

**Kirsten Staggs Almborg, MS, PhD**  
**Curriculum Vitae**  
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**EDUCATION**

- 2012 – 2016 PhD, Public Health – Epidemiology, University of Illinois Chicago, Chicago, IL, *Adverse Birth Outcomes and Contamination of Drinking Water by Arsenic, Atrazine, and Nitrate-Nitrite*
- 2010 – 2012 MS, Public Health – Epidemiology, University of Illinois Chicago, Chicago, IL, *A Linkage Study of Birth Outcomes and Agricultural Land Use Practices in Missouri, 2004-2006*
- 2002 – 2006 BA – Biology, Carleton College, Northfield, MN

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

- 2022 – Present Center Director, Center for Healthy Work, University of Illinois Chicago, Chicago, IL
- *Provide overall strategic leadership to the Center for Healthy Work, its research cores and research network to remove barriers to safe and healthy work for low wage workers*
  - *Lead the planning evaluation core, ensuring all research projects are progressing as planned and Center deliverables are being met*
- 2016 – Present Research Assistant Professor, Division of Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences, University of Illinois Chicago, Chicago, IL
- *Link and perform epidemiologic analyses of national surveillance, medical benefits, and mortality data on U.S. coal miners for a research project titled “Linkage of Active Miner Surveillance, Former Miner Disability Evaluations, and Mortality Data Sets to Evaluate and Prevent Lifetime Risk of Cardiopulmonary Disease in U.S. Miners”*
  - *Develop and implement a patient-level, web-based data collection tool for all federally funded Black Lung clinics in the U.S.*
  - *Perform epidemiologic analyses of lung physiology and radiographic lung disease among former U.S. coal miners seen in federally-funded Black Lung Clinics for the Health Resources and Services Administration*

- *Provide analysis of International Labour Organization classifications of chest x-rays as part of a coal workers' pneumoconiosis screening contract with Resources Safety and Health, Queensland, Australia*
- 2014 – Present Guest Researcher, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), Morgantown, WV
- *Develop and execute methodologies for linking Department of Labor and NIOSH data sets containing health information on U.S. coal miners and characterize the burden of coal mine dust lung disease among this population*
  - *Perform largest mortality study of U.S. coal miners to date and describe the changing mortality burden from selected causes over time in this population*
- 2013 – 2016 Research Assistant, Division of Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences, University of Illinois Chicago, Chicago, IL
- *Develop epidemiological research approaches to analyzing diverse databases containing health, administrative, and surveillance information about miners in the United States for a research project titled “Clarifying Distribution, Trends, and Determinants of Adverse Health in United States Miners: Exploration and Integration of Existing Data Systems”*
  - *Manage and integrate large data sets from diverse sources; Coordinate administrative project duties and tasks*
- 2010 – 2013 Research Assistant, Division of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, University of Illinois Chicago, Chicago, IL
- *Developed and implemented complex modeling approaches to assess the relationship between agricultural water contaminants and adverse birth outcomes across eight states in the United States*
  - *Spearheaded use of spatial statistical methods for the evaluation of the relationship between environmental exposures and birth outcomes across several complex statistical software programs; including ArcGIS, SAS, STATA, and R*
  - *Communicated research findings to diverse audiences including professional conference attendees and public lectures at the University of Illinois Chicago*
- 2010 Research Assistant, Alexander Center for Applied Population Biology, Lincoln Park Zoo, Chicago, IL
- *Implemented and evaluated new data management systems for use in managing captive populations of animals in all North American AZA accredited zoos and aquariums*
  - *Analyzed data from past managements recommendations; assessed patterns within and between managed populations*





CMDLD among U.S. coal miners, with a particular attention to cardiovascular disease; and 3) characterization of CMDLD, including severity, progression, and causes of death, among a subset of Central Appalachian coal miners seen in one clinic for which expanded clinical data exist beyond that which is available in any other data set.

Role: Principal Investigator

Grant #U3ARH27243

Cohen (PI)

07/2020 – 06/2025

Funding: \$625,000

Health Resources and Services Administration

Black Lung Data and Resource Center (BLDRC)

The BLDRC has the following objectives: (1) expand and improve data collection and analysis from all Black Lung Clinic Program (BLCP) recipients; (2) provide clinical expertise and technical assistance to BLCP recipients using a variety of modalities such as continuing medical education conferences, web-based training, conference calls, and in-person mentoring; and (3) serve as a tertiary-level referral center for other BLCP clinics nationally for the most complicated and difficult cases of CMDLD and other occupational lung diseases. The expected outcomes of the BLDRC include: (1) increased participation and improved quality of patient level data (PLD) collection; (2) expanded capacity among BLCP recipients to analyze data and generate reports through the provision of technical support; and (3) high-quality PLD utilization to provide up to date and accurate reports to HRSA as well as meet the high standards required for research publications that inform and guide responses to miners' lung diseases.

