Environmental Health
 - PUBH-816 Occupational Health
 - PUBH-840 Health Effects of Air Pollution
 - PUBH-841 Occupational and Environmental Epidemiology
- Participated in various research projects on occupational health
- Committee chair, DPHPM Research and Service committee
- Student advisor for research project and MSPH thesis
 - Rose S. Prevalence of respiratory symptoms among occupants of homes affected by flooding in Guyana.
 - Richards C. Environment related respiratory health problems among veterinary students at sgu.

A. Assistant Professor Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University, Department of Family Medicine, Division of Community Health and Preventive Medicine, Greenville, NC, 2006-2008

- Co-Instructor, MPH curriculum courses
 - MPH-6011 Introduction to Epidemiology
 - MPH-6003 Occupational Health
- Student advisor for MPH Program professional paper studies
 - The EQ chemical fire: Are there future implications of respiratory health problems among Apex, NC residence. Melissa Fasolt.
- Participated in various research projects on occupational health
- Collaborates with North Carolina Agromedicine Institute

Medical Epidemiologist, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, Division of Respiratory Diseases Studies, Field Studies Branch, Morgantown, WV, 2001 - 2006

- Participated field research activities in various occupational and environmental health hazard evaluation surveys.
- Provided expertise on epidemiologic methodology, study design, occupational respiratory diseases, pulmonary inflammation markers, and pulmonary function test evaluation.

- Developed standard protocols and associated guidelines, that NIOSH use in the field studies, for the common tests such as, volume spirometry, bronchodilator, exhaled nitric oxide, nasal nitric oxide and nasal lavage.

Contractor medical scientist, National Cancer Institute, Occupational Epidemiology Branch, Rockville, MD, 2000 - 2001

- Participated in occupational respiratory cancer project as an expert on occupational respiratory diseases and pulmonary function tests.
- Evaluated pulmonary function test results of study participants.

Clinical consultant and staff physician, Chest Diseases and Surgery Training Research Hospital, Pulmonary Intensive Care and Asthma Clinic, Izmir, Turkey, 1997 - 2000

- Provided expertise on occupational respiratory diseases (especially asthma, pneumoconiosis, lung cancer and Tuberculosis), clinical pulmonology, and pulmonary intensive care.
- Supervised and mentored residents and health sciences graduate students.
- Managed and directed asthma outpatient clinic.
- Conducted occupational respiratory diseases field studies.

Research assistant and instructor, Chest Diseases and Surgery Training Research Hospital, Izmir, Turkey, 1992 - 1997

- Provided clinical services to 950-bed hospital in chest diseases and outpatient clinics, asthma wards and intensive care unit.
- Conducted clinical and field medical research and gave seminars and lectures on chest medicine, especially occupational respiratory disorders.

Research Grants

Granted:

- Akpinar-Elci PI. "Implementing Renewable Energy and Preventing Land Degradation: An Intervention in the Nutmeg Industry in Grenada" the Global Environment Facility/Small Grants Programme ("GEF/SGP") on behalf of the three GEF Implementing Agencies – United Nations Development Program (UNDP), United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) and the World Bank.
- Akpinar-Elci PI. Occupational Health Problems among Nutmeg Factories Workers, Small Research Grant Initiative, SGU, SRGI-09006
- Pitzalis M. PI. Optimization of heart failure patient management in rural North Carolina using a hub and spoke model: A novel strategy to improve quality of care and reduce costs, Brody Brothers, MT7751
- Elci O.C. PI. Identifying upper airways problems among agricultural growers and workers in Eastern North Carolina. ECU - DRGS

Pending Research Grants

- Akpinar-Elci PI: Increasing Nutmeg Production And Promoting Nutmeg Industry In Grenada. USDA, \$50,000 (pending)

