Curriculum Vitae

Rector Arya, Ph.D., M.A., M.Ed., FTOS

PERSONAL DATA:

Office Address:	Associate Professor Department of Health and Behavioral Sciences Public Health and Education Building, Suite 311 H College of Arts and Sciences Texas A & M University-San Antonio One University Way, San Antonio, Texas 78224, USA
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EDUCATION:

Year	Degree	Discipline/Institution/Location
1999	Ph.D.	Biological Anthropology/Population Genetics The University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS, USA
1990	M.Ed.	Education (Teaching and Research Methods, Educational Statistics, and Curriculum Development) Annamalai University, Annamalai Nagar, India
1984	B.Ed.	Education (Methods of Teaching Biology & English) Nagarjuna University, Nagarjuna Nagar, India
1982	M.A..	Anthropology (Biological) Andhra University, Visakhapatnam, India
1980	B.S.	Biological and Geological Sciences (Geology, Zoology, Chemistry) Andhra University, Visakhapatnam, India

TRAINING: Postdoctoral Fellowship

1999-2002	Genetic Epidemiology	Department of Medicine/Clinical Epidemiology, School of Medicine, The University of Texas Health Science Center, San Antonio, TX, USA

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS:

12/2022 - Present	Associate Professor, Department of Health and Behavioral Sciences, Texas A&M University-San Antonio, San Antonio, TX

05/2023 – 05/2024	Vice-Chair, Institutional Review Board, Texas A&M University-San Antonio, San Antonio, Texas 78224
10/2023 - 09/2024	Adjunct Associate Professor, Department of Medical Physiology, School of Medicine, Texas A&M Health, Texas A&M University, Bryan, TX
09/2020 – 08/2022	Associate Professor/Research, Department of Human Genetics, South Texas Diabetes and Obesity Institute, School of Medicine, The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley, Edinburg, Texas, USA
02/2021 – 01/2022	Vice Chair, Institutional Review Board, Biomedical Panel, Department of Human Genetics, and South Texas Diabetes and Obesity Institute, University of Texas Rio Grande Valley, Edinburg, TX
11/2014 – 08/2020	Assistant Professor/Research, Department of Human Genetics, South Texas Diabetes and Obesity Institute, School of Medicine, The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley, Edinburg, Texas, USA
09/2010 - 10/2014	Assistant Professor, Department of Pediatrics, The University of Texas Health Science Center, San Antonio, Texas
05/2004 - 08/2010	Assistant Professor, Division of Clinical Epidemiology, Department of Medicine, University of Texas Health Science Center, San Antonio, TX
03/2002 - 04/2004	Instructor, Division of Clinical Epidemiology, Department of Medicine, University of Texas Health Science Center, San Antonio, Texas

HONORS, AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND SCHOLARSHIPS:

01/2007	American Heart Association-Scientist Development Grant –National
09/2003	The William K. Warren Diabetes Fellow Award: Awarded by the William K. Warren Medical Research Institute and American Diabetes Association.
01/2000	Mentor-based Postdoctoral Fellowship Award: Awarded by American Diabetes Association
09/1997	Graduate Teaching Assistant: Department of Anthropology, The University Kansas, Lawrence, KS
09/1996	Carroll Clark Award: Dept. of Anthropology, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS
09/1991	National Overseas Scholarship: Scholarship for higher studies abroad Government of India, Department of Environment

TEACHING EXPERIENCE: As a teaching faculty in Health and Behavioral Sciences, I have taught courses in Public Health Genetics and Genomics, and Community Health Programs such as Pych Research and Statistics III, Disease Entities and Epidemiology. Data management and Assessment and other courses in biological and social sciences.

08/2026 - 12/2026	Teaching a course HLTH 3335-001 – Data Management and Assessment in the Fall 2025, in the Community Health Program, Department of Health and Behavioral Sciences, College of Arts and Sciences, Texas A&M

University-San Antonio, TX

01/2026 - 05/2026 Taught a course HLTH 4337-001 – Disease Entities and Epidemiology in Spring 2026 in the Community Health Program, Department of Health and Behavioral Sciences, College of Arts and Sciences, Texas A&M University-San Antonio, TX

08/2025 - 12/2025 Taught a course HLTH 3335-001 – Data Management and Assessment in the Fall 2025, in the Community Health Program, Department of Health and Behavioral Sciences, College of Arts and Sciences, Texas A&M University-San Antonio, TX

01/2025 - 05/2025 Taught a course HLTH 4337-001 – Disease Entities and Epidemiology in Spring 2025 in the Community Health Program, Department of Health and Behavioral Sciences, College of Arts and Sciences, Texas A&M University-San Antonio, San Antonio, Texas

08/2024 - 12/2024 Taught a course PSYC 4388-001 – Psych Research & Statistics III in Fall 2024, in the Department of Health and Behavioral Sciences, College of Arts and Sciences, Texas A&M University-San Antonio, San Antonio, Texas

08/1997 - 07/1998 Graduate Teaching Assistant, 1997-1998, Undergraduate/graduate course taught: "Human Variation and Evolution" Fall 97 and Spring 98, Department of Anthropology, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS 66045.

07/1983 - 05/1988 Taught biological and social sciences at undergraduate level in India.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE AND EXPERTISE:

Ph.D., Dissertation: Genetic and Environmental Determinants of Anthropometric Phenotypes in Indian Caste Populations. Department of Anthropology, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS, 1999. (Advisor: Dr. Michael H. Crawford, Ph.D.)

Genetic and Genomic Epidemiological Studies: As a biological anthropologist and genetic epidemiologist/statistical geneticist with more than 25 years of research experience in biomedical sciences particularly in human genetics and genomics, I have been involved in family- and population-based genetic epidemiological studies in human populations, particularly Mexican Americans.

RESEARCH INTERESTS:

Major research and teaching areas of interest:

- Human biology, human genetics, population genetics, quantitative genetics, genetic epidemiology, and statistical genetics
- Anthropological genetics of human populations, human growth, human variation and evolution, health disparities, and minority health
- Obesity, childhood obesity, type 2 diabetes, metabolic syndrome, liver disease, birth weight and cardiometabolic risk factors
- Omics: genomics, metabolomics, transcriptomics; and gut microbiome

- Nutritional epidemiology, nutrigenetics, nutrigenomics, and bioinformatics

***Experience in Field Research Investigations, 01/1982-01/1990**:*

- Participated in the palaeoanthropological explorations at Narmada valley, Madhya Pradesh, India, in 1990 as part of a project entitled "Human Origins and Variation."

- Performed several activities such as preservation, maintenance, and study of prehistoric, protohistoric, and historic remains consisting of fossils and artifacts.

- Involved in a field research project titled “Nutrition and growth of certain population groups of Visakhapatnam”, 1985-1989, sponsored by the Department of Environment, Government of India.

- Collected and analyzed data on sociocultural aspects of health and nutrition, anthropometric measurements, family and individual dietary intake, nutritional assessment, and serological markers from caste populations of Visakhapatnam, India.

- Conducted anthropological fieldwork in 1982 and collected dermatoglyphic data from Koya Dora (a tribe in India), Visakhapatnam, AP., India, as part of the MS dissertation project for the fulfillment of the graduate program.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES:

Invited speaker to the International Conference: World Applied Anthropology Congress 2026 held at ICRISAT, Hyderabad, India from 24th to 26th July 2026. The theme of the conference was Interwoven Worlds: Anthropological Engagement with the Global and Local Challenges of Climate Change and Migration.

Invited Plenary Speaker, 47th Annual Conference of the Indian Society of Human Genetics (ISHG) & International Symposium on “New Genetics and its Contributions to Human Health and Wealth” & The Golden Jubilee Celebrations of the Department of Human Genetics, Andhra University from 23rd – 25th January 2023, Visakhapatnam, India.

Participant, the University of Kentucky/NIH/National Institute of General Medical Sciences Faculty Grant Writing Workshop, March 11- 13, 2019, The University of Kentucky, in Lexington.

Co-Chair, Symposium on “Obesity in Hispanic /Latino Populations: A Genetic and Epidemiological Perspective,” Obesity 2010, 28th Annual Scientific Meeting, San Diego, CA, October 8-12.

Invited speaker, The XXXIII Annual Conference of the Indian Society for Human Genetics and International Symposium on Genetics Revisited: The Genomics and Proteomics Advent hosted by the Department of Human Genetics, Andhra University, Visakhapatnam, India, February 11-13, 2008.

Invited speaker, Training program on “Diversity to Discovery” sponsored by the Anthropological Survey of India, Mysore, India, February 15- 28, 2008.

Invited speaker, Training program on “Diversity to Discovery” sponsored by Anthropological Survey of India, Mysore, India from April 20 to 22, 2007.

Invited speaker, “International Conference on Bioinformatics and Diabetes” Andhra University, Visakhapatnam, India, April 24-26, 2006.