Role: Co-Principal Investigator

Grant #H37RH26508

Cohen (PI)

07/2020 – 06/2025

Funding: \$1,072,357

Health Resources and Services Administration

Black Lung Clinics Program (BLCP)

The University of Illinois at Chicago-Shawnee Health Service Black Lung Clinics Program (UIC-SHS BLCP) addresses the unmet respiratory care and benefits needs of active, inactive, disabled, and retired coal miners. The UIC-SHS BLCP provides state-of-the-art diagnosis, treatment, rehabilitation, and compensation counseling services to miners who lack these highly specialized resources. We provide services through our sites in Illinois and Indiana. Our clinic also serves as a tertiary-level referral center for other Black Lung Clinics nationally for the most complicated and difficult cases of coal mine dust lung disease as well as other occupational lung diseases.

Role: Co-Investigator

Grant #AFC820-59

Go (PI)

09/2019 – 08/2022

Funding: \$750,000

Alpha Foundation for Improvement of Mine Safety and Health, Inc.

This grant has the aims of (1) generating respirable-sized dust from representative real-world materials for coal mine dust constituents, to encompass coal, silica, silicate, and carbonate rock dust exposures for use in toxicological studies in mice; and (2) determining the differential development of pulmonary fibrotic responses to instillation of these coal mine dust constituents in mice. Gene expression changes linked to different dust exposures and different toxicities will be used to identify possible biomarkers that could be detected in bronchoalveolar lavage fluid or blood from exposed workers.

Role: Co-Investigator

Contract #WCQ204

Almborg (PI)

08/2019 – 11/2019

Funding: \$24,621 AUD

WorkCover Queensland (Australia)

This contract is for a systematic review on the literature regarding return to work for persons diagnosed with silicosis. WorkCover Queensland is soliciting expert advice on the development of an evidence-based approach to return to work and vocational rehabilitation support for workers diagnosed with silicosis. This review includes evidence on this topic in Australia and internationally about return to work and vocational rehabilitation support for workers suffering from silicosis, and where applicable other respirable dust diseases. It includes a search of both the white and grey literature to identify unpublished sources and industry-based reports. The aim of this review is to identify factors, principles or limitations that need to be considered in designing tailored return to work plans for workers with silicosis to ensure they achieve a safe and early return to work.

Role: Principal Investigator

Grant # AFC417-1

Cohen (PI)

01/2018 – 01/2021

Funding: \$1,800,000

Alpha Foundation for the Improvement of Mine Safety and Health, Inc.

This project seeks to characterize the biologically relevant exposures, based on lung tissue mineralogy linked to mine dust and miner exposure characteristics, associated with coal workers' pneumoconiosis in its most severe forms. This project uses a multidisciplinary approach to understand the relationship between contemporary mine dust exposures and the recent increase in severe disease, in order to identify and ultimately mitigate risk factors. It includes three primary research components: 1) characterization of occupational exposures, medical history, lung physiology, and chest imaging findings for miners with RPP and PMF; 2) determination of dust burden and biologic response features in lung tissues from miners with RPP and PMF; and 3)

characterization of respirable dust exposures for contemporary mining tasks, methods, and mine environments that are similar to those reported by miners with RPP and PMF.

Role: Co-Investigator

Seed Funding Almborg (PI) 05/2018 – 05/2019

Funding: \$15,874

University of Illinois Chicago, School of Public Health

This grant supports the methodologic development of a protocol to measure and characterize concentrations of three agricultural contaminants – atrazine, glyphosate, and glufosinate – in a sample of reproductive aged women in Champaign County, Illinois.

This study aims to characterize intra- and inter-individual variation in urinary biomarkers of these chemicals.

Role: Principal Investigator

Young Investigator Award Almborg (PI) 03/2018 – 03/2019

Funding: \$9,165

ChicAgo Center for Health and EnvironmenT (CACHET)

This grant supports the methodologic development of a protocol to measure and characterize concentrations of three agricultural contaminants – atrazine, glyphosate, and glufosinate – in a sample of reproductive aged women in Champaign County, Illinois.

This study aims to characterize intra- and inter-individual variation in urinary biomarkers of these chemicals.

Role: Principal Investigator

IPA # 17IPA1716605 Almborg (PI) 12/2016 – 11/2017

Funding: \$111,736

CDC, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH)

This Interagency Personnel Agreement (IPA) allows for the linkage of NIOSH medical surveillance data from the Coal Workers' Health Surveillance Program (CWHSP) to medical benefits data from the Department of Labor's Black Lung Benefits Program (BLBP). This IPA supports my work on an all-cause mortality study among U.S. coal miners using the data from both federal programs.

Role: Principal Investigator

Grant # AFC316-53 Cohen (PI) 12/2016 – 11/2018

Funding: \$550,000

Alpha Foundation for the Improvement of Mine Safety and Health, Inc.

