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Education

PhD	Epidemiology	1998	Johns Hopkins University, School of Public Health, Baltimore, Maryland.
MS	Nutrition	1990	Loma Linda University, Graduate School, Loma Linda, California.
BS	Clinical Nutrition	1986	Loma Linda University, School of Allied Health Professions.

Employment

1985-1987	Clinical Dietitian/Diet Technician, Loma Linda University Medical Center, Loma Linda, CA.
1986-1989	Research Assistant, Amino Acid Laboratory; Nutrition Department, Loma Linda University, CA.
1989-1991	Nutrition Consultant, San Juan Metropolitan Area, Puerto Rico.
1991-1993	Senior Clinical Nutrition Specialist, Washington Hospital Center, Washington, DC.
1993-1998	Nutrition Consultant, Department of Epidemiology, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD
1995-1997	Coordinator of Surveillance Systems, Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Division of Cardiovascular Health and Nutrition, Baltimore, MD.
1995-1996	Adjunct Faculty, Anne Arundel Community College, Science Dept. (Nutrition), Arnold, MD.
1996-1998	Adjunct Faculty, Howard Community College, Science Department (Nutrition), Columbia, MD.
1996-1998	Adjunct Faculty, Morgan State Univ., Health and Physical Fitness Dept.(Epi), Baltimore, MD.
1998-1999	Assistant Scientist, Department of Epidemiology, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD.
1999-2000	Assistant Professor, Department of Epidemiology, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD.
2000-2005	Assistant Professor, Department of Social & Preventive Medicine, SUNY, Buffalo, NY.
2005-2008	Associate Research Professor, School of Community Health, Portland State University, OR.
2008-2017	Associate Professor, Programs of Epidemiology, Nutrition and Global Health, School of Biological and Population Health Sciences, Oregon State University, OR.
2017-present	Professor, Programs of Epidemiology, Nutrition and Global Health, School of Biological and Population Health Sciences, Oregon State University, OR.

Research focus

HIV infection; nutrition, physical activity, and chronic disease: I have been involved in HIV research since 1994 examining the role of nutrition initially as it related to survival and with the improved survival after the advent of antiretroviral therapy, the role of nutrition as it relates to aging in people living with HIV. Our findings have shown the importance of nutrition in the prevention of metabolic complications as well as the continuing importance of nutrition in people living with HIV.

Physical function, food insecurity, and nutrition: I have examined the role of nutrition in frailty both in the general population and in people living with HIV. We have found that people who are frail are more likely to be food insecure, underscoring that improving food insecurity may need a comprehensive approach.

Public Health Surveillance: I have a special interest to improve the methods used to analyze complex existing national surveillance systems as a research tool for evaluating lifestyle, environmental factors and health. This has led to many collaborations and publications that have improved what is currently known about the health in the US population.

Health Disparities: Much of my research has expanded what is known about health disparities. This work has highlighted that physical inactivity, poor nutrition, and chronic diseases are disproportionately manifested in certain racial and ethnic minorities.

Publications

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/myncbi/ellen.smit.1/bibliography/public/>