Invited speaker, International Symposium, “Genetics of Common Complex Diseases (obesity, type 2 diabetes, addictions)”, Monterrey, Nuevo Leon, Mexico, September 14-15, 2005.

Invited speaker, Department of Medicine Research Conference, Genetics of Metabolic Syndrome Phenotypes in Mexican Americans, University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio, TX, March 22, 2005.

Invited speaker, Indo-US Workshop on Genetics of Complex Diseases with an Emphasis on Type 2 Diabetes, Andhra University, Visakhapatnam, India, March 30-31 and April 1, 2004.

Member, Analysis and Mapping Committee, Consortium Linkage Studies of Type 2 Diabetes, 1999-present. Participant, Genetic Analysis Workshops (GAW) 11, 12, 13, and 14.

Participant, American Association of Anthropological Genetics 2nd workshop in Anthropological Genetics (Topic: Statistical Genetic Methods in Anthropological Research), San Antonio, Texas, October 14-16, 1995.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS:

Fellow, The Obesity Society (TOS)

Member, American Diabetes Association (ADA)

Member, American Association of Anthropological Geneticists (AAA)

PUBLICATIONS: ***Journal Articles***

1. Busi BR, Modem S, **Arya R**, Jyothi GM. Food, dietary intake and feeding practices in urban slums of Visakhapatnam. The Indian Journal of Nutrition and Dietetics 1987; 24:163-169.

2. Busi BR, Modem S, **Arya R**, Puppala S. Growth pattern among pre-school children in urban slums of Visakhapatnam. The Indian Journal of Nutrition and Dietetics 1991;28:188-193.

3. Rao VV, Vasulu TS, **Arya R**. Possible paleopathological evidence of treponematosis from a megalithic site at Agripalle, India. American Journal of Physical Anthropology 1996;100: 49-55.

4. Picornell A, Miguel A, Castro JA, Misericordia Ramon M, **Arya R**, Crawford MH. Genetic variation in the population of Ibiza (Spain): Genetic structure, geography, and language. Hum Biol 1996 Dec; 68(6):899-913.

5. Duggirala R, Blangero J, Almasy L, **Arya R**, Dyer TD, Williams K, Leach R, Stern MP, O‘Connell. A major locus for fasting insulin concentrations and insulin resistance on chromosome 6q with strong pleiotropic effects on obesity related phenotypes in non- diabetic Mexican Americans. American Journal of Human Genetics 2001; 68:1149-1164.

6. **Arya R**, Duggirala R, Williams JT, Almasy L, Blangero J. Power to localize the major gene for disease liability is increased after accounting for the effects of related quantitative phenotypes. Genet Epidemiol 2001;21 (S):774-778.

7. **Arya R**, Duggirala R, Almasy L, Rainwater D, Mahaney MC, Cole S, Dyer TD, Williams K, Leach

RJ, Hixson JE, MacCluer JW, O'Connell P, Stern MP, Blangero J. Strong evidence for linkage of high-density lipoprotein cholesterol (HDL-C) concentrations to a genetic location on chromosome 9p in Mexican Americans. Nature Genetics 2002; 30:102-105.

8. **Arya R**, Blangero J, Williams K, Almasy L, Dyer TD, Leach RJ, O'Connell P, Stern MP, Duggirala R. Factors of insulin resistance syndrome-related phenotypes are linked to genetic locations on chromosomes 6 and 7 in nondiabetic Mexican-Americans. Diabetes 2002; 51(3):841-847.

9. **Arya R**, Duggirala R, Comuzzie AG, Puppala S, Modem S, Busi BR, Crawford MH. Heritability of anthropometric phenotypes in caste populations of Visakhapatnam, India. Hum Biol 2002; 74(3):325-344.

10. Duggirala R, Uttley M, Williams K, **Arya R**, Blangero J, Crawford MH. Genetic determination of biological age in the Mennonites of the Midwestern United States. Genet Epidemiol 2002; 23(2):97-109.

11. **Arya R**, Lehman D, Hunt KJ, Schneider J, Almasy L, Blangero J, Stern MP, Duggirala R. Evidence for bivariate linkage of obesity and HDL-C levels in the Framingham Heart Study. BMC Genet 2003; 4:52:278-282.

12. Duggirala R, Almasy L, Blangero J, Jenkinson CP, **Arya R**, DeFronzo RA, Stern M O'Connell P. Further evidence for a type 2 diabetes susceptibility locus on chromosome 11q. Genet Epidemiol 2003; 24(3):240-242.

13. **Arya R**, Duggirala R, Jenkinson CP, Almasy L, Blangero J, O'Connell P, Stern MP. Evidence of a novel quantitative-trait locus for obesity on chromosome 4p in Mexican Americans. Am J Hum Genet 2004; 74(2):272-282.

14. Hunt K, Lehman DM, **Arya R**, Fowler S, Leach RJ, Goring HHH, Almasy L, Blangero J, Dyer TD, Duggirala R, Stern MP. Genome-wide linkage analyses of type 2 diabetes in Mexican Americans: The San Antonio Family Diabetes/Gallbladder Study. Diabetes 2005; 54:2655-2662.

15. Lehman DM, **Arya R**, Blangero J, Almasy L, Puppala S, Dyer TD, Leach RJ, O'Connell P, Stern MP, Duggirala R. Bivariate linkage analysis of the insulin resistance syndrome phenotypes on chromosome 7q. Hum Biol. 2005; 77(2):231-46.

16. Qunibi WY, Abouzahr F, Mizani MR, Nolan CR, **Arya R**, Hunt KJ. Cardiovascular calcification in Hispanic Americans (HA) with chronic kidney disease (CKD) due to type 2 diabetes. Kidney International 2005; 68:271-277.

17. Lehman DM, Fu DJ, Freeman AB, Hunt KJ, Leach RJ, Johnson-Pais TL, Hamlington J, Dyer TD, **Arya R**, Abboud H, Göring HH, Duggirala R, Blangero J, Konrad RJ, Stern MP, Johnson-Pais TL. A single nucleotide polymorphism in MGEA5 encoding O-GlcNAc- selective N-acetyl-beta-D glucosaminidase is associated with type 2 diabetes in Mexican Americans. Diabetes 2005; 54(4):1214-1221.

18. Rincon-Choles, H, Thameem F, Lehman DM, **Arya R,** Arar NH, Duggirala R, Stern MP, Abboud HE. Genetic basis of diabetic nephropathy. American Journal of Therapeutics 2005; 12(6):555-561.

19. **Arya R**, Dyer TD, Warren DM, Jenkinson CP, Duggirala R, Almasy L. Effect of genotype x alcoholism interaction on linkage analysis of an alcoholism-related quantitative phenotype. BMC Genet 2005; 6 (Suppl.1): S120, 1-6.

20. Puppala S, Dodd GD, Fowler S, **Arya R**, Schneider J, Farook VS, Granato R, Dyer TD, Almasy L, Jenkinson CP, Diehl AK, Stern MP, Blangero J, Duggirala R. A genome-wide search finds major susceptibility loci for gallbladder disease on chromosome 1 in Mexican Americans. Am J Hum Genet 2006; 78(3):377-392.

21. **Arya R**, Demerath E, Jenkinson CP, Göring HH, Puppala S, Farook V, Fowler S, Schneider J, Granato R, Resendez RG, Dyer TD, Cole SA, Almasy L, Comuzzie AG, Siervogel RM, Bradshaw B, DeFronzo RA, MacCluer J, Stern MP, Towne B, Blangero J, Duggirala R. A quantitative trait locus (QTL) on chromosome 6q influences birth weight in two independent family studies. Hum Mol Genet 2006; 15(10):1569-1579.

22. Lehman DM, Hamlington J, Hunt KJ, Leach RJ, **Arya R**, Abboud HE, Duggirala R, Blangero J, Goring HH, Stern MP. A novel missense mutation in ADRB3 increases risk for type 2 diabetes in a Mexican American family. Diabetes Metab Res Rev 2006; 22(4):331-336.

23. Richardson DK, Schneider J, Fourcaudot MJ, Rodriguez LM, **Arya R**, Dyer TD, Almasy L, Blangero J, Stern MP, DeFronzo RA, Duggirala R, Jenkinson CP. Association between variants in the genes for adiponectin and its receptors with insulin resistance syndrome (IRS) - related phenotypes in Mexican Americans. Diabetologia 2006; 49(10):2317-2328.

24. Lehman DM, Hunt KJ, Leach RJ, Hamlington J, **Arya R**, Abboud HE, Duggirala R, Blangero J, Göring HH, Stern MP. Haplotypes of transcription factor 7-like 2 (TCF7L2) gene and its upstream region are associated with type 2 diabetes and age of onset in Mexican Americans. Diabetes 2007; 56:389-393.