This project seeks to link respiratory surveillance and work history data from NIOSH's Coal Workers' Health Surveillance Program with the Department of Labor's Black Lung Benefits Program claims data, and mortality information from the National Death Index on all US coal miners appearing in either, or both, of these programs. This database will

house longitudinal health information on coal miners while they were actively mining, after their mining career ended when they entered into the black lung compensation process, and cause of death records. Analyses using this database will allow for an improved understanding of the spectrum and characteristics of coal mine dust lung disease (CMDLD) as well as co-morbid conditions in this population. This project will also help identify participation gaps in both surveillance and benefits programs.

Role: Co-Investigator

Grant (41FY17S)

Hall (PI)

11/2016 – 09/2020

Funding: \$200,000

CDC, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH)

This project will link respiratory surveillance and work history data from NIOSH's Coal Workers' Health Surveillance Program with the Department of Labor's Federal Black Lung Program claims data, and mortality information from the National Death Index on miners who have been evaluated in both programs and are deceased. Analyses using these linked databases will allow for an improved understanding of the spectrum and characteristics of coal mine dust lung diseases (CMDLD) as well as potential risks associated with CMDLD. This project will also allow NIOSH to identify populations who are not participating in health surveillance while working, but apply for black lung benefits, as well as populations who may be eligible for benefits but have not applied.

Role: Epidemiologist

Grant #U3ARH27243

Cohen (PI)

06/2014 – 06/2017

Funding: \$400,000

Health Resources and Services Administration

University of Illinois Chicago Black Lung Center of Excellence

The BLCE provides quality Technical Assistance, a medical provider health curriculum, and have develop a clinical database for existing performance improvement measures and to expand that collection of data to include patient level 1 measures in a comprehensive electronic medical data reporting program. These activities will support HRSA's efforts to ensure that grantees deliver high-quality screening, diagnosis, and treatment services by providing technical expertise and feedback on program data submitted by its Black Lung Clinics Program grantees. As the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy (FORHP) identifies barriers or challenges for clinics from successfully gathering program data that meet technical standards laid out by the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) as well as the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), the office may direct grantees to work with the BLCE. Both UIC and their collaborators, National Jewish Health will provide a variety of types of technical assistance.

Role: Graduate Assistant

Contract #DOL-OPS-14-P-00121      Cohen (PI)      10/2014 – 10/2015

Funding: \$149,998

United States Department of Labor, Chief Evaluation Office

This project evaluated the extent of underreporting of injuries and illnesses among miners in Illinois to the MSHA Part 50 Program, using data from MSHA, Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission, and Illinois hospital discharge data.

Role: Research Coordinator

Grant #AFC113-4      Cohen (PI)      11/2013 – 11/2015

Funding: \$550,000

Alpha Foundation for the Improvement of Mine Safety and Health, Inc.

The goal of this research is to evaluate national and state-based data sets to assess disease prevalence and risk factors among miners in the United States. Linkage and analyses of these data will expand our understanding of diseases traditionally associated with mining as well as obstructive lung disease and cardiovascular disease.

Role: Research Assistant

Grant #E3851 488566      Almborg (PI)      07/2013 – 06/2014

Funding: \$18,786

CDC, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH)

The goal of the proposed research is to systematically estimate and characterize personal exposure to traffic-related pollutants for those who are working on or near roadways.

Role: Principal Investigator

Contract #200-2010-37442      Stayner (PI)      09/2010 – 09/2013

Funding: \$342,630

CDC, Environmental Public Health Tracking Network

This project examined the relationship between water contaminants, chiefly atrazine and nitrate, and adverse birth outcomes, including preterm births, low birth weight births, sex ratio, fetal deaths, birth defects, and childhood cancers. The project is aimed at developing methodologies for estimating exposures to these contaminants through drinking water.

Role: Research Assistant/Data Analyst

Grant #T42\OH008672      Conroy (PI)      09/2010 – 05/2015

CDC, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, Education and Research Center

Role: Trainee

## HONORS AND AWARDS

Delta Omega Society, University of Illinois Chicago, School of Public Health, Chicago, IL, 2013

National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health Education and Research Center Trainee, University of Illinois Chicago, 2010

Dr. Scholl Research Fellowship, Lincoln Park Zoo, Chicago, IL, 2008

## PUBLICATIONS

**Alberg KS**, Halldin CN, Friedman LS, Go LHT, Rose CS, Hall NB, Cohen RA. Increased odds of mortality from non-malignant respiratory disease and lung cancer are highest among US coal miners born after 1939. *Occupational and Environmental Medicine*. 2023;80(3):121-128. doi:10.1136/oemed-2022-108539

