



Blake Thomson

MD Student with Scholarly Concentration in Health Services & Policy Research, expected graduation Spring 2027

Bio

BIO

Blake Thomson is a health disparities researcher and medical student at Stanford. An epidemiologist by training, he holds an MPhil in Epidemiology from the University of Cambridge and a DPhil (PhD) in Population Health from the University of Oxford. He has held several posts focused on health equity science, including most recently as Principal Scientist in Cancer Disparities Research at the American Cancer Society.

Blake has authored or co-authored more than 30 articles in medical and public health journals, including *The Lancet* and *JAMA*. His first-author publications have appeared in such journals as *The Lancet Global Health*, *JAMA Internal Medicine*, *JAMA Oncology*, *JAMA Neurology*, *Chest*, and *Circulation*, among others. This work has received media attention from such outlets as *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *Nature*, and *National Geographic*. His clinical and academic interests are focused on the prevention and control of common and debilitating diseases, particularly among those historically underrepresented in medical research.

HONORS AND AWARDS

- Finalist, Elizabeth Barrett-Connor Research Award for Early Career Investigators, American Heart Association (2024)
- Boring Trust Research Award, Stanford Cardiovascular Institute, Stanford Medicine (2024)
- The Year in Review, Top 3 articles by Altmetric score, *JAMA Oncology* (2021)
- Nuffield Department of Population Health Scholarship, University of Oxford (2016)
- Gates Cambridge Scholarship, Gates Cambridge Trust (2015)
- Moeur Award, Arizona State University (2013)
- Outstanding Graduate in the Social Sciences, Arizona State University (2013)
- Flinn Scholarship, Flinn Foundation (2009)

EDUCATION AND CERTIFICATIONS

- DPhil (PhD), University of Oxford , Population Health (2020)
- MPhil, University of Cambridge , Epidemiology (2016)
- BA, Arizona State University , Global Health (2013)

LINKS

- LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/blakewthomson/>
- Google Scholar: <https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=QzZyGnAAAAAJ&hl=en>
- PubMed Bibliography: <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/?term=thomson+blake&sort=date&size=200>