25. Lehman DM, Richardson DK, Jenkinson CP, Hunt KJ, Dyer TD, Leach RJ, **Arya R**, Abboud HE, Blangero J, Duggirala R, Stern MP. P2 promoter variants of the hepatocyte nuclear factor 4alpha gene are associated with type 2 diabetes in Mexican Americans. Diabetes 2007; 56:513-517.

26. Malhotra A, Elbein SC, Ng MC, Duggirala R, **Arya R**, Imperatore G, Adeyemo A, Pollin TI, Hsueh WC, Chan JC, Rotimi C, Hanson RL, Hasstedt SJ, Wolford JK. Meta-analysis of genome-wide linkage studies of quantitative lipid traits in families ascertained for type 2 diabetes. Diabetes 2007; 56(3):890-896.

27. Saunders CL, Chiodini BD, Sham P, Lewis CM, Abkevich V, Adeyemo AA, de Andrade M, **Arya R**, Berenson GS, Blangero J, Boehnke M, Borecki IB, Chagnon YC, Chen W, Comuzzie AG, Deng HW, Duggirala R, Feitosa MF, Froguel P, Hanson RL, Hebebrand J, Huezo-Dias P, Kissebah AH, Li W, Luke A, Martin LJ, Nash M, Ohman M, Palmer LJ, Peltonen L, Perola M, Price RA, Redline S, Srinivasan SR, Stern MP, Stone S, Stringham H, Turner S, Wijmenga C, Collier DA. Meta-analysis of genome-wide linkage studies in BMI and obesity. Obesity (Silver Spring) 2007; 15(9):2263-2275.

28. Puppala S, **Arya R**, Thameem F, Arar NH, Bhandari K, Lehman DM, Schneider J, Fowler S, Farook VS, Diego VP, Almasy L, Blangero J, Stern MP, Duggirala R, Abboud HE. Genotype by diabetes interaction effects on the detection of linkage of glomerular filtration rate to a region on chromosome 2q in Mexican Americans. Diabetes 2007; 56(11):2818-2828.

29. Jenkinson CP, Coletta DK, Flechtner-Mors M, Hu SL, Fourcaudot MJ, Rodriguez LM, Schneider J, **Arya R**, Stern MP, Blangero J, Duggirala R, DeFronzo RA. Association of genetic variation in ENPP1 with obesity-related phenotypes. Obesity (Silver Spring). 2008; 16(7):1708-13. doi: 10.1038/oby.2008.262. Epub 2008 May 8.

30. Guan W, Pluzhnikov A, Cox NJ, Boehnke M, Type 2 Diabetes Linkage Consortium (**Arya R**). Meta-analysis of 23 type 2 diabetes linkage studies from the international type 2 diabetes linkage analysis

consortium. Human Heredity 2008; 66(1):35-46.

31. Samudrala N, Farook VS, Dodd GD, Puppala S, Schneider J, Fowler S, Granato R, Dyer TD, **Arya R**, Almasy L, Jenkinson CP, Diehl AK, Blangero J, Duggirala R. Autosomal genome-wide linkage analysis to identify loci for gallbladder wall thickness in Mexican Americans. Human Biology 2008; 80(1):11-28.

32. Coletta DK, Schneider J, Hu SL, Dyer TD, Puppala S, Farook VS, **Arya R**, Lehman DM, Blangero J, DeFronzo RA, Duggirala R, Jenkinson CP. Genome-wide linkage scan for genes influencing plasma triglyceride levels in the Veterans Administration Genetic Epidemiology Study. Diabetes 2009; 58(1):279-284.

33. **Arya R**, Hare E, Del Rincon I, Jenkinson CP, Duggirala R, Almasy L, Escalante A. Effects of covariates and interactions on a genome-wide association analysis of rheumatoid arthritis. BMC Proc 2009 Dec;3 Sup: S84.

34. Puppala S, Coletta DK, Schneider J, Hu SL, Farook VS, Dyer TD, **Arya R**, Blangero J, Duggirala R, DeFronzo RA, Jenkinson CP. Genome-wide linkage screen for systolic blood pressure in the Veterans Administration Genetic Epidemiology Study (VAGES) of Mexican Americans and confirmation of a major susceptibility locus on chromosome 6q14.1. Human Heredity 2011; 71(1):1-10.

35. Beuten J, Halder I, Fowler S, Goring HH, Duggirala R, **Arya R**, Thompson, Jr. IM, Leach RJ, Lehman DM. Wide disparity in genetic admixture among Mexican Americans from San Antonio, TX. Ann Hum Genet 2011; 75(4):529-538.

36. Farook VS, Puppala S, Schneider J, Fowler SP, Chittoor G, Dyer TD, Allayee H, Cole SA, **Arya R**, Black MH, Curran JE, Almasy L, Buchanan TA, Jenkinson CP, Lehman DM, Watanabe RM, Blangero J, Duggirala R. Metabolic syndrome is linked to chromosome 7q21 and associated with genetic variants in CD36 and GNAT3 in Mexican Americans. Obesity (Silver Spring). 2012 Oct;20(10):2083-92.

37. Thameem F, Puppala S, Schneider J, Bhandari B, **Arya R**, Arar NH, Vasylyeva TL, Farook VS, Fowler SP, Almasy L, Blangero J, Duggirala R, Abboud HE. The Gly(972)Arg variant of human IRS1 gene is associated with variation in glomerular filtration rate likely through impaired insulin receptor signaling. Diabetes 2012; 61(9):2385-2393.

38. Chittoor G, **Arya R**, Farook VS, David R, Resendez RG, Rivera-Chavira BE, Leal- Berumen I, Dhandayuthapani S, Blangero J, Crawford MH, Vlasich-De La Rosa EM, Escobedo L, Duggirala R. Epidemiologic investigation of tuberculosis in a Mexican population from Chihuahua State, Mexico: A pilot study. Tuberculosis 2013; 93(S1):S71- S77.

39. Fowler SP, Puppala S, **Arya R**, Chittoor G, Farook VS, Schneider J, Resendez RG, Upadhayay RP, Vandeberg J, Hunt KJ, Bradshaw B, Cersosimo E, Vandeberg JL, Almasy L, Curran JE, Comuzzie AG, Lehman DM, Jenkinson CP, Lynch JL, Defronzo RA, Blangero J, Hale DE, Duggirala R. Genetic epidemiology of cardiometabolic risk factors and their clustering patterns in Mexican American children and adolescents: The SAFARI Study. Hum Genet 2013; 132(9):1059-1071.

40. Farook VS, Coletta DK, Puppala S, Schneider J, Chittoor G, Hu SL, Winnier DA, Norton L, Dyer TD, **Arya R**, Cole S, Carless M, Goring HH, Almasy L, Mahaney MC, Comuzzie AG, Curran JE, Blangero J, Duggirala R, Lehman DM, Jenkinson CP, DeFronzo RA. Linkage of type 2 diabetes on chromosome 9p24 in the Mexican Americans: Additional evidence from the Veterans

Administration Genetic Epidemiology Study (VAGES) Human Heredity 2013; 76(1):36-46.

41. Farook VS, Reddivari L, Chittoor G, Puppala S, **Arya R**, Fowler SP, Hunt KJ, Curran JE, Comuzzie AG, Lehman DM, Jenkinson CP, Lynch JL, DeFronzo RA, Blangero J, Daniel HE, Duggirala R, Vanamala J. Metabolites as novel biomarkers for childhood obesity-related traits in Mexican American children. Pediatric Obesity 2015;10(4):320-7.

42. Mahajan A, Sim X, Ng HJ, Manning A, Rivas MA, Highland HM, Locke AE, Grarup N, Im HK, Cingolani P, Flannick J, Fontanillas P, Fuchsberger C, Gaulton KJ, Teslovich TM, Rayner NW, Robertson NR, Beer NL, Rundle JK, Bork-Jensen J, Ladenvall C, Blancher C, Buck D, Buck G, Burtt NP, Gabriel S, Gjesing AP, Groves CJ, Hollensted M, Huyghe JR, Jackson AU, Jun G, Justesen JM, Mangino M, Murphy J, Neville M, Onofrio R, Small KS, Stringham HM, Syvänen AC, Trakalo J, Abecasis G, Bell GI, Blangero J, Cox NJ, Duggirala R, Hanis CL, Seielstad M, Wilson JG, Christensen C, Brandslund I, Rauramaa R, Surdulescu GL, Doney AS, Lannfelt L, Linneberg A, Isomaa B, Tuomi T, Jørgensen ME, Jørgensen T, Kuusisto J, Uusitupa M, Salomaa V, Spector TD, Morris AD, Palmer CN, Collins FS, Mohlke KL, Bergman RN, Ingelsson E, Lind L, Tuomilehto J, Hansen T, Watanabe RM, Prokopenko I, Dupuis J, Karpe F, Groop L, Laakso M, Pedersen, Florez JC, Morris AP, Altshuler D, Meigs JB, Boehnke M, McCarthy MI, Lindgren CM, Gloyn AL; T2D-GENES consortium and GoT2D consortium. [Consortium multi-author paper including **Arya R**]. Identification and functional characterization of G6PC2 coding variants influencing glycemic traits define an effector transcript at the G6PC2-ABCB11 locus. PLoS Genet, 2015. 11 (1):e1004876.