Zell-Baran L, Go LHT, Sarver E, **Alberg KS**, Iwaniuk C, Green FHY, Abraham JL, Cool C, Franko A, Hubbs AF, Murray J, Orandle MS, Sanyal S, Vorajee N, Cohen RA, Rose CS. Mining tenure and job duties differ among contemporary and historic underground coal miners with progressive massive fibrosis. *Journal of Occupational and Environmental Medicine*. Published online November 17, 2022. doi:10.1097/JOM.0000000000002746

Hua JT, Zell-Baran L, Go LHT, Kramer MR, Van Bree JB, Chambers D, Newbiggin K, Deller D, Matula M, Fireman E, Dahbash M, Martinez-Gonzalez C, León-Jimenez A, Sack C, Ferrer Sancho J, Villar A, **Alberg KS**, Cohen RA, Rose CS. Response to: Correspondence on “Demographic, exposure and clinical characteristics in a multinational registry of engineered stone workers with silicosis” by Hoy et al. *Occupational and Environmental Medicine*. Published online September 27, 2022:oemed-2022-108512. doi:10.1136/oemed-2022-108512

Cohen RA, Rose CS, Go LHT, Zell-Baran LM, **Alberg KS**, Sarver EA, Lowers HA, Iwaniuk C, Clingerman SM, Richardson DL, Abraham JL, Cool CD, Franko AD, Hubbs AF, Murray J, Orandle MS, Sanyal S, Vorajee NI, Peterson EL, Zulfikar R, Green FHY. Pathology and Mineralogy Demonstrate Respirable Crystalline Silica is a Major Cause of Severe Pneumoconiosis in US Coal Miners. *Annals of the American Thoracic Society*, 19(9): 1469-1478. doi:10.1513/AnnalsATS.202109-1064OC

Friedman LS, **Almborg KS**, Cohen RA. 2022. Response: Reply: Radiologic Classification of Black Lung: Time for a New Gold Standard? *Annals of the American Thoracic Society*, 19(4):702-703.

Hua JT, Zell-Baran L, Go LHT, Kramer MR, Van Bree JB, Chambers D, Deller D, Newbiggin K, Matula M, Fireman E, Dahbash M, Martinez-Gonzalez C, León-Jimenez A, Sack C, Ferrer J, Villar A, **Almborg KS**, Cohen RA, Rose CS. 2022. Demographic, exposure and clinical characteristics in a multinational registry of engineered stone workers with silicosis. *Occupational and Environmental Medicine*, 79:586-593. doi:10.1136/oemed-2021-108190

Go LHT\*, **Almborg KS\***, Rose CS, Zell-Baran LM, Harris DA, Tomann M, Friedman LS, Weems DJ, Vonhof W, Mastel KM, Cohen RA. 2022. Prevalence and severity of abnormal lung function among U.S. former coal miners with and without radiographic coal workers' pneumoconiosis. *Occupational and Environmental Medicine*, 79:527-532. doi:[10.1136/oemed-2021-107872](https://doi.org/10.1136/oemed-2021-107872)

\*LHTG and KSA contributed equally to this study and are co-first authors.

Friedman LS, De S, **Almborg KS**, Cohen RA. 2021. Association Between Financial Conflicts of Interest and ILO Classifications for Black Lung Disease. *Annals of the American Thoracic Society*, 18(10):1634-1641.

De S, **Almborg KS**, Cohen RA, Friedman LS. 2020. Injuries during the first hour at work in the U.S. mining industry. *American Journal of Industrial Medicine*, 63(12):1124-1133.

**Almborg KS**, Friedman LS, Rose CS, Go LHT, Cohen RA. 2020. Progression of coal workers' pneumoconiosis absent further exposure. *Occupational and Environmental Medicine*, 77(11):748-751.

Mabila SL, **Almborg KS**, Friedman L, Cohen RA, Ndlovu N, Vorajee N, Murray J. 2020. Effects of commodity on the risk of emphysema in South African miners. *International Archives of Occupational and Environmental Health*, 93(3):315-323.

Blaisdell J, Turyk ME, **Almborg KS**, Jones RM, Stayner LT. 2019. Prenatal exposure to nitrate in drinking water and the risk of congenital anomalies. *Environmental Research*, 176:108553.1.

Friedman LS, **Almborg KS**, Cohen RA. 2019. Injuries associated with long working hours among employees in the US mining industry: risk factors and adverse outcomes. *Occupational and Environmental Medicine*, 76(6):389-395.

**Almborg KS**, Halldin CN, Blackley DJ, Laney AS, Storey E, Rose CS, Go LHT, Cohen RA. 2018. Progressive Massive Fibrosis Resurgence Identified in U.S. Coal Miners

Filing for Black Lung Benefits, 1970-2016. *Annals of the American Thoracic Society*, 15(12), 1420-1426.

**Alberg KS**, Friedman LS, Swedler D, Cohen RA. 2018. Mine Safety and Health Administration's Part 50 program does not fully capture chronic disease and injury in the Illinois mining industry. *American Journal of Industrial Medicine*, 61(5), 436-443.

