

Curriculum Vitae
Rebecca Birch Tsusaki, PhD, APRN, WHNP-BC, IBCLC

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EDUCATION

FELLOWSHIP

UTHSC-Houston Health Educators Fellowship Program 2015-2017

Project: *Piloting Experiential Skills Lab Set in a Didactic Undergraduate Reproductive Health Course.* Houston, Texas

Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing. University of Texas Health Science Center 2009-2013
Cizik School of Nursing. Houston, Texas. **Dissertation:** *Late Preterm Breastfeeding Patterns and Cardiac Activity during Breastfeeding using Surface Electromyography.*

Post-Masters Women's Healthcare Nurse Practitioner. University of 2013
Texas Health Science Center Cizik School of Nursing. Houston, Texas

Master of Science in Nursing. University of Texas Health Science Center 2006-2008
Cizik School of Nursing. Houston, Texas. **Emphasis:** Women's Health Care & Education.
Thesis: *Breastfeeding Late Preterm Infants and Cumulative Incidence of Rehospitalization in the Neonatal Period*

Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing. University of Texas Health Science 2005
Center at Houston Cizik School of Nursing. Magna Cum Laude

Lakeland Community College, Kirtland, Ohio 1991
Associate of Science Degree in Nursing

LISCENCES & CERTIFICATIONS

Advanced practice nurse #AP123693 – WHNP-BC- Texas	Active	2013-present
Texas RN License #637506	Active	1997-present
International Board Certified Lactation Consultant (IBCLC)	Active	2010-present
Breastfeeding Educator: Texas Department of Health	Active	2007-present
Ohio RN license	Inactive	1991-1997
Ohio Paramedic certificate	Inactive	1986-1997

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2013-present University of Texas Health Science Center Houston Cizik School of Nursing
Houston, Texas
Assistant Professor of Clinical Nursing
Department of Graduate Studies

- 2008-2013 University of Texas Health Science Center Houston Cizik School of Nursing
Houston, Texas. *Teaching Associate and Clinical Coordinator, Reproductive Healthcare,
Department of Family Health*
- 2007-2008 University of Texas Health Science Center Houston Cizik School of Nursing
Houston, Texas
Teaching Assistant/Graduate Student, Reproductive Healthcare

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2016- Current: **Women's Home, Houston, Texas**
- Women's Health Nurse Practitioner. **Faculty Practice.**
- 2015 **OB GYN Medical Center Associates. Houston, Texas**
- Women's Health Nurse Practitioner. **Faculty Practice.**
- 2005-2014 **Memorial Hermann Hospital, Texas Medical Center, Houston, Texas**
- Registered Nurse-Women's Health Services
 - Lactation Consultant
 - Triage
 - Transitional Nursery
 - Postpartum care
 - Antepartum care
- 1999-2005 **Advanced Temporaries, Houston, Texas**
- Registered Nurse. Worked per diem assignments in Houston area Neonatal ICUs-
levels II and III, transitional and low-risk nurseries and postpartum care units.
- 1997-1999 **University of Texas Medical Branch Hospital, Galveston, Texas**
- Registered Nurse in the Endoscopy Department
 - Certified to administer conscious sedation
 - Biopsy collection and other endoscopic procedures
- 1993-1997 **Cleveland Clinic Foundation, Cleveland, Ohio,**
- Registered Nurse in the Post Anesthesia Care Unit: Pediatric and Adult
 - Pediatric Services Development Committee: Assisted with the development of a new
pediatric PACU and pediatric orientation program for nursing staff
 - Served as a Charge Nurse and participated in the development of a pediatric
orientation program for nursing staff
 - Provided post-anesthesia care to pediatric and adult patients after procedure
 - Provided post-anesthesia care to SICU, MICU, and PICU patients
- 1986-1993 **University Hospitals and Rainbow Babies Hospital of Cleveland, Cleveland, Ohio**
- Flight Dispatcher and Paramedic from 1986-1991, Emergency Department
 - Registered Nurse in a Level III Neonatal Intensive Care Unit from 1991-1993. Cared
for premature infants in critical condition, also assisted with ECMO.

HONORS & AWARDS

- Induction into Sigma Theta Tau International, Zeta Pi Chapter, 2006
- Magna Cum Laude, May 2006
- Harris County Medical Society Auxiliary Clinical Excellence Award, 2008
- Who's Who Among Colleges and Universities, 2006, 2008
- 2013 The UTHealth School of Nursing Faculty Award of Excellence
- 2018 Zeta Pi Research Award.

