

THEODORA C. ABAH

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EDUCATION

2021 – Present **Morehouse School of Medicine**, Atlanta, GA.

Doctor of Medicine (3.77)

2020 – 2021 **King's College**, Wilkes-Barre, PA.

Master of Science in Healthcare Administration.

Summa Cum Laude (3.97)

2017 – 2021 **King's College**, Wilkes-Barre, PA.

Bachelor of Science in Neuroscience.

Cum Laude (3.52)

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

2024 **Zimmer Biomet Foundation Medical Student Scholarship.** Scholarship given to RJOS medical student members to attend the RJOS 2024 annual meeting to learn more about the field of orthopedic surgery.

2023 **Wilson Scholar at Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science.** A graduate medical education pathway program toward career advancement for medical students of all backgrounds that are committed to addressing issues of diversity and equity in healthcare.

2023 **Health Equity in Myeloma Medical Student Scholar.** One of 12 students selected to conduct research addressing health disparities in Multiple Myeloma through the International Myeloma Foundation and W. Montague Cobb/NMA Health Institute.

2022 **American Shoulder and Elbow Surgeons (ASES) Scholar.** One of 10 students selected to attend the annual ASES meeting.

2022 **Stanford Cardiovascular Institute Summer Research Program.** Conducted cardiovascular research in the lab of CVI-affiliated faculty members, while learning about novel techniques in the field of cardiology. Completed a poster presentation.

2022 **Stanford Medicine-HBMC Scholar.** Conducted research with the Cardiothoracic surgery department. Completed a poster presentation.

2021 **All College Award.** The All-College Award was established to honor members of the King's Community who have shown exceptional dedication, leadership, and service to the College.

2021 **Alpha Epsilon Lambda.** The national honor society of graduate and professional students.

2021 **Upsilon Phi Delta.** The national academic honor society for students in healthcare administration in the United States.

2020 **The Leadership Alliance at The University of Virginia.** Fellowships in Biomedical research for scholars from disadvantaged backgrounds. Cancelled due to Covid-19 pandemic.

2020 – 2021 **Delta Epsilon Sigma.** The national scholastic honor society for students, faculty, and alumni of colleges and universities with a Catholic tradition.

2019 – 2021 **Alpha Epsilon Delta Honor Society.** A pre-health honor society that celebrates those who demonstrate academic excellence and a desire to engage in community service.

2018 – 2020 **King's College Presidential Hope Fund.** Provides support for deserving students who require additional financial assistance in order to continue or complete their undergraduate studies and who demonstrate a commitment to their academic studies as well as have proven to be productive members of the King's community.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

2021 – Present **Investigating the facilitators and barriers to HPV and Cervical Cancer prevention and education among rural immigrant Latinas in Georgia.** Morehouse School of Medicine. Lab of Dr. Natalie Hernandez.

2022 – 2025 **Diastolic heart failure predicts poor outcome following thoracic endovascular aortic repair for type B dissection.** Stanford Medicine. Lab of Dr. Amelia Claire Watkins.

2022 – 2025 **Gender bias in subjective and objective Assessments of Frailty and Surgical Risk among transcatheter aortic valve patients.** Stanford Medicine. Lab of Dr. Amelia Claire Watkins.

2019 – 2021 **Investigated the effect of Adolescent High Fructose Corn Syrup Exposure on learning, motivation, and neuroinflammation in adulthood.** King's College. Lab of Dr. Jessica Anderson.

2018 – 2020 **Investigated mechanisms of neurodegenerative diseases, such as Alzheimer's and Parkinson's disease.** King's College. Lab of Dr. Barbara Fenner

MANUSCRIPTS/PUBLICATIONS

2025 **Impact of Limited Access to Surgical Care in Medically Underserved Communities.** Beaton, S., **Abah T.**, Miller-Hammond, K. *The American Surgeon*

2024 **Unveiling Cervical Cancer Inequities among Georgia Rural Latinas: A Robust Qualitative Examination of the Facilitators and Barriers to Prevention, with Emphasis on the Impact of Community-based Organization.** Hernandez N., Wilson, N., **Abah, T.**, Contreras, O., Franklin, C. *Journal of Cancer Research*

Submitted **Paraduodenal Hernia: An Unusual case of small bowel obstruction.** Hill, R., **Abah, T.**, Alford A.