43. Rubicz R, Yolken R, Drigalenko E, Carless MA, Dyer TD, Kent J Jr, Curran JE, Johnson MP, Cole SA, Fowler SP, **Arya R**, Puppala S, Almasy L, Moses EK, Kraig E, Duggirala R, Blangero J, Leach CT, Göring HH. Genome-wide genetic investigation of serological measures of common infections. Eur J Hum Genet. 2015; 23 (11):1544-8.

44. **Arya R**, Del Rincon I, Farook VS, Restrepo JF, Winnier DA, Fourcaudot MJ, Battafarano DF, Kumar S, de Almeida MAA, Curran JE, Jenkinson CP, Blangero J, Duggirala R, Escalante A. Genetic variants influencing joint damage in Mexican Americans and European Americans with rheumatoid arthritis. Genetic Epidemiology 2015;39(8):678 - 688.

45. Curran JE, Kumar S, Cromack DT, Hu SL, Coletta DK, Dyer TD, **Arya R**, Carless M, Tripathy D, Blangero J, Duggirala R, Göring HH, DeFronzo RA, Jenkinson CP. Transcriptomic identification of adh1b as a novel candidate gene for obesity and insulin resistance in human adipose tissue in Mexican Americans from the Veterans Administration Genetic Epidemiology Study (VAGES). World Biomedical Frontiers, Diabetes and Obesity Section ISSN; published online. ISSN: 2328-0166. http://biomedfrontiers.org/diabetes-obesity-2015-9-11/

46. Winnier DA, Fourcaudot M, Norton L, Abdul-Ghani MA, Hu SL, Farook VS, Coletta DK, Kumar S, Puppala S, Chittoor G, Dyer TD, **Arya R**, Carless M, Lehman DM, Curran JE, Cromack DT, Tripathy D, Blangero J, Duggirala R, Göring HH, DeFronzo RA, Jenkinson CP. Transcriptomic identification of ADH1B as a novel candidate gene for obesity and insulin resistance in human adipose tissue in Mexican Americans from the Veterans Administration Genetic Epidemiology Study (VAGES). PLoS One. 2015; 10(4): e0119941. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0119941.

47. Jenkinson CP, Göring HH, **Arya R**, Blangero J, Duggirala R, DeFronzo RA. Transcriptomics in type 2 diabetes: Bridging the gap between genotype and phenotype. Genome Data. 2015. Dec 17;8:25- 36. doi:10.1016/j.gdata.2015.12.001.eCollection 2016 Jun.(http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.gdata.2015.12.001).

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PRESENTATIONS: ***Regional, National, and International Scientific Conferences***

07/2026 **Arya, R,** Almeida M, Mummidi S, Kulkarni H, DeFronzo RA, Blangero J, Duggirala R presented “Genetic Determinants of Liver Function Markers among Individuals of Mexican Ancestry in the United States” at the International Conference: World Applied Anthropology Congress 2026 held at ICRISAT, Hyderabad, India from 24th to 26th July 2026.

06/2025 Fowler SPG, Gimeno D, Resendez RG, Diaz-Badillo A, Schneider J, Hale DE, Lynch JL, Mummidi S, Lehman DM, **Arya R**, DeFronzo RA, Blangero J, Duggirala R. Maternal Soda Consumption During Pregnancy - Whether Sugar-sweetened Or Diet – Is Associated with Increased Cardiometabolic Risk in Offspring: The Safari Study. Abstract has been presented at the 85th American Diabetes Association Scientific meetings on June 20-23, 2025, Chicago, IL.

11/2024 Anand P, Reyna A, Almeida M, Morales L, Resendez RG, Fowler SP, Ezeilo JA, Akhtar F, Diaz-Badillo A, Kumar S, Curran JE, Lehman DM, Hale DE, Lopez-Alvarenga JC, Golla V, **Arya R**, Lynch JL, DeFronzo RA, Blangero J, Mummidi S, Dong LQ and Duggirala R, Identification of potential functional variants influencing the LRG1 levels in Mexican American children. 2024 Obesity Week, The Obesity Society (TOS), Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center, San Antonio, Texas November 3-6, 2024 (Poster-419)

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03/2023 Duggirala R, and the Public Health Genetics and Genomics Group (PHGGG), presented a talk titled “San Antonio Mexican American Family Studies: Genetics and Genomics of Complex Diseases.” at CVRI-Michael E. DeBakey Institute Research Symposium, School of Medicine, Texas A&M University, Bryan, Texas

03/2023 Diaz-Badillo A, **Arya R,** Almeida M, Mummidi S, Lopez-Alvarenga JC, Akhtar F, Resendez RG, Farook V, Kumar S, Curran JE, Lehman DM, DeFronzo RA, Blangero J, Duggirala R, “Genetics of Birth Weight and Its Association with Adult Complex Diseases in Mexican Americans” poster presented August 2nd and 3rd, 2023 at CVRI-Michael E. DeBakey Institute Research Symposium, School of Medicine, Texas A&M University, Bryan, Texas

03/2023 Akhtar F, Ruiz JH, Liu Y-G, Resendez RG, Feliers D, Morales LD, Diaz-Badillo A, Lehman DM, **Arya R**, Lopez-Alvarenga JC, Blangero J, Duggirala R, and Mummidi S, Poster titled "Functional characterization of the disease-associated CCL2 rs1024611G-rs13900T haplotype: The role of the RNA-binding protein HuR" presented on August 2nd and 3rd, 2023 at CVRI-Michael E. DeBakey Institute Research Symposium, School of Medicine, Texas A&M Health University, Bryan, Texas

06/2023 Diaz-Badillo A, Mummidi S, **Arya R**, Lehman D, G*olla V Maria de Lourdes Muñoz ML, Duggirala R. The Epidemiological Burden of Dengue Fever in Mexico.* Presented at the World Applied Anthropology Conference (WAAC), May 31 - June 3, 2023, University of Kansas (KU), Lawrence, Kansas, USA

01/2023 **Arya R**. *Genetics of Biomarkers of Metabolic Dysfunction-Associated Fatty Liver Disease in Mexican Americans.* Presented at the 47th Annual Conference of the Indian Society of Human Genetics (ISHG) & International Symposium on “New Genetics and its Contributions to Human Health and Wealth” & The Golden Jubilee Celebrations of the Department of Human Genetics, Andhra University from 23rd – 25th January 2023, Visakhapatnam, India.

09/2019 **Arya R**, Diego VP, Mummidi S, Puppala S, Resendez RG, Fowler SP, Lehman DM, Lynch JL, Jenkinson CP, Lopez Alvarenga JC, DeFronzo RA, Blangero, and Duggirala

R. *Biomarkers of nonalcoholic fatty liver disease (NAFLD) exhibit genotype-by-environment interaction effects on metabolic abnormalities in Mexican American children.* Presented at the Research Symposium. School of Medicine, UTRGV. Edinburg/McAllen, TX. Sept 13 - 14, 2019.

09/2019 Mummidi S*, Farook* VS, **Arya R,** Lopez-Alvarenga JC, Almeida M, Puppala S, Akhtar F, Fowler SP, Resendez RG, Kumar S, Curran JE, Lehman DM, Jenkinson CP, Dodd GD; Diehl DK**, Blangero J, Duggirala R; *equal contribution: *Identification of potential functional genetic variants under linkage peaks associated with gallbladder disease in Mexican Americans.* Research Symposium. School of Medicine, UTRGV. Edinburg/McAllen, TX. Sept 13 - 14, 2019. (Contributed poster presentation by Mummidi S)

09/2019 Lopez-Alvarenga JC, **Arya R**, Mummidi S*, Resendez RG, Fowler SP, Akhtar F, Diaz-Badillo A, Lehman DM, Lynch JL, Jenkinson CP, DeFronzo RA, Blangero J, Duggirala R. *Obesity and insulin resistance predict liver dysfunction in Mexican American children.* Research Symposium. School of Medicine, UTRGV. Edinburg/McAllen, TX. Sept 13 - 14, 2019. (Contributed poster presentation by Lopez-Alvarenga JC)

09/2019 Akhtar F, Hernandez Ruiz J, Liu Y-G, Resendez RG, Feliers D, Diaz-Badillo A, **Arya R**, Jenkinson CP, Lopez Alvarenga JC, Duggirala R, Mummidi S. *RNA binding protein HuR regulates CCL2 allelic expression imbalance.* Research Symposium. School of Medicine, UTRGV. Edinburg/McAllen, TX. Sept 13 - 14, 2019. (Contributed poster presentation by Akhtar F)

09/2019 Morales LD, Kumar S, Curran JE, Göring HHH, Hu SL, Lopez-Alvarenga JC, Small K, Glastonbury C, Das SK, Langefeld C, Hanson R, Hsueh WC, **Arya R**, Mummidi S, Blangero J, Duggirala R, Jenkinson CP. *Further Evidence Supporting A Potential Role for Alcohol Dehydrogenase 1b (ADH1b) In Obesity.* (Flash Talk Presentation by Morales LD).

