

Empire State Opioid Epidemic Innovation Challenge

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Columbia University Fu Foundation School of Engineering and Applied Science



Sara Abiola, PhD, JD focuses on empirical evaluation of the effects of public health laws on population health and the politics of developing evidence-based public health laws. Her most recent projects include measuring the effects of obesity prevention laws enacted in all 50 states on youth body mass index (BMI) and risk of overweight and obesity, developing a theoretical framework linking public health laws to health-related behaviors and outcomes, and identifying the factors that shape the use of empirical research in health policy-making. Dr. Abiola has co-authored publications on these topics in the *New England Journal of Medicine*, *Health Affairs*, *American Journal of Public Health*, and the *Journal of Law, Medicine, and Ethics*.