In prep **Biofilm and infections: past, present, and future directions to prevent biofilm formation.** Schlatterer, D., **Abah, T.** Robison, J. W., Warda, D.

In prep **Implant Surface modification for Infection Prevention. Where are we now?** **Abah, T.**, Schlatterer, D.

In Prep **Gender Bias in Subjective and Objective Assessments of Frailty and Surgical Risk Among Transcatheter Aortic Valve Patients.** **Abah, T.***, Yasin, A. *, Leipzig, M., Kim, B., Watkins, AC.

PRESENTATIONS

2025 **Barriers to HPV-Related Cervical Cancer Clinical Trials for Immigrant Latina Women in Rural Georgia: Insights and Solutions.** **Abah, T.**, Wilson, N., Hernandez N., Contreras, O., Franklin, C. National HPV Conference, Indianapolis, IN. Presenting Author (Poster)

2023 **African American (AA) Patients with High-Risk Myeloma have Worse Outcomes relative to non-AA counterparts.** **Abah, T** & Nooka, A. National Medical Association Annual Convention and Scientific Assembly, New Orleans, LA. Presenting Author (Poster).

2023 **When are radiographs not indicated? A systematic review with implications for orthopaedic telemedicine during pandemics and beyond.** Schlatterer, D, **Abah, T**,

- Amersi, A, Robison, W, & Khakharia, S. Medical Student Orthopedic Society Symposium. Presenting Author (Poster).
- 2023 **Gender Bias in Subjective and Objective Assessments of Frailty and Surgical Risk Among Transcatheter Aortic Valve Patients.** Abah, T.*, Yasin, A.*, Leipzig, M., Kim, B., Watkins, AC. The Heart Valve Society, Malaga, Spain. Presenting Author (Podium).
- 2022 **Adolescent high-fructose corn syrup consumption contributes to protracted dysregulation of adult accumbal neuroinflammation and affective behaviors.** Colon, M., Pike, B., **Abah, T.**, Floyd, B., Santerre-Anderson, JL. Society for Neuroscience, San Diego, CA. Non-presenting Author (Poster).
- 2022 **Molecular characterization of accumbal proteins following adolescent high fructose corn syrup consumption.** Zaremba, H, Lamarca, L, McCarthy, K, Allen, O, Watters, R, Cianfichi, K, Colon, M, **Abah, T**, Santerre-Anderson, JL. Neuron Conference, Hamden, CT. Non-presenting Author (Poster).
- 2022 **Molecular characterization of pro-inflammatory cytokines in the nucleus accumbens following chronic & protracted adolescent high-fructose corn syrup exposure.** Colon, M, Pike, B, Allen, O, Cianfichi, K, Lamarca, L, Bryce, F, **Abah, T**, Santerre-Anderson, J. Neuron Conference, Hamden, CT. Non-presenting Author (Poster).
- 2022 **Effectiveness of Supplemental Science Modules at Tuskegee Airmen Global Academy.** Abah, T, Bayone, A, Nisseau-Bey,Z, Chataigne,M, Hammond, J, Haynes, T, Joshi, K, Oguejiofor, C, Okere, O, Rokins, K, Turner, K, Wilson, N, Young, T. Daniel S. Blumenthal Public Health Symposium, Atlanta, GA. Presenting author (Poster).
- 2021 **Bridging the gap between race, socioeconomic status, and health outcomes with regards to Colorectal Cancer.** King's College, Wilkes-Barre, PA. Master's Capstone.
- 2020 **Adolescent High-Fructose Corn Syrup Overconsumption Induces Protracted Alterations in Motivated and Depressive Behaviors.** Bilbow, M, Floyd, B, **Abah, T**, Philipsen, K, Santerre-Anderson, J. Scranton Brain & Behavior Conference, Scranton, PA. Presenting Author (Poster).