Mabila SL, **Alberg KS**, Friedman LS, Cohen RA, Ndlovu N, Vorajee N, Murray J. 2018. Occupational emphysema in South African miners at autopsy; 1975-2014. *International Archives of Occupational and Environmental Health*, doi:10.1007/s00420-018-1335-2.

Mabila SL, **Alberg KS**, Friedman LS, Cohen RA. 2018. High exposure mining occupations are associated with obstructive lung disease, National Health Interview Survey (NHIS), 2006-2015. *American Journal of Industrial Medicine*, doi:10.1002/ajim.22890.

**Alberg KS**, Turyk ME, Jones RM, Rankin K, Freels S, Stayner LT. 2018. Atrazine Contamination of Drinking Water and Adverse Birth Outcomes in Community Water Systems with Elevated Atrazine in Ohio, 2006-2008. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, 15(9).

**Alberg KS**, Cohen RA, Blackley DJ, Laney AS, Storey E, Halldin CN. 2017. Linking compensation and health surveillance datasets to improve knowledge of U.S. coal miners' health. *Journal of Occupational and Environmental Medicine*, 59(10), 930-934.

Graber JM, Harris G, **Alberg KS**, Rose CS, Petsonk EL, Cohen RA. 2017. Increasing Severity of Pneumoconiosis Among Younger Former US Coal Miners Working Exclusively Under Modern Dust-Control Regulations. *Journal of Occupational and Environmental Medicine*, 59(6), e105-e111.

**Alberg KS**, Turyk ME, Jones RM, Rankin K, Freels S, Graber JM, Stayner LT. 2017. Arsenic in drinking water and adverse birth outcomes in Ohio. *Environmental Research*, 157, 52-59.

Stayner LT, **Alberg KS**, Jones RM, Graber J, Pedersen M, Turyk MT. 2016. Atrazine and nitrate in drinking water and the risk of preterm delivery and low birth weight in four Midwestern state. *Environmental Research*, 152, 294-303.

Graber JM, Worthington K, **Alberg KS**, Meng Q, Rose CS, Cohen RA. 2016. High Cigarette and Poly-Tobacco Use Among Workers in a Dusty Industry: New Jersey Quarry Workers. *Journal of Occupational and Environmental Medicine*, 58(4), 133-139.

Mabila SL, Gracia G, Cohen RA, **Alberg KS**, Friedman LS. 2015. Injury and Illness Data for Illinois Mining Industry Employees, 1990 to 2012. *Journal of Occupational and Environmental Medicine*, 57(1), 1305-10.

**Almborg KS**, Turyk ME, Jones RM, Anderson R, Graber J, Banda E, Waller LA, Gibson R, Stayner LT. 2014. A Study of Adverse Birth Outcomes and Agricultural Land Use Practices in Missouri. *Environmental Research*, 134C:420-426.

**Almborg KS**. “A linkage study of birth outcomes and agricultural land use practices in Missouri, 2004-2006” Master of Science Thesis, University of Illinois Chicago, School of Public Health, August 23, 2012.

## PRESENTATIONS

**Almborg KS**, Go LHT, Rose CS, Zell-Baran L, Friedman L, Cohen RA. Relationship Between Radiographic Disease, Spirometry Findings, and Diffusion Capacity in a Population of Former U.S. Coal Miners. American Thoracic Society International Conference Abstracts. American Thoracic Society; B105 Advances in Occupational Lung Disease; 2023; 209.

**Almborg KS**, Friedman LS, Shannon B, Go LHT, Shao Y, Cohen RA. Unsafe Working Conditions Predict Injury Rates In U.S. Coal Mines. American Thoracic Society International Conference Abstracts. American Thoracic Society; B105 Advances in Occupational Lung Disease; 2023; 210.

**Almborg KS**. Approach to Studying Behavioral Health in Coal Miners. West Virginia Black Lung Conference, May 11, 2023, Pipestem, WV. *Invited speaker*.

**Almborg KS**. Using Participatory Action Research Methods to Operationalize Total Worker Health® for Workers in Precarious Employment. Expanding Research Partnerships Webinar Series, March 8, 2023. *Invited speaker*.

Bonney T, **Almborg KS**. Employment precarity and occupational hazard exposure: results from two geographically distinct samples. Poster Session 2059, Abstract ID 513849. American Public Health Association Annual Meeting, Boston, MA; November 6, 2022.

**Almborg KS**, Go LHT, Zell-Baran L, Weems, Jr D, Mastel K, Rose CS, Cohen RA. Lung Function and Radiographic Disease Worse Among Former Miners in Central Appalachia Than Other Regions of the United States. American Thoracic Society International Conference Abstracts. American Thoracic Society; B25 Advances in Occupational Lung Disease; 2022; 303.

