

Darlene E. Acorda, PhD, APRN, CNE, CPNP-PC

UTHealth Houston
 Cizik School of Nursing
 6901 Bertner Ave, Houston, TX 77030
 (713) 500 - 2143
 Darlene.E.Acorda@uth.tmc.edu

EDUCATION

Degree	Institution	Date
PhD in Nursing	Cizik School of Nursing, UTHealth - Houston	05/2020
Post-Masters in Nursing Education	Cizik School of Nursing, UTHealth - Houston	05/2017
Master of Science in Nursing	Cizik School of Nursing, UTHealth – Houston	05/2009
Bachelor of Science in Nursing	Cizik School of Nursing, UTHealth - Houston	05/2004

Other Education

Qualitative Research Summer Intensive	University of North Carolina, Odum Institute for Research in Social Science	07/2020
Mixed Methods Research Certificate Program	University of Michigan, School of Social Work	06/2020
Precision Health: Smart Technologies, Smart Health Boot Camp	National Insitute of Nursing Research, NIH	06/2019

LICENSURE & CERTIFICATION

RN License no. 706108	Active, Expiration date 07/2025
APRN License no. AP1118401	Active, Expiration date 07/2025
Certified Pediatric Nurse Practitioner – Primary Care	Pediatric Nurse Certification Board, 12/2023
Certified Nurse Educator	National League of Nursing, 10/2023
PALS	American Heart Association, 2024
BLS	American Heart Association, 2024

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Institution	Position title	Inclusive Dates
Ben Taub General Hospital, Level II Nursery	Staff Nurse	08/2004 –07/2005
Children’s Memorial Hermann Hospital, Children’s Special Care Unit	Staff Nurse	07/2005 – 12/2007
Texas Children’s Hospital, Progressive Care Unit	Staff Nurse	12/2007 – 06/2009
Clinica La Salud, LLC	Pediatric Nurse Practitioner	05/2009 – 8/2022
Texas Children’s Hospital, Pediatric Intensive Care Unit	Clinical Specialist	03/2012 – 12/2016 12/2017 – 08/2023
Cizik School of Nursing – UTHealth	Adjunct Clinical Faculty	06/2011 – 05/2012 05/2017 – 08/2023
Pediatrix Urgent Care	Pediatric Nurse Practitioner	11/2022 – 07/2023
Texas Children’s Urgent Care	Pediatric Nurse Practitioner	01/2016 – 05/2019 08/2023 – present
Cizik School of Nursing - UTHealth	Assistant Professor of Nursing	08/2023 - present

HONORS & AWARDS

Award	Awarding Organization	Date
Clinical Practice Award	Society of Pediatric Nurses	2016
Elected Delegate – District 9	Texas Nurses Association	2018
Inductee	Sigma Theta Tau	2020
Outstanding Filipino Nurse	Philippine Nurses Association – Metropolitan Houston	2023

GRANTS

Research Grants

1. Workplace Violence against Nurses Prevention Grant, Texas Department of Health and Human Services. **Collaborator**, (PI: Karla Abela), Texas Children’s Hospital, \$170,977, extramural funding, 2020-2022.
2. Pediatric nurses’ experiences in caring in the time of COVID: A qualitative study. Zeta Pi Chapter Sigma Theta Tau Research Grant. **Co-Investigator**, (PI: Karen Gibbs), \$1000, 2020-2021.
3. Caring for a child with medical complexity during the COVID-19 pandemic: A qualitative study. Zeta Pi Chapter Sigma Theta Tau Research Grant. **Principal Investigator**, \$1000, 2020-2021.
4. Caregiver experience with high-fidelity tracheostomy simulation: A qualitative study. Novice Researcher Grant, Society for Simulation in Healthcare. **Principal Investigator**, \$10,000, 2020-2021.
5. Transitions of Care: Aerodigestive disorders and the young adult. Ligums Family Transition Medicine Grant, Baylor College of Medicine. **Co-Investigator**, (PI: Jennifer Brown), \$13,453, 2021 – 2022.
6. Development and initial psychometric evaluation of the tracheostomy self-efficacy scale. Mary Jo and David Andre Research Grant, Texas Children’s Hospital. **Principal Investigator**, \$3,000, 2022 – 2023.