Awards

- **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Bullard-Sherwood** Research to Practice award, 2008
- **ECU Division of Health Sciences**, Author Recognition Award 2006
- **On-the-Spot-Award of Department of Health and Human Services**, Public Health Service for commitment, initiative, and hard work under difficult circumstances during a Health Hazard Evaluation at a sick building, Hartford, CT, 2006
- **On-the-Spot-Award of Department of Health and Human Services**, Public Health Service for commitment, initiative, and hard work under difficult circumstances during a Health Hazard Evaluation at a popcorn plant, Jasper, MO, 2002

Professional development

Selected professional courses and workshops attended

- *Objective nasal measurements*. Training at the lab of D. Shusterman, M.D. Department of Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences. University of Washington, Seattle, WA, 2005
- *A guide to understanding clinical research: How to clinically appraise published studies in pulmonary and critical care medicine*. American Thoracic Society, San Diego, CA, 2005
- *Sampling the airways in patients with asthma and COPD; from exhaled breath condensate to lung biopsy*, American Thoracic Society, Orlando, FL, 2004
- *Basics in chest imaging*, European Respiratory Society, Vienna, Austria, 2003
- *Practical chest imaging for the pulmonologists*, American Thoracic Society, Seattle, WA, 2003
- *The Denver Tb course*, National Jewish Medical And Research Center, Denver, CO, 2003
- *Interstitial lung diseases: Current concepts and controversies in management*, American Thoracic Society, Atlanta, GA, 2002
- *Pulmonary function testing: Aids to clinical decision making, indications, quality assurance, interpretation*, American Thoracic Society, Atlanta, GA, 2002
- *Immunology and infection*, International Association of Asthmology, Buenos Aires, Argentina, 1999
- *Allergic disorder of respiratory tract and treatment modalities*, Turkish Society of Respiratory Investigations, Istanbul, Turkey, 1999
- *Imaging in lung diseases*, Turkish Thoracic Society, Izmir, Turkey, 1997
- *Radiological evaluation of occupational lung diseases*, Turkish Thoracic Society, Nevsehir, Turkey, 1996
- *Pulmonary rehabilitation in COPD*, European Respiratory Society and Turkish Thoracic Society, Antalya, Turkey, 1995
- *Broncho-alveolar lavage investigations of mineral fibers*, Turkish Thoracic Society, Antalya, Turkey, 1995

- *Internship elective training on general surgery*, Paul Brousse Hospital, Paris, France, 1991
- *Elective training on obstetrics and gynecology*, St. George Hospital, Medical School, London, England, 1989

