

Lilah M. Besser, PhD, MSPH

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Academic Position	Assistant Professor School of Urban and Regional Planning Institute for Healthy Aging and Lifespan Studies Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton, FL	2018-present
Education	Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) City and Regional Planning University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC Dissertation: <i>Neighborhood Built Environment Characteristics and Cognition in Non-demented Older Adults</i>	2017
	Master of Science in Public Health (MSPH) Dual: Epidemiology; Environmental and Occupational Health Emory University, Atlanta, GA Thesis: <i>Commute Time and Social Capital</i>	2004
	Bachelor of Science (BS) Major: Biology; Minor: Chemistry Oglethorpe University, Atlanta, GA <i>Cum laude</i>	1998
Professional Experience	Senior Research Scientist National Alzheimer's Coordinating Center Department of Epidemiology University of Washington, Seattle, WA	2011-2018
	Research Health Science Specialist Veteran's Administration (VA) Puget Sound, Seattle, WA	2009-2010
	Graduate Research Assistant Center for Community Capital University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, NC	2009
	Epidemiologist National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Atlanta, GA	2004-2007
	Epidemiologist National Center for Environmental Health Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Atlanta, GA	2004-2005
	Public Health Data Analyst Division of Oral Health Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Atlanta, GA	2003-2004

Research Laboratory Technician

2001-2002

Respiratory Diseases Branch

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Atlanta, GA

Peer-reviewed Publications

Besser, L.M., Rodriguez, D.A., McDonald, N., Kukull, W., Fitzpatrick, A., Rapp, S., Seeman, T., 2018. Neighborhood built environment and cognition in non-demented older adults: The Multi-Ethnic Study of Atherosclerosis. *Soc Sci Med* 200:27-35.

Besser, L., Crary, J., Mock, C., Kukull, W., 2017. Comparison of symptomatic and asymptomatic persons with primary age-related tauopathy. *Neurology* 89(16):1707-1715.

Moulder, K., **Besser, L.**, Beekly, D., Blennow, K., Kukull, W., Morris, J., 2017. Factors influencing successful lumbar puncture in Alzheimer research. *Alzheimer Dis Assoc Disord* 31(4):287-294.

Weintraub, S., **Besser, L.**, Dodge, H., Teylan, M., Ferris, S., Goldstein, F., Giordani, B., Kramer, J., Loewenstein, D., Marson, D., Mungas D., Salmon, D., Welsh-Bohmer, K., Zhou, X-H., Shirk, S., Atri, A., Kukull, W., Silverberg, N., Phelps, C., Morris, J. Version 3 of the Alzheimer's Disease Centers' Neuropsychological Test Battery in the Uniform Data Set (UDS). *Alzheimer Dis Assoc Disord* 32(1):10-17

Besser, L.M., McDonald, N.C., Song, Y., Kukull, W.A., Rodriguez, D.A., 2017. Neighborhood environment and cognition in older adults: A systematic review. *Am J Prev Med* 53(2), 241-251.

Alosco, M.L., Duskin, J., **Besser, L.M.**, Martin, B., Chaisson, C.E., Gunstad, J., Kowall, N.W., McKee, A.C., Stern, R.A., Tripodis, Y., 2017. Modeling the relationships among late-life body mass index, cerebrovascular disease, and Alzheimer's disease neuropathology in an autopsy sample of 1,421 subjects from the National Alzheimer's Coordinating Center data set. *J Alzheimers Dis* 57(3), 953-968.

Desikan, R.S., Fan, C.C., Wang, Y., Schork, A.J., Cabral, H.J., Cupples, L.A., Thompson, W.K., **Besser, L.**, Kukull, W.A., Holland, D., Chen, C.H., Brewer, J.B., Karow, D.S., Kauppi, K., Witoelar, A., Karch, C.M., Bonham, L.W., Yokoyama, J.S., Rosen, H.J., Miller, B.L., Dillon, W.P., Wilson, D.M., Hess, C.P., Pericak-Vance, M., Haines, J.L., Farrer, L.A., Mayeux, R., Hardy, J., Goate, A.M., Hyman, B.T., Schellenberg, G.D., McEvoy, L.K., Andreassen, O.A., Dale, A.M., 2017. Genetic assessment of age-associated Alzheimer disease risk: Development and validation of a polygenic hazard score. *PLoS Med* 14(3), e1002258.