Cohen RA, Rose CS, Go LHT, Zell-Baran L, **Almborg KS**, Sarver E, Lowers H, Iwaniuk C, Clingerman S, Richardson D, Abraham JL, Cool C, Franko A, Hubbs A, Murray J, Orandle M, Sanyal S, Vorajee N, Peterson EL, Zulfikar R, Green FH. Increased Silica Burden Is Associated with Pathologic Features of Alveolar Proteinosis, Mature and Immature Silicotic Nodules in US Coal Miners with Progressive Massive Fibrosis (PMF).

American Thoracic Society International Conference Abstracts. American Thoracic Society; B25 Advances in Occupational Lung Disease; 2022; 305.

Hua JT, Zell-Baran L, Go LHT, Col C, Lowers HA, **AlMBERG KS**, Sarver E, Majka SM, Pang K, Cohen RA, Rose CS. Demonstration of a Novel Quantitative Microscopy Technique for Automated Characterization of In Situ Particulate Matter in Coal Miners with Progressive Massive Fibrosis. American Thoracic Society International Conference Abstracts. American Thoracic Society; B25 Advances in Occupational Lung Disease; 2022; 302.

**AlMBERG KS**, Halldin CN, Friedman LS, Go LHT, Rose CS, Cohen RA. Excess Mortality from Chronic Lower Respiratory Disease, Lung Cancer, and Pneumoconiosis Is Increasing in US Coal Miners. American Thoracic Society International Conference Abstracts. American Thoracic Society; 2021; 203:A3036.

**AlMBERG KS**, Friedman LS, Go LHT, Harris DA, Mastel K, Rose CS, Tomann M, Vonhof W, Weems Jr D, Zell-Baran LM, Cohen RA. Substantial Burden of Lung Obstruction Observed Among Former U.S. Coal Miners Who Never Smoked. American Thoracic Society International Conference Abstracts. American Thoracic Society; 2021; 203:A3037.

Go LHT, Abraham JL, **AlMBERG KS**, Cool C, Franko A, Green FHY, Murray J, Rose CS, Sanyal S, Vorajee N, Zell-Baran LM, Hubbs A, Orandle M, Clingerman S, Richardson D, Lowers H, Sarver E, Cohen RA. Increase in the Proportion of Silica-Type Progressive Massive Fibrosis Suggested Over the History of the National Coal Workers' Autopsy Study. American Thoracic Society International Conference Abstracts. American Thoracic Society; 2021; 203:A3038.

Go LHT, **AlMBERG KS**, Rose CS, Zell-Baran LM, Harris DA, Tomann M, Vonhof W, Weems Jr D, Friedman L, Mastel K, Cohen RA. Clinically Significant Lung Function Abnormalities Among US Former Coal Miners with and Without Radiographic Coal Workers' Pneumoconiosis. American Thoracic Society International Conference Abstracts. American Thoracic Society; 2021; 203:A3033.

Zell-Baran LM, **AlMBERG KS**, Go LHT, Cohen RA, Iwaniuk C, Halldin CN, Abraham JL, Cool C, Franko A, Green FHY, Murray J, Sanyal S, Vorajee N, Sarver E, Lowers H, Rose CS. Contemporary Coal Miners with Progressive Massive Fibrosis Have Shorter Mining Tenures Compared to Their Historic Counterparts. American Thoracic Society International Conference Abstracts. American Thoracic Society; 2021; 203:A3035.

Hua KT, Zell-Baran LM, Go LHT, Kramer MR, van Bree JB, Chambers DC, Deller DN, Newbiggin K, Matula MA, Fireman EM, Dahbash M, Martinez-Gonzalez C, León-Jimenez A, Sack CS, **AlMBERG KS**, Cohen RA, Rose CS. Occupational Exposure and Clinical Characteristics Among Engineered Stone Fabrication Workers with Silicosis in an International Registry. American Thoracic Society International Conference Abstracts. American Thoracic Society; 2021; 203:A3039.

Cohen RA, Rose CS, Go LHT, Zell-Baran LM, **Alberg KS**, Sarver E, Lowers H, Iwaniuk C, Clingerman S, Richardson D, Abraham JL, Cool C, Franko A, Hubbs AF, Murray J, Orandle M, Sanyal S, Vorajee N, Green FHY. Pathologic Findings of Progressive Massive Fibrosis in Contemporary Coal Miners Show Features of Accelerated Silicosis Compared to Historical Cases. American Thoracic Society International Conference Abstracts. American Thoracic Society; 2021; 203:A3034.

Go LHT, Abraham JL, Lowers H, Sanyal S, **Alberg KS**, Cool C, Franko A, Green FHY, Murray J, Petsonk EL, Rose CS, Ruybal D, Sarver E, Vorajee N, Zell-Baran LM, Zulfikar R, Cohen RA. Mineralogic Analysis of Lung Tissue from Us Coal Miners Demonstrates Greater Silica Burden in Modern Cases of Progressive Massive Fibrosis. American Thoracic Society International Conference Abstracts. American Thoracic Society; 2020; 201:A2631.