Scholarly activities

Journal articles

- Elci OC, Akpinar-Elci. Occupational exposures and laryngeal cancer among nonsmoker, nondrinker men. *International Journal of Occupational and Environmental Health*. 2009; 15 (4): 370-373
- Akpinar-Elci M., Siegel P.D., Cox-Ganser J.M., Stemple K.J., White S.K., Hilsbos K., Weissman D.N. The respiratory inflammatory response of occupants in a water-damaged office building. *Indoor Air*. 2008;18(2):125-30.
- Akpinar-Elci M, Yucesoy B, Elci OC, Weissman D.N. The practical application of cytokine in occupational respiratory diseases. *Recent Patents in Inflammation & Allergy Drug Discovery*, 2007, 1:100-107 [Invited Review]
- Elci O.C., Akpinar-Elci M. The trend of small cell lung cancer among young men. *Lung Cancer*, 2007, 57:34-36.
- Akpinar-Elci M., Stemple K.J., Elci O.C., Dweik R.A., Kreiss K., Enright P. Exhaled nitric oxide measurement in microwave popcorn production plant workers. *The International Journal of Occupational and Environmental Health*, 2006, 12:106-110
- Akpinar-Elci M., Fedan K., Enright P. FEV6 as a surrogate for FVC in detecting airways obstruction and restriction in workplace. *European Respiratory Journal* 2006, 27:374-377
- Akpinar-Elci M., Stemple K.J., Enright P, Fahy JV., Bledsoe TA, Kreiss K, Weissman DN. Induced sputum evaluation in microwave popcorn production workers. *Chest*, 2005, 128: 991-997
- Akpinar-Elci M., Travis WD, Lynch DA, Kreiss K. Bronchiolitis obliterans syndrome in popcorn production plant workers. *European Respiratory Journal* 2004, 24: 298-302
- Akpinar-Elci M., Elci O.C., Odabasi A. Work-related asthma-like symptoms among florists. *Chest*, 2004, 125:2336-39
- Elci O.C., Akpinar-Elci M. Occupational exposures, anatomic location, and geographic distribution of laryngeal cancer. *Cancer Causes and Control*, 2004, 15:429-30
- Elci O.C., Akpinar-Elci M., Alavanja M., Dosemeci M. Occupation and the risk of lung cancer by histologic types and morphologic distribution: A case-control study in Turkey. *Monaldi Archives for Chest Disease*, 2004, 59:183-8
- Elci O.C., Akpinar-Elci M., Blair A. Dosemeci M. The risk of laryngeal cancer by occupational chemical exposure in Turkey. *Journal of Occupational and Environmental Medicine*, 2003, 45: 1100-06
- Akpinar-Elci M, Elci O.C. Importance of work intensity on respiratory problems of hairdressers. *Occupational and Environmental Medicine*. 2002, 59: 649-50
- Akpinar-Elci M., Cimrin A.H., Elci O.C. Prevalence and risk factors of occupational asthma among hairdressers in Turkey. *Journal of Occupational and Environmental Medicine*, 2002, 44: 585-590
- Elci O.C, Akpinar-Elci, Blair A., Dosemeci M. Occupational Dust Exposure and The risk of laryngeal cancer in Turkey. *Scandinavian Journal of Work, Environment and Health*, 2002, 28: 278-284
- Deveci F, Akpinar M, Celikten E. Efficiency of noninvasive mechanical ventilation acute respiratory insufficiency due to COPD. *Journal of Turkish Tuberculosis and Thorax Society*, 2002; 50; 286-293

- Akpınar M., Bilaceroglu S., et al. Efficiency of cyclic alternating chemotherapy in small cell cancer. *Journal of Turkish Tuberculosis and Thorax Society*, 2001; 49: 395-400
- Bilaceroglu S., Akpınar M, et al. Therapeutic efficacy of adjunctive intravenous magnesium sulfate in acute asthma. *Journal of Turkish Tuberculosis and Thorax Society*, 2001; 49: 193-202
- Cimrin A, Akpınar M, et al. Formaldehyde asthma of a health worker (case report) *Journal of Turkish Tuberculosis and Thorax Society*, 2000; 48: 66-69
- Akpınar M., Buyuksirin M, et al. A case of bronchogenic carcinoma and concomitant Swyer-James syndrome. *Monaldi Archives for Chest Disease*, 1999; 54 (3): 228-230
- Gayaf Acitas M, Celikten E, Bilaceroglu S, Perim K, Akpınar M, Guldaival F. Diagnostic value of fiberoptic bronchoscopy in malignant pleural effusions undiagnosed by conventional methods. *Journal of Turkish Tuberculosis and Thorax Society* 1999; 47 (4): 415-423
- Esin SE, Payzin B, Akpınar M, et al. EDTA induced pseudotrombocytopenia: A case report. *The Turkish Journal of Hematology and Oncology*, 1999, 9(4): 222-225
- Buyuksirin M., Akpınar M, et al. Creatine-kinase in exudative pleural effusions. *Journal of Izmir Ataturk Training Hospital*, 1998, 36 (2): 29-32
- Guldaival F, Akpınar M, Bilaceroglu S., et al. Diagnostic value of bronchial aspiration in lung cancer and comparison with endobronchial biopsy. *Journal of Izmir Ataturk Training Hospital*, 1997, 21(2): 10-16
- Buyuksirin M., Akpınar M, et al. Hyperthrophic pulmonary osteoarthropaty in lung cancer. *Journal of Izmir Atatürk Training Hospital*, 1997, 35: 31-34
- Akpınar M., Perim K., et al. The diagnostic value of four tumor markers for diagnosis lung cancer. *Turkish Respiratory Journal*, 1996, 20: 511-516
- Bozyaka G., Akpınar M, et al. Calcium and vitamin D metabolism in patients with pulmonary tuberculosis. *Medical Journal of Izmir Hospital*, 1996, 2:67-70
- Apaydin M., Akpınar M, et al. Chest x-ray finding of PCP in AIDS patients. *Journal of Diagnostic and Invasive Radiology*, 1996, 2: 37-40
- Akpınar M, Ari H. Passive Smoking (Review). *Journal of Izmir Ataturk Training Hospital* 1995, 23: 544-547
- Buyuksirin M., Tasdogan N., Akpınar M, et al. Saber- Sheath trachea (case report). *Journal of Izmir Ataturk Training Hospital* 1995, 9:36-39
- Akpınar M, Celikten E, et al. A retrospective review of miliary tuberculosis cases. *Journal of Izmir Chest Diseases Hospital*, 1994, 8: 13-16