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

- 2021 – Present **HEAL Clinic.** Providing free medical care to uninsured and underinsured patients.
- 2023 – 2024 **Surgery on Sunday Louisville – Atlanta Branch.** Student Member. Providing educational materials and colorectal cancer screenings for uninsured or underinsured patients in the area.
- 2023 – 2024 **Orthopedic Surgery Interest Group.** Vice President. Working to expand the organization and provide more concrete opportunities and connections for our institution.
- 2023 – 2024 **Student Government Association.** Class Representative.
- 2024 **Students Hanging Out with Seniors (SHOWS) Program.** Initiated virtual visits with seniors in different community settings to address social isolation and implement interventions to decrease loneliness, in order to improve health outcomes.
- 2022 – 2023 **Orthopedic Surgery Interest Group.** Secretary. Increased club participation and collaborated with the board to provide access to information about Orthopedic Surgery to the student body.
- 2021 – 2023 **Interprofessional Education Student Council.** Fostered community by planning and executing Interprofessional educational programs for the student body. Orchestrated and conducted community outreach programs.
- 2021 – 2022 **Orthopedic Surgery Interest Group.** Community Service Chair. Tasked with creating and carrying out different community service activities on behalf of the organization. Coordinated and executed multiple food drives with donations going to local

communities.

- 2019 – 2021 **Resident Assistant.** Worked to maintain a sense of community while fostering personal and team achievement, as well as promoting a positive living and learning environment for residential students.
- 2018 – 2021 **Peer Tutor.** Served as a tutor for Biology, General Chemistry, and Spanish. Obtained Level II College Reading and Learning Association (CRLA) certification.
- 2018 – 2021 **King's College Theater.** Actor. Successfully securing roles through auditions, I demonstrated a strong command of acting, stage presence, and character development, enriching the stage with each performance. Notable roles included Regan (*King Lear*), Celia (*As You Like It*), and Trix the Aviatrix (*The Drowsy Chaperone*).
- 2017 – 2021 **Cantores Christi Regis.** Choir Member. After successfully passing the rigorous audition process, I served as a dedicated member of CCR and brought a passion for choral music and a commitment to excellence in performance. I demonstrated proficiency in vocal technique, musicality, and the ability to blend harmoniously within the ensemble.
- 2020 – 2021 **Student Government Association.** Executive President. Worked to serve the needs and objectives of the College's student body by addressing campus and community issues. Facilitated student concerns into workable policy and decisive action by working with the administration and existing structures of the College.
- 2019 – 2020 **Student Government Association.** Executive Vice President. Worked with the board to improve student well-being. Coordinated a 5k in order to raise donations for the local food bank.
- 2017 – 2019 **Student Government Association.** Class President. Voiced the concerns of my class. Hosted multiple events to facilitate community. Raised money for pediatric cancer via Alex's lemonade stand. Raised class funds.
- 2019 **WinterSERVE.** I dedicated my winter break to doing community service in Puerto Rico. Our team worked on distributing essential supplies and supporting local communities affected by hurricanes.
- 2018 – 2019 **Intercollegiate Leadership Program.** One of seven students selected to participate in a yearlong leadership seminar with local schools that covered topics such as, but not limited to, leadership skills, diversity, community issues/visioning, the media, justice/governance, and community services.
- 2018 – 2019 **Social Justice Leadership Project.** Part of a select group of students who held conversations with local nonprofit heads, political leaders, and persons affected by poverty. Conducted individualized and group volunteer work at multiple different establishments.
- 2018 – 2019 **FallSERVE.** I spent my fall break working with the homeless population in the Luzerne County area. Our efforts included distributing food and clothing, providing essential services, and offering support and companionship.
- 2017 – 2019 **Multicultural/International Club.** Promoted cultural awareness and the fellowship of all students at King's College. Hosted a variety of entertaining educational and social programs.
- 2017 **Emerging Leaders.** A leadership development program designed specifically for freshman and sophomore students who have demonstrated leadership abilities and have expressed an interest in pursuing leadership roles on campus and in the community. The program provided an opportunity to meet other students while exploring important leadership topics, such as leadership styles, values, ethics, and diversity.
- 2013 – 2018 **Volunteer Income Tax Assistance.** Provided free tax help to people who generally make \$56,000 or less, persons with disabilities and limited English-speaking taxpayers who need assistance in preparing their own tax returns.

PROFESSIONAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIPS

2023 – Present **American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons**

2022 – Present **Ruth Jackson Orthopedic Society.**

2022 – Present **The J. Robert Gladden Orthopedic Society.**

HOBBIES

Music, Theater, Fitness