**Alberg KS**, Zell-Baran LM, Abraham JL, Cool C, Franko A, Green FHY, Murray J, Sanyal S, Vorajee N, Go LHT, Rose CS, Petsonk EL, Hubbs A, Orandle M, Clingerman S, Liguori D, Kennedy K, Zulfikar R, Cohen RA. Intra- and Inter-Rater Reliability of Pathologic Classification of Type of Progressive Massive Fibrosis Among Deceased U.S. Coal Miners. American Thoracic Society International Conference Abstracts. American Thoracic Society; 2020; 201:A2632.

Sarver E, Keles C, Lowers H, Zulfikar R, Zell-Baran LM, Vorajee N, Sanyal S, Rose CS, Petsonk EL, Murray J, Green FHY, Go LHT, Franko A, Cool C, Abraham JL, **Alberg KS**, Cohen RA. Mineralogic Analysis of Respirable Dust from 24 Underground Coal Mines in Four Geographic Regions of the United States. American Thoracic Society International Conference Abstracts. American Thoracic Society; 2020; 201:A2635.

**Alberg KS**, Halldin CN, Go LHT, Laney AS, Rose CS, Storey E, Cohen RA. Trends in Mortality Patterns Among U.S. Coal Miners Filing for Federal Black Lung Program Benefits, 1970 to 2016. American Thoracic Society International Conference Abstracts. American Thoracic Society; 2019:A2759.

Cohen RA, Orandle M, Hubbs AF, **Alberg KS**, Go LHT, Clingerman S, Fluharty K, Dodd T, Rose CS, Abraham JL, Sanyal S, Franko A, Murray J, Vorajee N, Zell-Baran LM, Petsonk E, Zulfikar R, Green FHY. Pathologic Type of Progressive Massive Fibrosis in the National Coal Workers? Autopsy Study (NCWAS) 1971-1996. American Thoracic Society International Conference Abstracts. American Thoracic Society; 2019: A275858.

**Alberg KS**, Halldin CN, Go LHT, Laney AS, Rose CR, Storey E, Cohen RA. Trends in Mortality Patterns among U.S. Coal Miners Filing for Federal Black Lung Program Benefits, 1970 to 2016. American Thoracic Society International Conference RAPiD Poster Discussion Session. American Thoracic Society; 2018: A6064.

**AlMBERG KS**, Halldin CN, Blackley DJ, Laney AS, Storey E, Rose CS, Go L, Cohen RA. Resurgence of Progressive Massive Fibrosis in U.S. Coal Miners Filing for Federal Black Lung Program Benefits. American Thoracic Society International Conference RAPID Poster Discussion Session. American Thoracic Society; 2018: A6064.

Gandhi S, **AlMBERG KS**, Go L, Cohen RA. Lung Function Declines in Former Coal Mine Workers Absent Further Exposure. American Thoracic Society International Conference RAPID Poster Discussion Session. American Thoracic Society; 2018: A6069.

Cohen RA, Go LH, **AlMBERG KS**, DePonte K, Glass DC, Roberts MH, Sim MH. Coal Workers' Pneumoconiosis Resurfaces in Queensland Australia: A Report of Chest Imaging from the Coal Mine Workers' Health Scheme for the Queensland Department of Natural Resources and Mines. American Thoracic Society International Conference Oral Presentation. American Thoracic Society; 2017: A7310.

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Graber JM, Manderski MT, Cohen RA, **AlMBERG KS**, Rose CS, Delnevo CD. Tobacco Use Patterns Among US Working Age Men: High Rates in the Mining Industry and Among the Unemployed. American Thoracic Society International Conference Abstracts. American Thoracic Society; 2015: A4032.

**AlMBERG KS**, Friedman LS, Graber JM, Rose CS, Petsonk EL, Cohen RA. Cardiopulmonary Disease Among Illinois Miners, Results of an Analysis of State Workers' Compensation Data. American Thoracic Society International Conference Abstracts. American Thoracic Society; 2015: A1748.

Gottschall EB, Robinson M, Silveira L, **Alberg KS**, Cohen RA, Graber JM, Rose CS. Occupational Lung Disease in Navajo and Non-Navajo Western Miners. American Thoracic Society International Conference Abstracts. American Thoracic Society; 2015: A1746.