Tan, C.H., Hyman, B.T., Tan, J., Hess, C.P., Dillon, W.P., Schellenberg, G.D., **Besser, L.M.**, Kukull, W.A., Kauppi, K., McEvoy, L.K., Andreassen, O.A., Dale, A.M., Fan, C.C., Desikan, R.S., 2017. Polygenic hazard scores in preclinical Alzheimer disease. *Ann Neurol* 82(3), 484-488.

Besser, L.M., Alosco, M.L., Ramirez Gomez, L., Zhou, X.H., McKee, A.C., Stern, R.A., Gunstad, J., Schneider, J.A., Chui, H., Kukull, W.A., 2016. Late-life vascular risk factors and Alzheimer disease neuropathology in individuals with normal cognition. *J Neuropathol Exp Neurol* 75(10), 955-962.

Besser, L.M., Litvan, I., Monsell, S.E., Mock, C., Weintraub, S., Zhou, X.H., Kukull, W., 2016. Mild cognitive impairment in Parkinson's disease versus Alzheimer's disease. *Parkinsonism Relat Disord* 27, 54-60.

Graff-Radford, N.R., **Besser, L.M.**, Crook, J.E., Kukull, W.A., Dickson, D.W., 2016. Neuropathologic differences by race from the National Alzheimer's Coordinating Center. *Alzheimers Dement* 12(6), 669-677.

Monsell, S.E., Dodge, H.H., Zhou, X.H., Bu, Y., **Besser, L.M.**, Mock, C., Hawes, S.E., Kukull, W.A., Weintraub, S., 2016. Results from the NACC Uniform Data Set neuropsychological battery crosswalk study. *Alzheimer Dis Assoc Disord* 30(2), 134-139.

Bonham, L.W., Geier, E.G., Fan, C.C., Leong, J.K., **Besser, L.**, Kukull, W.A., Kornak, J., Andreassen, O.A., Schellenberg, G.D., Rosen, H.J., Dillon, W.P., Hess, C.P., Miller, B.L., Dale, A.M., Desikan, R.S., Yokoyama, J.S., 2016. Age-dependent effects of APOE ϵ 4 in preclinical Alzheimer's disease. *Ann Clin Transl Neurol* 3(9), 668-677.

Brenowitz, W.D., Nelson, P.T., **Besser, L.M.**, Heller, K.B., Kukull, W.A., 2015. Cerebral amyloid angiopathy and its co-occurrence with Alzheimer's disease and other cerebrovascular neuropathologic changes. *Neurobiol Aging* 36(10), 2702-2708.

Besser, L.M., Gill, D.P., Monsell, S.E., Brenowitz, W., Meranus, D.H., Kukull, W., Gustafson, D.R., 2014. Body mass index, weight change, and clinical progression in mild cognitive impairment and Alzheimer disease. *Alzheimer Dis Assoc Disord* 28(1), 36-43.

Monsell, S.E., **Besser, L.M.**, Heller, K.B., Checkoway, H., Litvan, I., Kukull, W.A., 2014. Clinical and pathologic presentation in Parkinson's disease by apolipoprotein e4 allele status. *Parkinsonism Relat Disord* 20(5), 503-507.

Qiu, W.Q., Mwamburi, M., **Besser, L.M.**, Zhu, H., Li, H., Wallack, M., Phillips, L., Qiao, L., Budson, A.E., Stern, R., Kowall, N., 2013. Angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitors and the reduced risk of Alzheimer's disease in the absence of apolipoprotein E4 allele. *J Alzheimers Dis* 37(2), 421-428.

Fan, V.S., Bridevaux, P.O., McDonell, M.B., Fihn, S.D., **Besser, L.M.**, Au, D.H., 2011. Regional variation in health status among chronic obstructive pulmonary disease patients. *Respiration* 81(1), 9-17.

Shin, M., **Besser, L.M.**, Siffel, C., Kucik, J.E., Shaw, G.M., Lu, C., Correa, A. 2010. Prevalence of spina bifida among children and adolescents in 10 regions in the United States. *Pediatrics* 126(2), 274-279.

Shin, M., **Besser, L.M.**, Kucik, J.E., Lu, C., Siffel, C., Correa, A. 2009. Prevalence of Down syndrome among children and adolescents in 10 regions of the United States. *Pediatrics* 124(6), 1565-1571.

Besser, L.M., Marcus, M., Frumkin, H., 2008. Commute time and social capital in the U.S. *Am J Prev Med* 34(3), 207-211.