09/2019 Lopez Alvarenga JC, **Arya R**, Mummidi S, Resendez RG, Fowler SP, Akhtar F, Diaz-Badillo A, Lehman DM, Lynch JL, Jenkinson CP, DeFronzo RA, Blangero J, Duggirala R. *Obesity and Insulin Resistance Predict Liver Dysfunction in Mexican American Children.* (Contributed poster presentation by Lopez-Alvarenga).

09/2019 Diaz-Badillo A, Lopez-Alvarenga JC, Totomoch-Serra A, Hernandez-Ruiz J, Akhtar F, Mummidi S, **Arya R**, Jenkinson CP, Comuzzie AG, Curran JE, Dyer TD, Lehman DM, Blangero J, Duggirala R. *Sarcopenic Obesity and Metabolic Risk in Mexican Americans: Paradoxical Role of Adiponectin.* (Poster Presentation by Lopez-Alvarenga JC).

09/2019 Lopez-Alvarenga JC, Ramirez-Pfeiffer C, Castillo-Ruiz O, Diaz-Badillo A, Garcia-Oropesa E, Hernandez-Ruiz J, Leal-Rodriguez L, Munguia-Cisneros CX, Nava-Gonzalez EJ, Perales-Torres AA, Perez-Navarro MM, Ramirez-Quintanilla LY, Rosas-Diaz M, Tejero-Barrera E, **Arya R**, Mummidi S, Duggirala R. Relative *Contributions of Obesity and Alcohol to Liver Abnormalities in Young University Students.* (Poster Presentation by Lopez-Alvarenga JC).

09/2019 Hernandez-Ruiz J, Lopez-Alvarenga JC, Garces MJ, Garibay-Nieto N, Villanueva-Ortega E, Queipo G, Resendez RG, **Arya R**, Mummidi S, Comuzzie AG, Jenkinson CP, Lehman DM, Lynch JL, Hale DE, DeFronzo RA, Blangero J,

Duggirala R. *Different Obesity-Related Liver Function Profiles Exhibited by Mexican American and Mexican Children.* (Poster Presentation by Lopez-Alvarenga JC).

08/2017 **Arya R,** Puppala S, Lopez-Alvarenga JC, Mummidi S, Diaz-Badillo A, Fowler SP, Resendez RG, Curran JE, Lehman DM, Jenkinson CP, Bradshaw BS; DeFronzo RA, Blangero J, Duggirala R. *Evidence for common genetic loci for birth weight and adulthood cardio-metabolic traits in Mexican Americans.* Presented at The Research Symposium, School of Medicine, UTRGV, Edinburg, TX, Aug 12, 2017.

10/2016 **Arya R**, Puppala S, Fowler S, Mummidi S, Farook VS, Dyer TD, Almeida M, Peralta J, Resendez RG, Lopez-Alvarenga JC, Jenkinson CP, Comuzzie AG, Goring HHH, Mahaney M, Almasy L, Lehman DM, Curran JE, Duggirala R, Blangero J. *Genome-wide association analysis localizes a novel locus for abdominal obesity in Mexican Americans.* Presented at the Obesity Society meeting at ObesityWeek in New Orleans, October 31- November 4, 2016.

10/2015 **Arya R**, del Rincon I, Farook VS, Restrepo JF, Winnier DA, Fourcaudot MJ, Battafarano DF, Kumar S, de Almeida MAA, Curran JE, Jenkinson CP, Blangero J, Duggirala R, and Escalante. *Cumulative association of genetic variants with rheumatoid joint damage progression in Mexican Americans and European Americans.* This abstract has been presented at the American College of Rheumatology Meeting, November 6-11, 2015, San Francisco, CA.

11/2014 **Arya R**, del Rincon I, Farook VS, Restrepo JF, Winnier DA, Battafarano DF, Kumar S, De Almeida MAA, Curran JE, Jenkinson C, Blangero J, Duggirala R, Escalante A. *Genetic variants influencing joint damage in Mexican Americans and European Americans with rheumatoid arthritis, Presented at* American College of Rheumatology (ACR/ARHP) Annual Meetings 2014, Session: Genetics, Genomics, and Proteomics II, November 14-19, Boston, MA.

09/2012 **Arya R**, Fowler SP, Puppala S, Farook VS, Chittoor G, Resendez RG, Mummidi S, Vanamala J, Almasy L, Curran JE, Comuzzie AG, Lehman DM, Jenkinson, Lynch JL, DeFronzo RA, Blangero J, Hale DE, Duggirala R, and Diego VP. *Gene-by-physical activity interaction effects on cardiometabolic risk factors in Mexican American children*, Obesity 2012 30th Annual Scientific Meeting, Physical Activity Epidemiology, The Obesity Society, San Antonio, TX

06/2012 **Arya R**, Puppala S, Farook VS, Fowler SP, Schneider J, Curran JE, Almasy L, Comuzzie AG, Jenkinson CP, Lynch JL, Lehman DM, Ralph A. DeFronzo, Blangero J, Hale DE, Duggirala R. *The factor structure of the metabolic syndrome and its genetic basis in Mexican American children*, American Diabetes Association 72nd Scientific Sessions, 20-C Pediatrics -Type 2 Diabetes, American Diabetes Association, Philadelphia, PA

10/2009 **Arya R**, Puppala S, Farook VS, Fowler SP, Schneider J, Curran JE, Almasy L, Comuzzie AG, Jenkinson CP, Lynch JL, Lehman DM, Ralph A. DeFronzo, Blangero J, Hale DE, Duggirala R. *Genetic influences on childhood obesity, insulin resistance, and metabolic syndrome phenotypes in Mexican American children*, Obesity Society's 27th Annual Meeting, Population Studies, The Obesity Society, Washington, DC

09/2008 **Arya R**, Hare E., del Rincon I, Jenkinson CP, Duggirala R. *Effects of covariates and interactions on genome-wide association analysis (GWAA) of rheumatoid arthritis*,

The Genetic Analysis Workshop 16 Meeting, Genetic-Environmental Interactions Group, The Genetic Analysis Workshop, St. Louis, MO.

06/2007 **Arya R**, Puppala S, Coletta DK, Schneider J, Hu SL, Farook VS, Sathyanarayana P, Dyer TD, Blangero J, Duggirala R. Defronzo RA, Jenkinson CP. *Search for susceptibility genes influencing pathophysiological measures of type 2 diabetes: The Veterans Administration Genetic Epidemiology Study (VAGES)*. American Diabetes Association 67th Annual Meeting, Genetics of Type 2 Diabetes, American Diabetes Association, Chicago, IL

06/2006 **Arya R**, Puppala S, Farook VS, Schneider J, Fowler S, Arar N, Almasy L, Blangero J, Abboud HE, Stern MP, Duggirala R. *Genetic factors commonly influence chronic kidney disease and the metabolic syndrome phenotypes in Mexican Americans*. the American Diabetes Association 66th Annual Meeting, Diabetes Complications, American Diabetes Association, Washington, DC

10/2005 **Arya R,** Fowler S, Schneider J, Puppala S, Farook V, Granato R, Jenkinson CP, Almasy L, Comuzzie AG, Bradshaw B, DeFronzo RA, MacCluer J, Stern MP, Blangero J, Duggirala R. *Complex genetic architecture of birth weight in Mexican Americans revealed by oligogenic linkage analysis*. The American Society of Human Genetics 55th Annual Meeting, 2005, Salt Lake City, UT.

06/2005 **Arya R**, Fowler S, Schneider J, Puppala S, Farook V, Granato R, Jenkinson CP, Almasy L, Comuzzie AG, Bradshaw B, DeFronzo RA, MacCluer J, Stern MP, Blangero J, Duggirala R. *Evidence for a major gene for birth weight in Mexican Americans*. The American Diabetes Association 65th Annual meeting, the American Diabetes Association, San Diego, CA

11/2004 **Arya R**, Schneider J, Puppala S, Fowler S, Dyer T, Jenkinson CP, Almasy L, Blangero J, Stern MP, Duggirala R. *Evidence for a major gene for abdominal obesity in Mexican Americans*, The North American Association for Study of Obesity (The NAASO), Genetics of obesity, The North American Association for Study of Obesity, Las Vegas, NE

10/2004 **Arya R**, Schneider J, Puppala S, Dyer T, Fowler S, Almasy L, Blangero J, Stern MP, Duggirala R. *A genome-wide scan for quantitative trait loci linked to waist circumference in Mexican Americans*. 54th Annual Meeting of The American Society of Human Genetics, The American Society of Human Genetics, Toronto, Canada.