**Alberg KS** Increased severity of radiologic pneumoconiosis among former US coal miners: Results from the US Federal Black Lung Program, 2001 to 2013. National Coalition of Black Lung and Respiratory Disease Clinics 2016 Conference, Sept 14, 2016, Lexington, KY. *Invited speaker.*

**Alberg KS.** A linkage study of adverse birth outcomes with agricultural land use practices in Missouri. UIC School of Public Health, Chicago, IL (Oct 10, 2012). *Invited speaker.*

**Alberg KS.** Oral presentation - International Society for Environmental Epidemiology Pre-Conference Workshop Session: 'Methodologic Issues in Tracking Children's Health & Agricultural Water Contaminant Data'; Columbia, SC (August 26-30, 2012). *Invited speaker.*

**Alberg KS**, Turyk MT, Gibson R, Graber JM, Jones RM, Kaliappan, R, Banda E, Anderson R, Rockne K, Shi F, Conroy L, Stayner LT. Poster presentation: 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference International Society for Environmental Epidemiology: 'A Linkage Study of Adverse Birth Outcomes and Agricultural Land Use Practices in Missouri'; Columbia, SC (August 26-30, 2012).

Kaliappan R, Jones R, Rockne K, Stayner L, Turyk M, Graber JM, Anderson R, **Alberg KS**, Conroy L. Atrazine levels in Illinois Community Water System Drinking Water as Revealed by the Atrazine Monitoring Program Dataset. Presented at the 2012 WATERCON 2012, a joint conference of the IL-AWWA and IWEA, March 19-22, 2012, Springfield, IL. *Presentation.*

Stayner LT, **Alberg KS**, Anderson R, Conroy L, Graber J, Jones R, Kaliappan R, Rockne K. A Record Linkage Study of Adverse Birth Outcomes and Water Contamination by Atrazine and Nitrates in the Midwestern United States. International Society for Epidemiologic Research (ISEE), September 14, 2011, Barcelona, Spain.

## UNIVERSITY SERVICE

- 2021 - Present Committee on Research, UIC, School of Public Health, EOHS Representative
- 2020 - Present EOHS Student Admissions Committee, UIC, Chicago, IL
- 2020 - Present Pilot Project Research Training Program (PPRT) Grant Reviewer, UIC, Chicago, IL

2018 - Present UIC School of Public Health Seed Funding Grant Reviewer, UIC,  
Chicago, IL

## **PEER REVIEW EXPERIENCE**

- American Journal of Industrial Medicine
- American Journal of Public Health
- American Journal of Respiratory and Critical care Medicine
- Annals of Medicine
- Annals of the American Thoracic Society
- Annals of Work Exposures and Health
- Archives of Environmental and Occupational Health
- Environmental Geochemistry and Health
- Environmental Health
- Environmental Health Perspectives
- Environment International
- Environmental Pollution
- Environmental Research
- Environmental Science and Pollution Research
- International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health
- Journal of Clinical Medicine
- Journal of Occupational and Environmental Hygiene
- Journal of Occupational and Environmental Medicine
- Occupational and Environmental Medicine
- Safety and Health at Work
- Science of the Total Environment

## **STUDENT MENTORSHIP**

1. Alissa DeVaughn (2023) Serving as Ms. DeVaughn's primary MS thesis advisor.
2. Sean Zolfo (2022) Serving as Mr. Zolfo's primary Integrated Learning Experience advisor.
3. Whitnie Smartt (2018 – 2020) Served as Ms. Smartt's primary Integrated Learning Experience advisor.
4. Steve James, MD (2021) Served as Dr. James's primary Integrated Learning Experience advisor.

5. Graham Osborn, MD (2021 – 2022) Served as Dr. Osborn’s primary Integrated Learning Experience advisor.
6. Mariko Limpar, MD (2021 – 2022) Served as Dr. Limpar’s primary Integrated Learning Experience advisor.
7. Zac Bacon (2019 – 2020) Served on Mr. Bacon’s MS thesis committee.
8. Julie Blaisdell (2018) Served as a member of Ms. Blaisdell’s MS thesis committee. Resulted in the publication Blaisdell J, Turyk ME, AlMBERG KS, Jones RM, Stayner LT. Prenatal exposure to nitrate in drinking water and the risk of congenital anomalies. *Environ Res.* 2019;176:108553. doi:10.1016/j.envres.2019.108553.
9. Sithembile Mabila (2016 – 2017) Served as a member of Ms. Mabila’s PhD committee. Resulted in the following publications:
  - i. Mabila SL, AlMBERG KS, Friedman L, Cohen RA, Ndlovu N, Vorajee N, Murray J. 2020. Effects of commodity on the risk of emphysema in South African miners. *International Archives of Occupational and Environmental Health*, 93(3):315-323.
  - ii. Mabila SL, AlMBERG KS, Friedman LS, Cohen RA, Ndlovu N, Vorajee N, Murray J. 2018. Occupational emphysema in South African miners at autopsy; 1975-2014. *International Archives of Occupational and Environmental Health*, doi:10.1007/s00420-018-1335-2.
  - iii. Mabila SL, AlMBERG KS, Friedman LS, Cohen RA. 2018. High exposure mining occupations are associated with obstructive lung disease, National Health Interview Survey (NHIS), 2006-2015. *American Journal of Industrial Medicine*, doi:10.1002/ajim.22890.