PUBLICATIONS

Peer Reviewed Publications (* = database derived)

1. **Acorda, D. E.** (2015). Nursing and respiratory collaboration prevents BiPAP-related pressure ulcers. *The Journal of Pediatric Nursing*, 30(4), 620-623. doi:10.1016/j.pedn.2015.04.001
2. **Acorda, D.**, Rozmus, C., DesOrmeaux, C., & Engebretson, J. (2020). Hispanic parental beliefs and practices in common childhood illnesses and symptoms: A review of the literature. *The Journal of Transcultural Nursing*. doi:10.1177/1043659620935970.
3. ***Acorda, D.**, Businelle, M., & Santa Maria, D. (2021). Perceived impacts, acceptability, and recommendations for ecological momentary assessment among youth experiencing homelessness: A qualitative study. *JMIR Formative Research*, 5(4), e21638. doi:10.2196/21638
4. ***Acorda, D. E.**, Jones, J.T., & Santa Maria, D. (2021). Acceptability of a just-in-time adaptive intervention for HIV prevention among youth experiencing homelessness: A qualitative analysis. *Journal of Health Care for the Poor and Underserved*, 32(2), 25-42. doi:10.1353/hpu.2021.0049.
5. ***Acorda, D. E.**, Bracken, J., Abela, K., Ramsey-Coleman, J., Stutts, A., Kritz, E., & Bavare, A. (2022). Longitudinal evaluation of a pediatric rapid response system with Realist Evaluation framework. *The Joint Commission Journal on Quality and Patient Safety*. S1553-7250(22)00004-6. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jcjq.2022.01.004>

6. *Lawson, N., **Acorda, D.**, Guffey, D., Bracken, J., Bavare, A., Checchia, P., & Afonso, N. (2022). Associations of social determinants of health with pediatric rapid response outcomes: A retrospective cohort trial in a large academic pediatric hospital system. *Frontiers in Pediatrics*. 10:853691. doi: 10.3389/fped.2022.853691
7. ***Acorda, D. E.**, Engebretson, J., DesOrmeaux, C., Cuccaro, P., & Rozmus, C. (2022). Exploring Latino perspectives in childhood fever: Beliefs, practices, and needs. *Journal of Transcultural Nursing*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/10436596221114149>
8. *DeMello, A., **Acorda, D. E.**, Allen, D., Aman, R., Thompson, D., Brandt, M. L., & Sisley, S. (2022). Growing up after adolescent bariatric surgery. *Clinical Nursing Research*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/10547738221120338>
9. *Abela, K., **Acorda, D. E.**, Cron, S., & Wood, G. L. (2022). Parent and child anxiety during the COVID-19 pandemic: A mixed-methods study. *Journal of Patient-Centered Research and Reviews*. doi: 10.17294/2330-0698.1950
10. ***Acorda, D.**, Jackson, A., Lam, A. & Molchen, W. (2022). Overwhelmed to ownership: The lived experience of parents learning to become caregivers of children with tracheostomies. *International Journal of Pediatric Otolaryngology*. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijporl.2022.111364>
11. **Acorda, D.**, Brown, J. N., Lambert, E., & Gibbs, K. (2022). Psychosocial measures and outcomes among caregivers of children with tracheostomies: A systematic review. *Otolaryngology, Head and Neck Surgery*.

PRESENTATIONS

International

1. **Acorda, D. E.** (2019). The impact of culture on nursing care. *Pediatric Critical Care Summit of the Americas*. Houston, TX. Podium Presentation.
2. Lawson, N., Guffey, D., **Acorda, D.**, & Afonso, N. (2022). Rapid response event characteristics and outcomes according to patient race/ethnicity and language. *51st Critical Care Congress. Society of Critical Care Medicine*. Poster Presentation.

National

1. **Acorda, D. E.** (2014). The Nurse and the Bundle: The Impact of Nursing Ownership on Eliminating Central Line Associated Blood Stream Infections. *The Annual Pediatric Nursing Conference*. National Harbor, MD. Poster Presentation.
2. **Acorda, D. E.** (2015). Together We Can: Preventing BiPAP-related Pressure Ulcers through Nursing and Respiratory Collaboration. Society of Pediatric Nurses National Conference. Anaheim, CA. Podium presentation.