Work in-progress

- Akpınar-Elci M, Elci OC, Odabasi A. Occupational rhinit and conjunctivitis among florists. (submitted)

Reports

- PAHO technical report, Environmental Health Indicators for Barbados; The technical review, guidelines, and recommendations, 2009
- NIOSH Alert, Preventing Lung Disease in workers who use or make flavorings. Cincinnati, OH: U.S Department of Health and Human Services, Public Health Service, Center for Disease Control, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, NIOSH publication number: 2004-110, December 2003
- NIOSH Hazard evaluation and technical assistance report: Somerset County assistance office Somerset, Pennsylvania. Cincinnati, OH: U.S Department of Health and Human Services, Public Health Service, Center for Disease Control, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, NIOSH Report No: HETA 2001-0067-2896, 2002

Invited seminars and presentations

- Work-related asthma in food production workers. Occupational Asthma Symposium, World Asthma Meeting, Istanbul, Turkey, June 2007
- Environmental pollution and asthma symposium. World Asthma Meeting, Istanbul, Turkey, June 2007 (**Chair**)
- Occupational and Environmental Health oral presentations session. World Asthma Meeting, Istanbul, Turkey, June 2007 (**Chair**)
- Is your office space healthy enough to work? Respiratory inflammation among occupants of water damaged building. ECU Pulmonary grand rounds, Greenville, NC, January 2007
- Measures of airways inflammation in occupants of a water-damaged office building. Department of Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences. University of Washington, Seattle, WA, June 2005
- The FEV6 is a good surrogate for the FVC when used to detect airways obstruction and a low vital capacity in the workplace. Spirometry interest group meeting, Morgantown, WV, March 2004
- New Investigation Methods in Popcorn Workers, WVU Dept. of Occupational Medicine lecture series, Morgantown, WV, December 2003
- Exhaled NO in occupants of a water-damaged office building, Mold interest group meeting, Morgantown, WV, November 2003
- Occupational Exposures and the Risk of Laryngeal Cancer, Invited presentation to DSHEFS-NIOSH Cincinnati, OH, September 2003
- Dust exposure and respiratory problems in sawmill workers, Field Studies Branch seminars, Morgantown, WV, July 2002
- Exhaled nitric oxide measurement in popcorn microwave production plant workers, Field Studies Branch seminars, Morgantown, WV, July 2002

Presentations (selected)