Correa, A., Gilboa, S.M., **Besser, L.M.**, Botto, L.D., Moore, C.A., Hobbs, C.A., Cleves, M.A., Riehle-Colarusso, T.J., Waller, D.K., Reece, E.A., 2008. Diabetes mellitus and birth defects. *Am J Obstet Gynecol* 199(3), 237.e231-239.

Shin, M., **Besser, L.M.**, Correa, A., 2008. Prevalence of spina bifida among children and adolescents in metropolitan Atlanta. *Birth Defects Res A Clin Mol Teratol* 82(11), 748-754.

Besser, L.M., Shin, M., Kucik, J.E., Correa, A., 2007. Prevalence of Down syndrome among children and adolescents in metropolitan Atlanta. *Birth Defects Res A Clin Mol Teratol* 79(11), 765-774.

Besser, L.M., Williams, L.J., Cragan, J.D., 2007. Interpreting changes in the epidemiology of anencephaly and spina bifida following folic acid fortification of the U.S. grain supply in the setting of long-term trends, Atlanta, Georgia, 1968-2003. *Birth Defects Res A Clin Mol Teratol* 79(11), 730-736.

Besser, L.M., Dannenberg, A.L., 2005. Walking to public transit: Steps to help meet physical activity recommendations. *Am J Prev Med* 29(4), 273-280.

Quinn, C.P., Semenova, V.A., Elie, C.M., Romero-Steiner, S., Greene, C., Li, H., Stamey, K., Steward-Clark, E., Schmidt, D.S., Mothershed, E., Pruckler, J., Schwartz, S., Benson, R.F., Helsel, L.O., Holder, P.F., Johnson, S.E., Kellum, M., Messmer, T., Thacker, W.L., **Besser, L.**, Plikaytis, B.D., Taylor, T.H. Jr., Freeman, A.E., Wallace, K.J., Dull, P., Sejvar, J., Bruce, E., Moreno, R., Schuchat, A., Lingappa, J.R., Martin, S.K., Walls, J., Bronsdon, M., Carlone, G.M., Bajani-Ari, M., Ashford, D.A., Stephens, D.S., Perkins, B.A., 2002. Specific, sensitive, and quantitative enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay for human immunoglobulin G antibodies to anthrax toxin protective antigen. *Emerg Infect Dis* 8(10):1103-10.

**Peer-reviewed
Conference
Oral
Presentations**

Besser, L.M., Nation, D.A., Hughes, T.M., Barlow, N., Kukull, W.A., 2017. Pulse Pressure in Late-Life and Alzheimer's and Cerebrovascular Neuropathology. *Alzheimers Dement* 13(7) (Suppl), p1473. 2017 Alzheimer's Association International Conference. (**Presenter**)

Bristow, K., **Besser, L.M.**, Monsell, S.E., Brenowitz, W., Hawes, S., Kukull, W.A., 2013. Consensus diagnosis and predictors of diagnostic accuracy in the national Alzheimer's Disease Centers. *Alzheimer's Dement* 9(4):P321. 2013 Alzheimer's Association International Conference.

Besser, L.M., Dannenberg, A. Walking to public transit: Steps to help meet physical activity recommendations. 2005 American Public Health Association Conference. **(Presenter)**

**Peer-reviewed
Conference
Poster
Abstracts**

Teylan, M., **Besser, L.M.**, Brenowitz, W.D., Wilk, S., Barlow, N., Kukull, W.A., 2017. Associations of Neuropathology and Apolipoprotein E Genotype with Dementia in the Oldest Old Compared to Younger-Old Age Groups. *Alzheimers Dement* 13(7) (Suppl), p1189. 2017 Alzheimer's Association International Conference.

Han, J., **Besser, L.M.**, Xiong, C., Kukull, W.A., Morris, J.C., 2017. Cholinesterase Inhibitor Use and Cognitive Decline in Mild Cognitive Impairment and Mild Dementia Due to Alzheimer Disease. *Alzheimers Dement* 13(7) (Suppl), p1054. 2017 Alzheimer's Association International Conference.

Han, F., Bonnett, T., Brenowitz, W.D., Teylan, M., **Besser, L.M.**, Cao, K., Gao, Y., Zhou, X.H., Kukull, W.A., 2017. Association between antidepressant use and incident MCI in older adults with depression. *Alzheimers Dement* 13(7) (Suppl), P1520–P1521. 2017 Alzheimer's Association International Conference.

Bollenbeck, M., Schwabe-Fry, K., Teylan, M., Beekly, D., Thomas, G., Hubbard, J., Jacka, M., Wu, J., **Besser, L.**, Kukull, W., 2017. The National Alzheimer's Coordinating Center: Querying the database and requesting data. *Alzheimers Dement* 13(7), P507. 2017 Alzheimer's Association International Conference.