3. **Acorda, D. E., & Villalta, M.** (2016). Should They Stay or Should They Go? A Checklist Approach to Patient Safety. Society of Pediatric Nurses National Conference. Minneapolis, MN. Poster Presentation. Clinical Practice Award Recipient.
4. **Acorda, D. E.,** Stephen, L., Loeb, A., McFadden, B., & Walden, M. (2016). Compassion Fatigue Assessment of Nurses in a Large Academic Pediatric and Women’s Health Care System. Society of Pediatric Nurses National Conference. Minneapolis, MN. Podium Presentation.
5. **Acorda, D. E.,** Charles, E. & Engleman, S. (2019). Tracheostomy and gastrostomy care and management in the school setting. National Association of School Nurses. Denver, CO. Podium Presentation.
6. Kritz, E., Bracken, J., **Acorda, D. E.,** Chilukoori, S., Roy, K., Musick, M., & Bavare, A. (2020). Readmissions to pediatric intensive care unit after rapid response events. Society of Critical Care Medicine. Orlando, FL. Poster Presentation.
7. **Acorda, D. E.,** Leathers, N., & Prewitt, C. (2020). A Whole New World: Supporting Families Transitioning from the NICU to the PICU. American Association of Critical-Care Nurses National Teaching Institute & Critical Care Exposition. Indianapolis, IN. Podium Presentation.
8. **Acorda, D. E.,** DesOrmeaux, C., Rozmus, C., & Engebretson, J. (2020). Latino perspectives in childhood fever: A focused ethnography. Transcultural Nursing Society. Louisville, KY. Virtual Poster Presentation.
9. Abela, K. M., **Acorda, D. E.,** & Wood, G. L. (2022). Parent and child anxiety during the COVID-19 pandemic: Mixed methods study. Southern Nursing Research Society 36th Annual Conference. New Orleans, LA. Podium Presentation.
10. **Acorda, D. E.,** & Jackson, A. (2022). “A nurse with no degree”: Transforming Parents into Caregivers of Children with Tracheostomies. Southern Nursing Research Society 36th Annual Conference. New Orleans, LA. Poster Presentation.
11. Brown, J., **Acorda, D. E.,** Blumhardt, S. L., Lostak, B., Bedwell, J., Ongkasuwan, J. (2022). Validation of an aerodigestive provider assessment survey. 102nd Annual Meeting of the American Broncho-Esophagological Association. Dallas, TX. Poster Presentation.
12. **Acorda, D. E.** (2022). Impacts of COVID 19 pandemic on children with medical complexity and their caregivers. National Black Nurse Practitioners Association. Houston, TX. Podium Presentation.
13. **Acorda, D. E.,** Brown, J. N., Ashe-Lambert, E., & Gibbs, K. D. (2022). Psychosocial measures and outcomes among caregivers of children with tracheostomies: A systematic review. SENTAC 50th Annual Meeting. Philadelphia, PA. Poster Presentation.

14. **Acorda, D. E., & Van Orne, J. (2023).** The State of Tracheostomy Education Programs Across the United States: A National Survey of Children’s Hospitals. The Society of Pediatric Nurses 33rd Annual Conference. Pittsburgh, PA. Podium Presentation.

