

NORC News

Mehta chosen as Named New Investigator for UAB NORC

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[Tapan Mehta, PhD](#) [1], has been selected as this year's Named New Investigator for the UAB Nutrition Obesity Research Center (NORC). The center leadership selects among the funded pilot/feasibility recipients and then receives approval from the UAB NORC External Advisory Committee prior to formally making the appointment.

Dr. Mehta is an assistant professor in the Department of Physical Therapy. He joined the faculty in 2013 after transferring from his graduate program in Biostatistics at the UAB School of Public Health. His research program is focused on aggregating and integrating silos of genomic, epidemiological, and administrative data, to investigate interesting scientific questions, through novel applications of statistical methods, and computing platforms. He is especially interested in pursuing scientific inquiry in topics related to obesity, longevity, disability, and health policy and interventions.

The pilot project Dr. Mehta will work on in the next year is titled "Have the Advances in Cardiometabolic Treatments Attenuated the Obesity-Mortality Association?" The study aims to estimate the change in obesity-associated years of life lost (YLL) as a function of treating obesity-related co-morbidities with the following classes of medications: a) statins; b) antihypertensives; c) anti-diabetics.

The Named New Investigator is an honor created at the time the UAB NORC received its designation as an NIDDK Center in 2001. The first person to hold the new investigator distinction was [Barbara Gower, PhD](#) [2], Vice-Chair for Research in the Department of Nutrition Sciences.

Source URL: <https://norc.uab.edu/news/217>

Links:

[1] <http://www.norc.uab.edu/people/tmehta>

[2] <http://www.norc.uab.edu/people/bgower>