GRANTS

Sigma Theta Tau-Zeta Pi Research Award 2011 - \$1500

Preventing Childhood Obesity through Early Feeding and Parenting Guidance. Grant# NIH/NIDDK 1 R01DK096488-01A1 2014-2017: Co-investigator/Consultant with Elizabeth Reifsnider (PI) ASU.

Sigma Theta Tau International Zeta Pi Chapter Research Award 2018: \$2500

PUBLICATIONS

- Tsusaki, R.L., Wardell, D.W., Mancias, P., Kang, D., Padhye, N., (2016). ***A Pilot Study of Early Postnatal Late Preterm and Term Breastfeeding Patterns using Surface Electromyography***. Podium presentation and published conference proceedings, 4th Annual Worldwide Nursing Conference, Singapore. Print ISSN: 2315-4330, E-Periodical ISSN: 2315-4349.
- Tsusaki, R.L., Wardell, D., Mullassery, D. & Helmreich, R., Primary Care Nurse Practitioner in E.R. Giardino, R.G. Hanks, & A.P. Giardino (Eds.) 2014, ***Collaboration with the Advanced Practice Nurse Role, Teamwork and Outcomes***. Hauppauge, NY. Nova Science Publishers. ISBN-10: 1633213110.
- Tsusaki, R.L., in Littleton, L. & Engebretson, J. (Eds.) (2013), ***Maternity Nursing Care*** (2nd ed.) ISBN10: 1-111-54312-7

PRESENTATIONS

- Tsusaki, R.L., (2020). ***Spirituality: Meaning, Concept, and Significance in Nursing***. Presentation. International Webinar on Spirituality in Nursing. Lisie College of Nursing, Ernakulam, India.
- Tsusaki, R.L., Helmreich, R.J., (2019). ***Student Steps to Success: An Evaluation of Stress, Grit, Belonging and Effect of Early Remediation In a Cohort of Undergraduate Students***. Poster presentation at The UTHealth 8th Annual Research/Evidence-based Practice Day, Houston, TX. October, 2019.
- Tsusaki, R.L., Helmreich, R.J., (2019). ***Student Steps to Success: An Evaluation of Stress, Grit, Belonging and Effect of Early Remediation In a Cohort of Undergraduate Students***. Poster presentation at the National League for Nursing Education Summit, Washington, D.C., September, 2019.
- Tsusaki, R.L.,(2019). ***Overcoming the Challenges of Breastfeeding after Postpartum Discharge***. Texas Nurse-Family Partnership Conference. Galveston, Texas. Podium presentation.
- Tsusaki, R.L., Helmreich, R.J., Ethington, M.D., Mullassery, D.G., Lyons, M.M. (2017). ***Piloting Experiential Skills Lab Set in a Didactic Undergraduate Reproductive Health Course***. Poster presentation at UT Health Advances in Teaching and Learning Conference, Houston Texas.
- Birch-Tsusaki, R.L., (2014). ***Late Preterm Breastfeeding Patterns and Cardiac Activity during feeding***. Council for Advancement of Nursing State of the Science Conference, Washington, D.C., 2014.
- Birch-Tsusaki, R.L., (2014). Workshop: ***Helping the Breastfeeding Late Preterm Family: Research Findings and Strategies***. March of Dimes Gravens Conference, Tampa, Florida. February, 2014.

- Birch-Tsusaki, R.L., (2013). **Feeding the Late Preterm Infant**. March of Dimes Visiting Professorship, October 2013
- Birch-Tsusaki, R.L. (2011). **Low-Risk Maternal Care**. Memorial Hermann Hospital, Nurse Fellowship Program. September, 2012
- Hurst, N. & Birch-Tsusaki, R.L. (2011) **Providing Breastmilk for the Preterm NICU Infant**. Podium presentation: Sigma Theta Tau International Biennium, Grapevine, Texas. October 2011
- Birch-Tsusaki, R.L. (2011). **Low-Risk Maternal Care**. Memorial Hermann Hospital, Nurse Fellowship Program. September, 2011.
- Birch-Tsusaki, R.L. (2009) **Late Preterm Feeding Methods and Cumulative Incidence of Rehospitalization**. Sigma Theta Tau Zeta Pi Chapter Research Day, April 2009.
- Birch-Tsusaki, R.L. (2009). **Late Preterm Feeding Methods and Cumulative Incidence of Rehospitalization**. Poster presentation at the *Kaleidoscope Challenge Your Mind* Conference, Galveston, Texas.
- Birch-Tsusaki, R.L. (2008). **Breastfeeding Late-Preterm Infants and Cumulative Incidence of Rehospitalization in the Neonatal Period**. *Master's Thesis*.
- Birch-Tsusaki, R.L. (2007). **Preterm Labor**, 2007-University of Texas School of Nursing
- Birch-Tsusaki, R.L. (2007, 2008). **Women's Health Care-Gynecology**. Presented at the University of Texas Health Science Center Houston School of Nursing
- Birch-Tsusaki, R.L. (2007). **Reproductive Freedom**. Presented at University of Texas Health Science Center Houston School of Nursing.
- Birch-Tsusaki, R.L. (2006). **Evidenced-Based Nursing**. Presented at Twelve Oaks Hospital, Houston, Texas
- Birch. R.L, Kawolics, B. (1996). **Care of the Pediatric Post-Anesthesia Patient**. Presented at the Cleveland Clinic Foundation, Cleveland, Ohio.