09/2004 **Arya R**, Dyer T, Warren DM, Jenkinson CP, Duggirala R, Almasy L. *Effect of Genotype-by-alcoholism interaction on linkage analysis of an alcoholism-related quantitative phenotype*, The Genetic Analysis Workshop (GAW) 14, The University of Texas Health Science Center, Noordwijkerhout, Netherlands.

06/2004 **Arya R**, Bradshaw B, Jenkinson CJ, Schneider J, Fowler S, Puppala S, Almasy L, Comuzzie AG, MacCluer J, Defronzo RA, Blangero J, Stern MP, Duggirala R. *Genetic correlations between birth weight and the insulin resistance syndrome-related phenotypes in Mexican Americans*. The American Diabetes Association (ADA) 64th Scientific Sessions, Genetics of Type 2 Diabetes-Related Phenotypes, ADA, Orlando, FL.

10/2003 **Arya R**, Williams K, Bhandari K, Lehman D, Fowler S, Almasy L, Blangero J,

Hanna A, Stern MP Duggirala R. *Albuminuria as a component of metabolic syndrome in Mexican Americans. North American Association for the Study of Obesity (NAASO).* Annual Scientific Meeting, North American Association for the Study of Obesity (NAASO), Ft. Lauderdale, FL

06/2003 **Arya R**, Fowler S, Schneider J, Almasy L, O'Connell P, Blangero J, Stern MP, Duggirala R. *Evidence of a novel major locus for adiponectin levels on chromosome 3q in Mexican Americans*, 63rd American Diabetes Association Scientific Sessions, American Diabetes Association (ADA), New Orleans, LA

11/2002 **Arya R**, Lehman D, Kelly H, Schneider J, Almasy L, Blangero J, Stern MP, Duggirala R. *Evidence for bivariate linkage of obesity and HDL-C levels in the Framingham Heart Study*, Genetic Analysis Workshop 13, New Orleans, LA

06/2002 **Arya R**, Dodd GD, Fowler S, Lehman DM, Diehl AK, Blangero J, Stern MP, Duggirala R. *Genetics of the clinical triad of type 2 diabetes, obesity, and gallbladder disease in Mexican Americans*, 62nd Scientific Sessions, American Diabetes Association, San Francisco, CA

10/2001 **Arya R**, Blangero J, Almasy L, O'Connell P, Stern MP, Duggirala RA. *Major locus for body mass index (BMI) on chromosome 4p in MexicanAmericans*, North American Association for the Study of Obesity Annual Meeting, North American Association for the Study of Obesity, Quebec City, Canada

06/2001 **Arya R**, Bhandari K, Kawalit, I, Fowler S, Williams K, Pergola PE, Plaetke R, Almasy L, Blangero J, Abboud HE, Duggirala R. *Bivariate genetic analysis of albuminuria and obesity in Mexican Americans*, 61st Scientific Sessions, American Diabetes Association, Philadelphia, PA

10/2000 **Arya R**, Duggirala R, Williams JT, Almasy L, Blangero J. *Power to localize the major gene for disease liability is increased after accounting for the effects of related quantitative phenotypes*, Genetic Analysis Workshop 12, Genetic Analysis Workshop 12, San Antonio, TX

06/2000 **Arya R**, Williams K, O'Connell P, Blangero J, Stern MP, and Duggirala R. *Factors of insulin resistance syndrome (IRS)-related phenotypes are linked to genetic locations on chromosomes 6 and 7 in non-diabetic Mexican Americans*, The American Diabetes Association 60th Scientific Sessions, Genetics of Type 2 Diabetes, American Diabetes Association, San Antonio, TX

10/1999 **Arya R**, Duggirala R, Almasy L, Stern MP, O'Connell P, and Blangero J. *Strong evidence for linkage of high-density lipoprotein cholesterol concentrations to a genetic location on chromosome 9p in Mexican Americans*, 49th Annual Meeting Plenary Session, American Society of Human Genetics, San Francisco, CA

RESEARCH GRANTS

ACTIVE

Source: **Research Council Award, TAMUSA (PI: Arya**)
Title: Gene by Lifestyle Interaction Effect on Childhood Obesity in Mexican American Children
Period: 05/01/2024-07/31/2025
Role: Principal Investigator

Source: **Local Institutional Funding** (PI: Duggirala R and Co-PI: Lehman DM)
Title: The Gut Microbiome, Host Genetics, and Type 2 Diabetes Risk in Mexican Americans: A Pilot Study
Period: 11-30-2023 to 12/31/2026
Role: Co-Investigator

Source: **Baptist Health Foundation of San Antonio** (PI: Dong, UTHSA)
Title: Identification of a marker and therapeutic target for pediatric obesity and diabetes
Period: 12/15/20-12/14/25
Direct Costs: $135,000, Indirect Costs: $15,000 Total Costs: $150,000
Role: Co-Investigator

Source: **Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board Minority Health Research and Education Grant Program 2025-2027** (Director: Duggirala)
Title: Identification of modifiable dietary and socioeconomic factors impacting cardiometabolic risk through epigenetics in Mexican American youth and potential for community-based interventions
Period: 07/01/2025 – 03/30/2027
Total Costs Requested: $400,000
Role: Co-Investigator
Status: Active

Source**: Research Enhancement Fund (REF) Grant** (PI: Mummidi S; Co PI: **Arya R)**
Title: Multiomic Stratification of Pediatric Acanthosis Nigricans for Precision Cardiometabolic Risk
Period: 08/01/2026 – 07/31/2027
Total Cost: $99,625
Role: Co-PI
Status: Active

PENDING Grants (Under review/Submitted/To be submitted)

1R01DK147284-01 (PA-25-301) (**Contact PI**: **Arya R** and MPIs: Rayas Maria, Reddivari L)
NIH/NIMHD
Title: Determinants of Metabolic Dysfunction-Associated Fatty Liver Disease in Children and Adolescents: An Integrative Multi-Omic Approach
Period: 04/01/2026 - 03/31/2031
Direct Costs: $2,485,603
Total Costs: $3,849,029
Role: Principal Investigator (Contact)
Status: To Be Resubmitted

USDA – National Institute of Food and Agriculture (PI: Arya R)
Title: Effect of Carotenoid-Rich Fruits & Vegetables on Gut Microbiome and Cardiometabolic Risk In Overweight/Obese Mexican American Children. FOA: USDA-NIFA Program: Diet, Nutrition and the Prevention of Chronic Disease.
Period: 6-1-2026 to 5-31-2029.
Total Costs Requested: $1,149.107
Role: Project Director.
Status: Under Revision.

FOA: **NIH R15** Academic Research Enhancement Award (AREA) for Undergraduate-Focused Institutions (R15 Clinical Trial Not Required) **Arya** (PI Contact), Kulkarni and Mummidi (MPIs)
Title: Mapping obesity and type 2 diabetes susceptibility genes and disease risk prediction using Machine learning/Deep learning approach in Mexican Americans.

Period: 12/01/2025 – 11/31/2028
Total Costs Requested: $564,823
Role: Principal Investigator
Status: To Be Resubmitted

1R01HL186312-01 - NHLBI (NOT-HL-21-015) (Contact PI: Duggirala R and PI: Mummidi S);
Title: Epigenetic Signatures of Early-Stage Environmental Exposures on Cardiometabolic Health
Project Period: 04-01-2026 to 03-31-2031.
Total Costs Requested: $3,777,880.
Role: Co-Investigator
Status: To Be Resubmitted.

PAST Grants

R01 MD012564
NIH/NIMHD: Identification of the Exposome in Fatty Liver Disease in Mexican American Families Using Genetic Correction.
Period: 04/27/218–11/30/22 (NCE)
Role: Co-Investigator
Principal Investigators: Blangero, Clark (MPIs)

U01 DK085524
NIH/NIDDK
Title: Discovery of Functional Variants in Type 2 Diabetes Genes in Mexican Americans.
Period: 04/01/15 – 04/30/2022 [2NCE]
Role: Co-Investigator
Principal Investigator: Duggirala (PI contact)

R21 DK105913 (Duggirala, PI)
NIH/NIDDK
Title: Genetics of Type 2 Diabetes in Indian Populations: US-India Collaboration Project
The major objective of this study was to establish a Collaborative Research Partnership (CRP) between two US institutions and three Indian institutions to evaluate genetic determinants of type 2 diabetes (T2D) among four Endogamous Ethnic Groups (EEGs) using pedigree-based data sets from North and South Indian states.
Period: 04/08/16 – 03/31/18
Role: Co-Investigator