Publications

PUBLICATIONS

- **Association of Age at Smoking Initiation, Age at Smoking Cessation, and Lower Respiratory Mortality: Prospective Study of 500,000 Adults in the United States.** *Chest*
Thomson, B., Jemal, A., Islami, F.
2024; 166 (5): 1151-1154
- **Association of Smoking Cessation and Cardiovascular, Cancer, and Respiratory Mortality.** *JAMA internal medicine*
Thomson, B., Islami, F.
2023
- **Association Between Smoking, Smoking Cessation, and Mortality by Race, Ethnicity, and Sex Among US Adults.** *JAMA network open*
Thomson, B., Emberson, J., Lacey, B., Lewington, S., Peto, R., Jemal, A., Islami, F.
2022; 5 (10): e2231480
- **American Cancer Society's report on the status of cancer disparities in the United States, 2021** *CA-A CANCER JOURNAL FOR CLINICIANS*
Islami, F., Guerra, C. E., Minihan, A., Yabroff, K., Fedewa, S. A., Sloan, K., Wiedt, T. L., Thomson, B., Siegel, R. L., Nargis, N., Winn, R. A., Lacasse, L., Makaroff, et al
2022; 72 (2): 112-143
- **Association of Smoking Initiation and Cessation Across the Life Course and Cancer Mortality: Prospective Study of 410 000 US Adults** *JAMA ONCOLOGY*
Thomson, B., Emberson, J., Lacey, B., Lewington, S., Peto, R., Islami, F.
2021; 7 (12): 1901-1903
- **Low-intensity daily smoking and cause-specific mortality in Mexico: prospective study of 150 000 adults** *INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF EPIDEMIOLOGY*
Thomson, B., Tapia-Conyer, R., Lacey, B., Lewington, S., Ramirez-Reyes, R., Aguilar-Ramirez, D., Gnatiuc, L., Herrington, W. G., Torres, J., Trichia, E., Wade, R., Collins, R., Peto, et al
2021; 50 (3): 955-964
- **Childhood Smoking, Adult Cessation, and Cardiovascular Mortality: Prospective Study of 390 000 US Adults** *JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION*
Thomson, B., Emberson, J., Lacey, B., Peto, R., Woodward, M., Lewington, S.
2020; 9 (21): e018431
- **The COVID-19 Pandemic A Global Natural Experiment** *CIRCULATION*
Thomson, B.
2020; 142 (1): 14-16
- **Association of childhood smoking and adult mortality: prospective study of 120 000 Cuban adults** *LANCET GLOBAL HEALTH*
Thomson, B., Armas Rojas, N., Lacey, B., Burrett, J., Varona-Perez, P., Calderon Martinez, M., Lorenzo-Vazquez, E., Bess Constanten, S., Morales Rigau, J., Hernandez Lopez, O., Martinez Morales, M., Alonso Aloma, I., Achiong Estupinan, et al
2020; 8 (6): E850-E857
- **What "Medicare for All" Could Mean for US Medical Research Lessons From the United Kingdom** *CIRCULATION*
Thomson, B., Lacey, B., Lewington, S.
2019; 140 (19): 1527-1529
- **Global, regional, and national prevalence of overweight and obesity in children and adults during 1980-2013: a systematic analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study 2013.** *Lancet*
Ng, M., Fleming, T., Robinson, M., Thomson, B., Graetz, N., Margono, C., Mullany, E. C., Biryukov, S., Abbafati, C., Abera, S. F., Abraham, J. P., Abu-Rmeileh, N. M., Achoki, et al
2014; 384 (9945): 766-781
- **Smoking Prevalence and Cigarette Consumption in 187 Countries, 1980-2012** *JAMA-JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION*
Marie Ng, Freeman, M. K., Fleming, T. D., Robinson, M., Dwyer-Lindgren, L., Thomson, B., Wollum, A., Sanman, E., Wulf, S., Lopez, A. D., Murray, C. J. L., Gakidou, E.