RESEARCH

- 2018-2019 **Primary Investigator:** HSC-SN-18-0062- *An Evaluation of Stress, Grit, Belonging, and Effect of Remediation in a Cohort of Undergraduate Reproductive Health Students*. Grant #00131733 STTI \$2500
- 2017 **Primary Investigator:** HSN-SN-17-0374: *Piloting Experiential Skills Lab Set in a Didactic Undergraduate Reproductive Health Course*. HEFP Project.
- 2014-2017 **Co-I & Consultant**. *Preventing Childhood Obesity through Early Feeding and Parenting Guidance* NIH. 5R01DK096488-02, \$995,000. Elizabeth Reifsnider (PI).
- 2012-2013 **Primary Investigator:** HSN-SN-12-0299. *Late preterm Breastfeeding Patterns and Cardiac Activity during Feeding using Surface Electromyography*.
- 2011-2012 **Primary Investigator:** HSN-SN-10-0523. *Pilot Study: Breastfeeding Patterns of Late Preterm and Term infants*.
- 2007-2008 **Primary Investigator:** HSC-GEN-07-0566. *Breastfeeding Late preterm Infants and the Cumulative Incidence of Rehospitalization in the Neonatal Period*.

SERVICE COMMITTEES

- UT Health Interfaculty Council (IFC)
UT Health Administrative Affairs IFC Subcommittee, UT Health Governance, and Academic Affairs IFC Subcommittee
- T.F. Burks Scholarship Committee
- UT School of Nursing Faculty Assembly Committee – Parliamentarian
- Faculty Assembly Bylaws Committee- Chair
- MSN and DNP Councils
- Proctor Management Committee
- Research Day Planning Committee
- NONPF abstract reviewer 2020

COMMUNITY SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS

- 2009-present: Wildlife Rehabilitation and Education, Houston, Volunteer
- 2014 – present: March of Dimes Professional Education Committee

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

- American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
- American Nurses Association
- Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses
- Houston Area Nurse Practitioners
- International Lactation Consultant Association
- National League for Nursing
- National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties
- Sigma Theta Tau International, Zeta Pi Chapter
 - President-elect 2008-2010
 - President 2010-2012
- Southern Nursing Research Society
- Texas Nurses Association
- Texas Nurse Practitioners
- United States Lactation Consultant Association

COURSES TAUGHT

N6820 Data Analysis & Evaluation - DNP
N6803 Clinical Scholarship Portfolio Development – DNP
N6851 The Business of Healthcare - DNP
N6807 Evidence Based Practice Principles – DNP – Course Lead
N6105 Evaluation & Application of Research - MSN
N5529W Pharmacology for the Advanced Practice Nurse – MSN
N5530 Women's Health Care I – Graduate WHC-NP program
N6195B Family Nurse Practitioner -Clinical
N6195B Family Nurse Practitioner – Clinical
N6752 Advanced Clinical Practice FNP Preceptorship
N6152 Advanced Physical Examination & Differential Diagnosis
N3532 Reproductive Health Care - Undergraduate BSN
N3532B Clinical Course Coordinator – Undergraduate Reproductive Health
N3535 Child and Adolescent Health Care- Undergraduate BSN
N3521 Gerontology- Undergraduate BSN
N3816 Community Health Practice- Undergraduate BSN
N4521 Community Health Practice – Bacc2 program
N3820 Child and Adolescent Healthcare-Bacc2 program