R01HD037151-06A (PI: Escalante)
NIH/NICHD
Title: The Disablement Process in Rheumatoid Arthritis Inflammation damages the joints of rheumatoid arthritis (RA) patients. They experience pain, loss of motion, physical disability and a shortened lifespan. Despite estimates suggesting Mexican Americans (MA) may be more susceptible to RA compared to other U.S. ethnic groups, little is known about the clinical expression or outcome in RA in MA. Our goals are to identify optimal points for intervention to retard disablement in RA, and to understand the mechanisms of ethnic disparities.
Period: 08/2008 - 07/2012
Role: Co-Investigator

R01HL085742 (PI: del Rincon)
NIH/NHLBI
Title: Effect of Chronic Inflammation on Atherosclerosis Outcomes in Rheumatoid Arthritis
The major goal of this research is to examine candidate genes for association with

atherosclerosis and cardiovascular outcomes in rheumatoid arthritis.
Period: 03/2008 - 02/2016
Role: Co-Investigator

R01 HD049051 (PI: Duggirala)
NIH/NICHD
Title: The metabolic syndrome in Mexican American children
The purpose of this project was to establish the precursors of the MS in Mexican American children. Given that family history of type 2 diabetes is an important factor associated with the MS risk, plans to establish the precursors of the MS in children could be greatly advance by examining the children of previously established adult family-based cohorts such as ours that are enriched with prediabetic and diabetic individuals.
Period: 03/2005 - 02/2010
Role: Co-Investigator

R01AG022-435 (PI: Jenkinson)
NIH
Title: Diabesity gene discovery at chromosome 6q23
The purpose of this project was to investigate the genetic basis of type 2 diabetes and obesity in Mexican Americans, focusing on locating and identifying a putative diabesity gene at chromosome 6q23.
Period: 03/2005 - 02/2010
Role: Co-Investigator

GCRC-IC-019 (PI: Arya)
General Clinical Research Center (GCRC-VAH)
Title: Genetics of visceral adiposity in Mexican Americans
The purpose of this project was to conduct preliminary study by implementing the MRI protocol and to generate preliminary results for the major NIH grant application.
Period:11/2003 - 10/2004
Role: Principal Investigator

R01HD41111
NIH/NICHH
Title: Genetics of birth weight in Mexican Americans
The goal of this project was to conduct a multidisciplinary study utilizing birth weight and its related adult phenotypic data, molecular genetic data, and statistical genetic techniques to examine the genetic determinants of birth weight and its associated adult disease phenotypes in Mexican American families.
Period: 09/2001 - 06/2006
Role: Co-Investigator

R01DK47482
NIH
Title: NIDDM susceptibility genes in Mexican Americans
The major goal of this project was to fine map a region on chromosome 10q linked to type 2 diabetes using single nucleotide polymorphisms to discover gene variants responsible for the linkage signal.
Period: 09/2000 - 08/2005
Role: Co-Investigator

U01DK58026
NIH

Title: Consortium Linkage Studies of Type 2 Diabetes
The goal of this project was to pool data from 15 genetic studies from 5 different countries in order to improve localization of susceptibility genes for type 2 diabetes.
Period: 08/1999 - 07/2005
Role: Co-Investigator

R01DK53889
NIH/NIDDK
Title: Genetics of gallbladder disease in Mexican Americans
The purpose of this project was to examine the genetic basis of gallbladder disease in Mexican Americans.
Period: 10/1998 - 09/2004
Role: Co-Investigator

PRIVATE Grants:

American Heart Association Scientific Development Grant -National (AHASDG/NATL) 0730468N (PI: Arya)
Title: Identification of genes influencing chronic kidney disease (CKD) in Mexican Americans
The purpose of this study is to identify pleiotropic genes influencing the association between the CKD phenotypes (Albuminurea and GFR) and MS phenotypes in Mexican Americans using multivariate linkage and association analyses.
Period: 01/2007 - 12/2010
Role: Principal Investigator

STATE Grants:

Borderplex Obesity Diabetes Council 123047-08-B (PI: Arya)
Title: Genetic determinants of Obesity/Abdominal Obesity (AO) and Related Phenotypes in the Rio Grande Valley (RGV) Population.
The purpose of this study was to recruit unrelated Mexican American subjects living in Rio Grande Valley area to obtain data on obesity/AO related phenotypes using the most reliable noninvasive and sophisticated MRI technique and examine the specific genetic determinants of AO in Mexican Americans.
Period: 01/2009 - 07/2010
Role: Principal Investigator

EXTRAMURAL ACADEMIC SERVICES

SERVICE TO THE INSTITUTION:

Dates	Role Description
08/2024 - Present	Member, Award's Committee, TAMU-SA
05/2024 - Present	Alternate member, Institutional Review Board, TAMU-SA
04/19/2024	Poster Judge, 10th Annual A&M-SA Student Research Symposium, TAMUSA
03/08/2024	Presented a seminar on "Identification of potential functional variants influencing liver function and metabolic (dysfunction)-associated fatty liver disease in Mexican Americans" to Graduate students of the Department of Biology, College of Arts and Sciences, TAMU-SA

05/2023 - 05/2024	Vice-Chair, Institutional Review Board, TAMU-SA
02/2021- 08/2022	Vice-Chair, Institutional Review Board – Biomedical Panel
10/2020-10/2021	Member, Jean MacCluer and Bennett Dyke Endowed Lectureship for 2020-2021.
04/2016 - present	Member, Institutional Review Board (Panel 2) UTRGV
09/2012 - 09/2015	Alternate Member, Institutional Review Board, UTHSCSA
09/2014 - 08/2015	Editorial Board Member, Frontiers of Nutrition and Research, Editorial Board
05/2014-05/2014	Poster Judge, School Pediatrics Research Day 2014 Judged Medical Student/Residents/Fellows Research Posters in an Annual Competition to select the best poster presentations.
04/2014-04/2014	Poster Judge, School Passport 2014 Judged Medical Student/Residents/Fellows research posters in an annual competition to select the best poster presentations.
11/2012-11/2012	Poster Judge, School Medical Student Research Day Judged medical student research posters in an annual competition to select the best poster presentations.

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION:

Abstract Reviewer for Professional Societies:

02/2023-05/2023	Served as an abstract reviewer for the World Applied Anthropology Congress (WAAC), May 31-June 3, 2023, Kansas University, Lawrence, KS
05/2011-Present	Served as an abstract reviewer for The Obesity Society meetings.

Grant Reviewer for Granting Agencies (National level):

10/2010-10/2015	Reviewed grants for Commonwealth Pennsylvania Department of Health Formula Grant Final Performance Reviews, and Pennsylvania Department of Health Translational Genomics Peer Review
09/2016	Reviewer for Shota Rustaveli National Science Foundation Proposals 08/2016
	Reviewer for The Collaborative Research Project (compatriots call) Award
01/2017 -	Reviewer for the Ralph E. Powe Junior Faculty Award
09/2019 -	Reviewer, Letters of Intent for the Early Career Research Grant and the WW Karen Miller-Kovach Research Grant, The Obesity Society.
07/2020	Served as a reviewer for the Pennsylvania Department of Health Formula Grants Final Performance Review 20-21 Cycle A.

11/2020	Served as a reviewer of research grants for the Florida Department of Health Biomedical Research Programs 20-21.

Manuscript Reviewer for Scientific Journals:

09/2004-Present	Diabetes, Diabetes Care, Diabetologia, Obesity, Obesity Research, American Journal of Human Genetics, Human Heredity, Human Biology, Human Genetics, Genetic Epidemiology, Annals of Human, Biology BMC Genetics, BMC Medical Genetics, International Journal of Tropical Disease and Health, Human Molecular Genetics, International Journal of Obesity, PLOS One, Scientific Reports, World Journal of Pediatrics, BMC Endocrine Disorders, Scandinavian Journal of Medicine and Science in Sports, Food Science & Nutrition, Scientific Data, Frontiers in Genetics, and Genes & Nutrition

Service on Scientific Committees:

Date	**Committee**
05/2023-06/2023	Co-Chair, Program, Publications, and Proceedings Committee, World Applied Anthropology Conference (WAAC), May 31 - June 3, 2023 Kansas University, Lawrence, Kansas, USA
04/2018–04/2020	Member, The Obesity Society (TOS) – Scientific Research Committee
04/2015-03/2019	Member, Amp-T2D consortium phenotype harmonization working group
03/2010-03/2011	Member, Diversity Section of the Obesity Society, TOS
08/2008-01/2012	Member, Diversity Committee of the Obesity Society, TOS
09/1999-08/2004	Member, Analysis and Mapping Committee, Consortium Linkage Studies of Type 2 Diabetes

Educational Activities including Mentorship and Training:

Trained and/or mentored the following students, postdocs and junior faculty in genetic epidemiological studies focusing on the statistical genetic data analysis using a variety of software and statistical packages individually and collectively together with other colleagues from STDOI.