Ahmed, M., **Besser, L.**, Galasko, D., Salmon, D., Kukull, W., 2016. Traumatic brain injury (TBI) and dementia progression. *Alzheimers Dement* 12(7) (Suppl), 703-704. 2016 Alzheimer's Association International Conference.

Graff-Radford, N.R., **Besser, L.M.**, Crook, J.E., Kukull, W.A., Dickson, D.W., 2016. African American Brain Autopsies from the National Alzheimer's Coordinating Center. *Alzheimers Dement* 12(7):P557-P558. 2016 Alzheimer's Association International Conference.

Besser, L., Monsell, S., Heller, K., Litvan, I., Kukull, W., 2014. Mild Cognitive Impairment among Parkinson's Disease subjects in the Uniform Data Set. *Alzheimers Dement* 10, P689-690. 2014 Alzheimer's Association International Conference. **(Presenter)**

Heller, K., DeCarli, C., Beekly, D., **Besser, L.**, Bollenbeck, M., Wu, J., Carmichael, O., Phelps, C., Kukull, W., 2014. The National Alzheimer's Coordinating Center MRI Database. *Alzheimers Dement* 10, P833-834. 2014 Alzheimer's Association International Conference.

Besser, L., Hawes, S., Bristow, K., Monsell, S., Kukull, W., 2013. Pulse pressure and atherosclerosis, arteriolosclerosis and cortical microinfarcts in individuals with clinical Alzheimer's disease. *Alzheimers Dement* 9(4) (Suppl), p441. 2013 Alzheimer's Association International Conference. **(Presenter)**

Besser, L.M., Monsell, S., Kukull, W.A., 2012. Comparison of neuropsychological test scores among English and Spanish speakers in a multi-regional sample of cognitively normal subjects. *Alzheimers Dement* 8, p548. 2012 Alzheimer's Association International Conference. **(Presenter)**

Beekly, D., Monsell, S., **Besser, L.**, Gill, D., Robichaud, E., Knopman, D., Kukull, W., 2012. The NACC FTLD module data. *Dement Geriatr Cogn Disord* 34 (Suppl 1). 2012 Alzheimer's Association International Conference.

Correa, A., Gilboa, S.M., **Besser, L.M.**, Botto, L.D., Rasmussen, S.A., Waller, D.K., Cleves, M., Hobbs, C.A., Riehle-Colarusso, T., and the National Birth Defects Prevention Study, 2008. Maternal prepregnancy body mass index and congenital heart defects. *Am J Epidemiol* 167(Suppl), S213. 2008 Society for Epidemiologic Research Conference.

Teaching Experience	Teaching Assistant Department of City and Regional Planning University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, NC Course: <i>Advanced Planning Methods</i>	2008-2009
Awards / Recognition	Third author on paper nominated for Charles C. Shepard Science Award, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention	2009
	Master's thesis nominated for Emory University's Shepard Science Award	2004
	Training-based grant for dual-degree studies at Emory University	2002-2004
	Department of Health and Human Services award for participation in anthrax investigation	2002
	Dean's List, Oglethorpe University	1994-1998
	Merit-based scholarship, Oglethorpe University	1994-1998
Service / Leadership	Journal Peer Reviewer E.g.: for <i>Alzheimer Disease and Associated Disorders</i> , <i>American Journal of Preventive Medicine</i>	2005-2006 2013-present
	Member, Health and Built Environment Committee Consortium for a Healthier Miami-Dade, FL	2018-present
	Member, Elder Issues / Mayor's Initiative on Aging Committee Consortium for a Healthier Miami-Dade, FL	2018-present
	Chair of NACC Data Session Fall Alzheimer's Disease Center Directors Meeting, CA	2017

Chair, Research Support Group National Alzheimer's Coordinating Center, WA	2016-2018
Chair, Intramural Research Group National Alzheimer's Coordinating Center, WA	2017-2018
Chair, Quality Assurance Group National Alzheimer's Coordinating Center, WA	2011-2016
Co-leader/Secretary UNC Student Parent Association, NC	2008-2009
PhD Policy Committee Member UNC Department of City and Regional Planning, NC	2008
Commission Member Durham Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission, NC	2008
Web/Green Committee Member American Public Health Association	2003-2004
Web Chair Rollins Environmental Health and Action Committee, GA	2002-2004
Lab Volunteer for Anthrax Investigation Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, GA	2001