Local

1. Abela, K., **Acorda, D. E.**, Cain, C., & Gibbs, K. (June 2017). Relationship of Food Insecurity to Sociodemographic and Hospitalization Characteristics of Children Living in Texas. 6th Annual Research and Evidence Based Practice Day, The University of Texas Health Science Center Cizik School of Nursing. Houston, TX. Poster Presentation.
2. **Acorda, D. E.**, Engebretson, J., Rozmus, C., & DesOrmeaux, C. (October 2019). Hispanic Parental Beliefs and Practices in Common Childhood Illnesses and Symptoms: A Systematic Review. 8th Annual Research and Evidence Based Practice Day, The University of Texas Health Science Center Cizik School of Nursing. Houston, TX. Poster Presentation.
3. **Acorda, D. E.** & Abela, K. (2019). EBP, QI, and Research: Exemplars from the Bedside. Baylor St. Luke’s Medical Center Annual Nursing Research and EBP conference. Houston, TX. Keynote Speaker. *Invited speakers.*
4. **Acorda, D. E.** (2021). Grant writing and resources for new scholars. ANPD Professional Development Scholarly Series. Houston, TX. Virtual Session. *Invited speaker.*
5. DeMello, A. S., **Acorda, D. E.**, & Sisley, S. (2021). Growing up after adolescent bariatric surgery: Understanding weight loss, body image, and healthcare transitions in young adulthood. Sigma Theta Tau 2021 Nursing Showcase of Excellence, The University of Texas Medical Branch. Galveston, TX. Poster Presentation.
6. **Acorda, D. E.** (2021). Associations of social determinants of health with pediatric rapid response outcomes. Texas Children’s Hospital Nursing Grand Rounds. Houston, TX. Keynote Speaker.
7. **Acorda, D. E.**, & Gibbs, K. (2022). Finding evidence for clinical questions: An efficient guide for pediatric nurse practitioners. National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners – Houston Chapter. Pediatric Potpourri Conference. Houston, TX. Podium Presentation.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Editorial Boards/Panels/Reviewer

Journal	Role	Inclusive dates
Pediatrics	Ad hoc Manuscript Reviewer	2022 – present
Journal of Transcultural Nursing	Ad hoc Manuscript Reviewer	2022 – present
Journal of Pediatric Nursing	Ad hoc Manuscript Reviewer	2018 – present
Journal of Healthcare for the Poor and	Ad hoc Manuscript Reviewer	2020 – present

Underserved

Research in Nursing and Health	Ad hoc Manuscript Reviewer	2021 – present
Journal of Medical Internet Research (JMIR)	Ad hoc Manuscript Reviewer	2021 – present

Professional Memberships

Organization	Inclusive dates
National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners	2009 – present
Philippine Nurses Association of America	2020 – present
Society of Critical Care Medicine	2019 – present
Southern Nurses Research Society	2019 – present
Society of Pediatric Nurses	2007 – present

Professional Service

Society of Pediatric Nurses, Clinical Practice & Research Committee <i>Chair, Grant Reviewer, Abstract Reviewer</i>	2022 – present
Society of Pediatric Nurses, Clinical Practice & Research Committee <i>Co-Chair</i>	2021 – 2022
Society of Pediatric Nurses, Healthcare Policy & Advocacy Committee <i>Committee Member</i>	2021 – 2022
Southern Nurses Research Society, Communications Committee <i>Committee Member, Social Media Subcommittee</i>	2021 – present

OPTIONAL APPENDICES

Courses Taught

Institution	Course	Semester
University of Texas Cizik School of Nursing Houston, TX	N3536 Child and Adolescent Health Care	Summer 2021, Fall 2021 Spring 2022, Summer 2022, Fall 2022, Spring 2023
	N3536 Simulation for Child and Adolescent Health	Summer 2021, Fall 2021 Spring 2022, Summer 2022, Fall 2022, Spring 2023
	N6195B Family Nurse Practitioner II Clinical	Fall 2017, Spring 2020

N6194B Family Nurse Practitioner I Clinical	Summer 2017, Fall 2018 Spring 2019, Fall 2019, Fall 2021
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N6910B Family Nurse Preceptorship Specialty Care III Clinical for DNP	Fall 2021
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Guest lectures
University of Texas
Cizik School of Nursing
Houston, TX

N3536 Child and Adolescent Health Care	Summer 2017 Summer 2022
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N3515 Adult Health Care I	Summer 2017
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List of Project/Thesis/Dissertation Advisees

Mentorship

NAPNAP - Local Chapter Mentor <i>Mentee: Jazmine Dendy, MSN, RN, CPNP-PC</i>	2020 – 2021
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Baylor College of Medicine /Texas Children’s Hospital Critical Care Fellowship Scholarly Oversight Committee Member <i>Fellow: Sakina Attaar, MD</i>	2021 – present
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