09/2007- 08/2010	Participated in an Innovative Research and Development Training Program (RDTPG) from 2007 to 2010. The purpose of this program was to develop a group of researchers (MD and PhD), at the Edinburg- Regional Academic Health Center (E-RAHC) of UTHSCSA located in Edinburg, Texas, with special expertise in translational genetic research in the U.S. Latino population.
03/2008- 08/2010	Served on Ph.D. Thesis committee of Amitabh Sharma as an External Examiner for the evaluation of the Ph.D. thesis titled “In silico and Genetic Studies of Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus, with Special Emphasis on Protein- Protein

Interactions" submitted to University of Pune, Ganeshkhind, Pune, India for the award of PhD degree in Biotechnology, 2009

05/2009- 06/2010 Mentored a graduate student, Dr. Rohita Inturi, MS in Medical Laboratory Sciences, working on her research project, while serving on her supervising committee as an expert UTHSCSA faculty. Also, served as an expert UTHSCSA faculty member on Dr. Rohitha Inturi's Supervising Committee. My role was to mentor Dr. Inturi on her research project titled "Genetic and Environmental influences on growth, motor, cognitive behavioral and language development of premature infants."

1. **Undergraduate Students Mentored:**

Nishanth, an undergraduate student at UTSA, 2024

Naba Asif, a pre-med student at UTRGV, 2016 - 2017

Umer Jalil, a pre-med student at UTRGV, 2016

Sunil Athyala, a pre-med student at UTRGV, 2016-2017
Continued to mentor SOM and UTRGV students: Sunil Athyala - A pre-med student at UTRGV, and Melissa Ku – Nursing student at UTRGV/(currently at UTHSA), 2018-2019

2. **Graduate Students Mentored and Trained:**

Mentored Mr. Armando Totomoch-Serra, MD, a visiting Ph.D. student from CINVESTAV (Center for Research and Advanced Studies of the National Polytechnic Institute, which is a Mexican non-governmental scientific research institution), Mexico (Oct- Dec 2016).

Introduced him to statistical genetic analyses including genome-wide association analysis using PLINK along with other colleagues at STDOI.

Trained Alden, Sarah Dale, Graduate Student, Department of Anthropology, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS, 2016

Swathi Balaji, MBBS, Graduate Research Assistant, School of Public Health, Brownsville, UTHealth, Houston, TX, 2018

3. **Post-Doctoral Fellows and Research Associates Mentored:**

I contributed as a faculty mentor to Alvaro Diaz-Badillo, Ph.D. Department of Human Genetics/STDOI, Edinburg, TX, 2016-2018

I have mentored and guided Dr. Diaz-Badillo on two of his projects (i.e., SAFARI and SAMAFS) in terms of different genetic analyses using SOLAR and interpretation of results and in the preparation of poster presentations for the Research symposium 2018:

1) "Genetics of bone mass related phenotypes and their correlation with cardiometabolic traits in Mexican American children." Presented at the Research Symposium. UTRGV. Edinburg. Sep 15, 2018.

2) "Sarcopenic obesity and its paradoxical association with cardiometabolic risk factors in Mexican Americans." Presented at the Research Symposium, UTRGV. Sep 15, 2018. The related two manuscripts are being prepared for publication purpose.

Contributed as a faculty mentor to Feroz Akhtar, Ph.D. Research Associate II Department of Human Genetics/STDOI, Edinburg, TX, 2017 to present

I have been mentoring Dr. Akhtar ever since he started working on our tooth pilot study in terms of data analysis, interpretation of results, and manuscript preparation titled “Early Life Exposure to Environmental Pollutants as Assessed in Deciduous Teeth and Cardio-metabolic Risk in Mexican American Children”. This manuscript has been prepared and getting ready for submission.

4. Junior Faculty and Staff Mentored:

I am a co-investigator on the US-India Bilateral Collaborative Research Partnership (CRP) study on Diabetes Research titled Genetics of type 2 diabetes in Indian populations: US-India collaboration project (PIs: Drs. Duggirala and Sanghera) from 2016 - present.

The major focus of this Collaborative Research Partnership (CRP) between two US and three Indian institutions was to evaluate genetic determinants of type 2 diabetes (T2D) using pedigree-based data sets from four distinct Endogamous Ethnic Groups (EEGs) representing the North and South Indian states. Indian EEGs are ideal to conduct genetic studies of complex diseases such as T2D, given their high levels of endogamy, large family structures, and a high degree of genetic differentiation among them reflecting the importance of local genetic histories.

I have been interacting with Indian investigators mainly junior faculty, Drs. Venkatesan and Koshy, the Sri Ramachandra University, Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India, regarding genetic data analyses that include T2D association analyses, and other statistical analyses of family data, and epidemiological and genetic profile comparisons among Indian populations and between Indian and the US populations. Two abstracts have been presented at the ADA 2019 meetings and currently working on the manuscripts.

Mihwa Kim, Ph.D. Assistant Professor, Department of Molecular Science, School of Medicine, UTRGV, Edinburg, TX, 2019. I mentored Dr. Kim, on a couple of projects relating to Identification of variants influencing cervical cancer in Hispanics. Following our recent meeting, I guided her to conduct association analysis using SNP data from candidate genes implicated in cervical cancer causation and progression as part of her grant application.

Other Academic/Educational Activities:

5. Coordinator, Complex Disease Journal Club (CDJC) Presentations:

As one of the coordinators of the CDJC, Department of Human Genetics and STDOI, School of Medicine, UTRGV since its inception in 2016, I have been actively involved in the CDJC activities. Interacting with graduate students, postdocs, and research faculty from various departments. About 20-30 students and faculty members attend these seminars and have opportunities to present their research as well.

6. Professional Training, Mentoring, Interviewing Experience:

1. Attended UTRGV Institutional Review Board (IRB) Training Retreat and involved in training sessions for new IRB members.

2. Participated in the Equity and Diversity Advocate (EDA) training on May 14th, 2019.

3. Served on School of Nursing (SON) Faculty Search Committee as an Equity and Diversity Advocate Member, interviewed candidates for two faculty positions (FRGV 0894 SON Faculty Clinical Coordinator).

4. Interviewer for School of Medicine Admissions, UTRGV, for entry year of 2020.

5. Attended a day-long webinar "2020 IRB VIRTUAL CONFERENCE - JULY 30, 2020", Thu, Jul 30, 2020, 9:30 AM - 8:00 PM CDT conducted by NWABR and its conference partners, the WIRB-Copernicus Group and Advarra including featured presentations by the Office for Human Research Protections (OHRP).

6. Moderator, Student Research Symposium, held on April 21, 2023, at Texas A&M University - San Antonio.

7. Co-organized the Obesity Awareness Event (Sponsored by the Office of Research and Health Sciences) on March 6, 2023, at Texas A&M University-San Antonio.

8. Co-organized the American Diabetes Alert Day Distinguished Lecture (Sponsored by the Office of Research and Health Sciences, TAMUSA) on March 28, 2023, at Texas A&M University-San Antonio.

9. Served as an abstract reviewer for the World Applied Anthropology Conference (WAAC), May 31 - June 3, 2023, University of Kansas (KU), Lawrence, Kansas, USA

10. Served as Chair, Program, Proceedings, and Publication Committee, The World Applied Anthropology Conference (WAAC), May 31 - June 3, 2023, University of Kansas (KU), Lawrence, Kansas, USA

11. Moderator, CVRI Research Symposium, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas From August 1- 3, 2023.

12. Served on the Curriculum Committee for the new B.S. Degree in Community Health.

13. Served as a search committee member for the R-059689 Associate or Full Professor in Community Health/Program Director position.

14. Executive Committee Member, Governing Council of the Anthropological Association for Humankind (AAH), Hyderabad, Telangana, India.

15. Served on the College of Arts and Sciences (COAS) grant program committee as a member for the academic year 2023-2024. Dr. Arya had the privilege of reviewing 19 grants from our colleagues and evaluating them for funding considerations. Although it was hard to review projects from other disciplines, it was indeed a rewarding and scholarly experience to know the work of our colleagues and appreciate their research acumen.

16. Participated in the 11th Student Research Symposium - The RISE Symposium 2025 as oral presentation judge and poster judge as well.

17. Served on the College of Arts and Sciences (COAS) grant program committee as a member for the academic year 2024-2025.

18. Elected as the **member of Faculty Advisory Council** in the year 2025-2026 representing the department Health and Behavioral Sciences.

19. Serving as a member of the first COAS Ph.D program committee tasked with developing a doctoral proposal at TAMUSA.

20. **Adjudicated a Ph.D. thesis** from Andhra University, Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh, India

21. Served as an Executive Member of the Organizing Committee and the Co-Chair of the Finance Committee, **World Applied Anthropology Congress (WAAC) 24-27July 2026** (2025-2026), ICRISAT, Hyderabad, India

22. Reviewed scientific abstracts for the WAAC 2026 as a member of the Program Proceedings and Publication Committee held from 24-27July 2026 ICRISAT, Hyderabad, India

23. Selected as a participant in **Cohort 6 of the *A&M-San Antonio Leadership Academy*** of the three-year program on July 16, 2026.