- Akpınar-Elci M., Weikart D.K., Abrokwah M.E., Elci O.C., Are we missing an important clue? "United Airways Disease" among Farmers, International American Thoracic Society Congress, San Diego, CA, May 2009
- Elci O.C., Wilson J.L., Akpınar-Elci M. Spatial association of occupational and environmental exposure factors and respiratory cancers in the US. American Public Health Association 135th Annual Meeting, Washington DC November 3-7, 2007 (oral)
- Akpınar-Elci M., Siegel P.D., Enright P., White S.K., Dye A., Park J.H., Kreiss K., Cox-Ganser J.M. Symptoms associated with objective indices of upper airway inflammation in occupants of a water-damaged building. World Asthma Meeting, Istanbul, Turkey, June 2007
- Pitzalis M.H., Elci O.C., Little R. N., Akpınar-Elci M., Mayo A., Jones G. L., Simmons S., Novick L.F., Cascio W. Overcoming gender and racial disparities in heart failure management. The Hub and Spoke Heart Failure Project. Third Annual Jean Mills Health Symposium, Greenville, NC, February, 2007.
- Akpınar-Elci M., Siegel P., Cox-Ganser J., Stemple K.J., Hilsbos K., Weissman DN. The respiratory inflammatory response of occupants in a water-damaged office building. International American Thoracic Society Congress, San Diego, CA, May, 2005
- Akpınar-Elci M., Fedan K., Enright P. FEV6 as a surrogate for FVC in detecting airways obstruction and restriction. International American Thoracic Society Congress, Orlando, FL, May, 2004
- Akpınar-Elci M., Stemple K.J., Enright P, Fahy JV., Bledsoe TA, Kreiss K, Weissman DN. Induced sputum evaluation in microwave popcorn production workers. ERS, Vienna, Austria, Sep 2003

- Akpınar-Elci M., Stemple K.J., Elci O.C., Dweik R.A., Kreiss K., Enright P. Exhaled Nitric Oxide Measurement in Microwave Popcorn Production Plant Workers. 99th International American Thoracic Society Congress, Seattle, WA, May, 2003
- Akpınar M, Elci O.C., Odabasi A. Prevalence and risk factors of occupational asthma among florist in Turkey, EPICOH on epidemiology in occupational health, Barcelona, Spain, Sep 2002
- Elci O.C., Akpınar M, Blair A., Dosemeci M. Laryngeal cancer and occupational exposure in Turkey, EPICOH on epidemiology in occupational health, Barcelona, Spain, Sep 2002
- Cikirikcioglu B, Komurcuoglu B, Celikten E, Akpınar M. Lipid profile changes in asthma patients at acute attack and stable period, ERS, Stockholm, Sweden, Sep 2002
- Akpınar-Elci M, Kanwal R, Kreiss K, Bronchiolitis obliterans syndrome in popcorn plant workers, ATS, Atlanta, May 2002
- Elci O.C., Akpınar-Elci M., Dosemeci M. Lung cancer cell type varies by age at diagnosis among Turkish men. 98th International American Thoracic Society Congress, Atlanta, GA, May, 2002
- Akpınar M., Cimrin A., Elci O.C., Occupational Asthma in Hairdressers. World Asthma Meeting European Respiratory Society, Barcelona, Spain, Dec 1998
- Cimrin AH., Akpınar M., Elci O.C. Occupational allergic status in animal feed workers. World Asthma Meeting, European Respiratory Society, Barcelona, Spain Dec 1998

Professional Activities

- Member, Environmental Occupational Health Assembly of ATS
- Reviewer, American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Medicine, 2008-present
- Reviewer, Journal of Occupational and Environmental Medicine 2002-present
- Reviewer, Occupational and Environmental Medicine 2004-present
- Reviewer, International Journal of Occupational and Environmental Health, 2005-present
- Reviewer, Chest 2002-present
- Reviewer, British Medical Journal Groups 2003- present
- Reviewer, NIOSH internal and external grant applications 2003-2008

Membership

- American Thoracic Society
- Turkish Medical Association
- Research Fellow, Windward Islands Research and Education Foundation

Academic/research interests

- Occupational asthma and rhinitis
- Public health
- Environmental health
- Epidemiologic methodology
- Pulmonary function tests, inflammatory markers for lower and upper airways diseases

Hobbies

- Gourmet cooking
- Swimming
- Archeology
- Painting