2014; 311 (2): 183-192

- **Socioeconomic deprivation: barriers to guideline implementation for cardiovascular disease.** *European heart journal*
Wilkinson, C., Nadarajah, R., Prescott, E. I., Thomson, B., Vedanthan, R., Ribeiro, A. L., Gale, C. P.
2025
- **The global burden of disease attributable to suboptimal fruit and vegetable intake, 1990-2021: a systematic analysis of the global burden of disease study.** *BMC medicine*
Xu, X., Yan, P., Chen, W., Wei, W., Thomson, B., Ruan, S., Cao, Z., Ou, C., Geldsetzer, P., Han, T., Wang, J., Chen, S., Li, et al
2025; 23 (1): 456
- **Association of menthol-flavoured cigarette smoking with all-cause and cause-specific mortality risk.** *Tobacco control*
Bandi, P., Newton, C., Xue, Z., Thomson, B., Asare, S., Patel, M., Islami, F., Nargis, N., Patel, A. V., Jemal, A., Westmaas, J. L., Diver, W. R.
2025
- **Guideline recommended statin eligibility and use among U.S. adults ages 20 to 39 years** *AMERICAN JOURNAL OF PREVENTIVE CARDIOLOGY*
Clarke, S. L., Thomson, B.
2024; 20
- **Guideline recommended statin eligibility and use among U.S. adults ages 20 to 39 years.** *American journal of preventive cardiology*
Clarke, S. L., Thomson, B.
2024; 20: 100890
- **Genetically predicted lipoprotein(a) associates with coronary artery plaque severity independent of low-density lipoprotein cholesterol.** *European journal of preventive cardiology*
Clarke, S. L., Huang, R. D., Hilliard, A. T., Levin, M. G., Sharma, D., Thomson, B., Lynch, J., Tsao, P. S., Gaziano, J. M., Assimes, T. L.
2024
- **Proportion and number of cancer cases and deaths attributable to potentially modifiable risk factors in the United States, 2019.** *CA: a cancer journal for clinicians*
Islami, F., Marlow, E. C., Thomson, B., McCullough, M. L., Runggay, H., Gapstur, S. M., Patel, A. V., Soerjomataram, I., Jemal, A.
2024
- **Revisiting the Emergency Department.** *JAMA neurology*
Thomson, B.
2024
- **Assessing the impact of community-based interventions on hypertension and diabetes management in three Minnesota communities: Findings from the prospective evaluation of US HealthRise programs.** *PLoS one*
Fullman, N., Cowling, K., Flor, L. S., Wilson, S., Bhatt, P., Bryant, M. F., Camarda, J. N., Colombara, D. V., Daly, J., Gabert, R. K., Harris, K. P., Johanns, C. K., Mandile, et al
2023; 18 (2): e0279230
- **Mortality by Education Before and During the COVID-19 Pandemic, U.S., 2017-2020.** *American journal of preventive medicine*
Marlow, E. C., Jemal, A., Thomson, B., Wiese, D., Zhao, J., Siegel, R. L., Islami, F.
2023; 64 (1): 105-116
- **External validation of models for predicting risk of colorectal cancer using the China Kadoorie Biobank.** *BMC medicine*
Abhari, R. E., Thomson, B., Yang, L., Millwood, I., Guo, Y., Yang, X., Lv, J., Avery, D., Pei, P., Wen, P., Yu, C., Chen, Y., Chen, et al
2022; 20 (1): 302
- **Person-years of life lost and lost earnings from cigarette smoking-attributable cancer deaths, United States, 2019** *INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF CANCER*
Islami, F., Marlow, E. C., Zhao, J., Wiese, D., Asare, S., Bandi, P., Thomson, B., Zheng, Z., Nargis, N., Yabroff, K., Jemal, A.
2022
- **Association between disparities in intergenerational economic mobility and cause-specific mortality among Black and White persons in the United States** *CANCER EPIDEMIOLOGY*
Islami, F., Fedewa, S. A., Thomson, B., Nogueira, L., Yabroff, K., Jemal, A.
2021; 74: 101998

- **Evaluating clinical characteristics studies produced early in the Covid-19 pandemic: A systematic review** *PLOS ONE*
Manoharan, L., Cattrall, J. W. S., Harris, C., Newell, K., Thomson, B., Pritchard, M. G., Bannister, P. G., Sigfrid, L., Solomon, T., Horby, P. W., Carson, G., Olliaro, P.
2021; 16 (5): e0251250
- **Alcohol consumption and cause-specific mortality in Cuba: prospective study of 120 623 adults** *ECLINICALMEDICINE*
Armas Rojas, N. B., Lacey, B., Simadibrata, D., Ross, S., Varona-Perez, P., Burrett, J., Calderon Martinez, M., Lorenzo-Vazquez, E., Bess Constanten, S., Thomson, B., Sherliker, P., Morales Rigau, J., Carter, et al
2021; 33: 100692
- **Sex differences in prevalence, treatment and control of cardiovascular risk factors in England** *HEART*
Pinho-Gomes, A., Peters, S. A. E., Thomson, B., Woodward, M.
2021; 107 (6): 462-467
- **Community-based interventions for detection and management of diabetes and hypertension in underserved communities: a mixed-methods evaluation in Brazil, India, South Africa and the USA.** *BMJ global health*
Flor, L. S., Wilson, S., Bhatt, P., Bryant, M., Burnett, A., Camarda, J. N., Chakravarthy, V., Chandrashekhar, C., Chaudhury, N., Cimini, C., Colombara, D. V., Narayanan, H. C., Cortes, et al
2020; 5 (6)
- **Trends in the prevalence of overweight among Bangladeshi children aged 24-59 months (2004-2014) by sex and socioeconomic status** *INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF OBESITY*
Shawon, M., Hossain, F., Thomson, B., Adhikary, G., Chowdhury, A., Chowdhury, R., Townsend, N.
2020; 44 (3): 664-674
- **Cohort Profile: the Cuba Prospective Study** *INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF EPIDEMIOLOGY*
Armas Rojas, N., Lacey, B., Lewington, S., Varona Perez, P., Burrett, J., Morales Rigau, J., Sherliker, P., Boreham, J., Hernandez Lopez, O., Thomson, B., Achiong Estupinan, F., Diaz Gonzalez, M., Rosquete Munoz, et al
2019; 48 (3): 680-+
- **The overweight and obesity transition from the wealthy to the poor in low- and middle-income countries: A survey of household data from 103 countries.** *PLoS medicine*
Templin, T. n., Cravo Oliveira Hashiguchi, T. n., Thomson, B. n., Dieleman, J. n., Bendavid, E. n.
2019; 16 (11): e1002968
- **Public knowledge of cardiovascular disease and response to acute cardiac events in three cities in China and India** *HEART*
Duber, H. C., McNellan, C. R., Wollum, A., Phillips, B., Allen, K., Brown, J. C., Bryant, M., Gupta, R. B., Li, Y., Majumdar, P., Roth, G. A., Thomson, B., Wilson, et al
2018; 104 (1): 67-72
- **Identifying gaps in the continuum of care for hypertension and diabetes in two Indian communities.** *BMC health services research*
Gabert, R. n., Ng, M. n., Sogarwal, R. n., Bryant, M. n., Deepu, R. V., McNellan, C. R., Mehra, S. n., Phillips, B. n., Reitsma, M. n., Thomson, B. n., Wilson, S. n., Wollum, A. n., Gakidou, et al
2017; 17 (1): 846
- **Navigating Support, Resilience, and Care: Exploring the Impact of Informal Social Networks on the Rehabilitation and Care of Young Female Survivors of Sexual Violence in Northern Uganda** *PEACE AND CONFLICT-JOURNAL OF PEACE PSYCHOLOGY*
Stark, L., Landis, D., Thomson, B., Potts, A.
2016; 22 (3): 217-225
- **Identifying High-Risk Neighborhoods Using Electronic Medical Records: A Population-Based Approach for Targeting Diabetes Prevention and Treatment Interventions** *PLOS ONE*
Gabert, R., Thomson, B., Gakidou, E., Roth, G.
2016; 11 (7): e0159227
- **A novel method for estimating distributions of body mass index** *POPULATION HEALTH METRICS*
Ng, M., Liu, P., Thomson, B., Murray, C. J. L.
2016; 14: 6
- **Global, regional, and national comparative risk assessment of 79 behavioural, environmental and occupational, and metabolic risks or clusters of risks in 188 countries, 1990-2013: a systematic analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study 2013** *LANCET*

Forouzanfar, M. H., Alexander, L., Anderson, H. R., Bachman, V. F., Biryukov, S., Brauer, M., Burnett, R., Casey, D., Coates, M. M., Cohen, A., Delwiche, K., Estep, K., Frostad, et al
2015; 386 (10010): 2287-2323

- **Global, regional, and national disability-adjusted life years (DALYs) for 306 diseases and injuries and healthy life expectancy (HALE) for 188 countries, 1990-2013: quantifying the epidemiological transition *LANCET***

Murray, C. J., Barber, R. M., Foreman, K. J., Ozgoren, A. A., Abd-Allah, F., Abera, S. F., Aboyans, V., Abraham, J. P., Abubakar, I., Abu-Raddad, L. J., Abu-Rmeileh, N. M., Achoki, T., Ackerman, et al
2015; 386 (10009): 2145-2191