



Leslie Adams

Assistant Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences (Public Mental Health) and, by courtesy, of Pediatrics

Bio

BIO

Leslie Adams, PhD, MPH is an Assistant Professor in the Division of Public Mental Health and Population Sciences at Stanford University School of Medicine, where she focuses on addressing mental health disparities among people of African descent and marginalized communities. As a behavioral scientist, her research emphasizes the role of structural racism, gender norms, and psychosocial stressors in influencing mental health outcomes. Dr. Adams employs mixed-methods approaches, including ecological momentary assessment and passive data sensing, to explore real-time stressors like racial discrimination and their link to depressive symptoms and suicidality. Prior to her role at Stanford, she served as an Assistant Professor at Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health and was a David E. Bell Postdoctoral Fellow at the Harvard Center for Population and Development Studies.

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- Assistant Professor, Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences
- Assistant Professor (By courtesy), Pediatrics
- Member, Maternal & Child Health Research Institute (MCHRI)

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

- Postdoctoral Fellowship, Harvard Center for Population Studies and Developmental Sciences
- PhD, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill , Health Behavior
- MPH, The Dartmouth Institute for Health Policy and Clinical Practice
- BA, Dartmouth College , Neuroscience

Teaching

COURSES

2025-26

- Mental Health in Context: Race, Identity, and Resilience: PSYC 27N (Win)

Publications

PUBLICATIONS

- **Prevalence and Risk Factors for Suicidal Ideation and Attempts Among Black LGBTQ+ Young Adults.** *North Carolina medical journal* Hall, W. J., Yookong Williams, D., Xu, Y., Adams, L. B., Richardson, S. C., Srivastava, A., Dawes, H. C., Englert, A. R., Chiang, P. C., Leite, J. A., Cailin, C., Wilson, J. 2025; 86 (4)

- **Racial Differences in Suicide and Undetermined Deaths in Maryland.** *JAMA psychiatry*
Adams, L. B., Kitchen, C., Nestadt, P. S., Thorpe, R. J., Boyd, R. C., Kharrazi, H., Wilcox, H. C.
2025
- **Racial, ethnic, and cultural expressions of interpersonal psychological theory of suicide (RECEIPTS): An integrated model of structural racism and suicide risk.** *The American psychologist*
Adams, L. B., Brooks Stephens, J. R., Cubbage, J., Bernard, D. L.
2025
- **Acceptability and Feasibility of a Smartphone-Based Real-Time Assessment of Suicide Among Black Men: Mixed Methods Pilot Study.** *JMIR formative research*
Adams, L. B., Watts, T., DeVinney, A., Haroz, E. E., Thrul, J., Stephens, J. B., Campbell, M. N., Antoine, D., Lê Cook, B., Joe, S., Thorpe, R. J.
2024; 8: e48992
- **Investigating the Role of Suicidality and Ethnic Identity among Black Adolescents: A Latent Profile Analysis.** *Archives of suicide research : official journal of the International Academy for Suicide Research*
Bernard, D. L., Adams, L. B., Lateef, H. A., Azasu, E., Joe, S.
2023; 27 (4): 1261-1277
- **A Cascade of Care Model for Suicide Prevention.** *American journal of preventive medicine*
Haroz, E. E., Sarapik, L. M., Adams, L. B., Nestadt, P. S., Athey, A., Alvarez, K., Slade, E. P., Cwik, M., Berman, A. L., Wilcox, H. C.
2023; 64 (4): 599-603
- **Achieving mental health equity in Black male suicide prevention.** *Frontiers in public health*
Adams, L. B., Thorpe, R. J.
2023; 11: 1113222
- **Beyond Cumulative Risk: Gender-Specific Latent Class Patterns of Adverse Childhood Experiences and Systemic Inequities in Black Americans** *ADVERSITY AND RESILIENCE SCIENCE*
Oyedele, N. K., Johnson, R. M., Musci, R. J., Dean, L. T., Adams, L. B.
2026; 7 (1)
- **Performing Strength: Racialized Masculinity in the Lived Experiences of Black Men at Risk of Suicide.** *American journal of men's health*
Adams, L. B., DeVinney, A., Aljuboori, D., Bachman, S., Lateef, H., Habteyesus, A., Willie, T. C.
2026; 20 (1): 15579883251408351
- **Race, gender, and childhood adversity: gender-specific prevalence of ACE exposure among Black Americans.** *Ethnicity & health*
Oyedele, N. K., Adams, L. B., Johnson, R. M., Dean, L. T.
2025: 1-16
- **Racial/Ethnic variation in health insurance coverage and early midlife depressive symptoms in the U.S.** *BMC health services research*
Zhang, X., Adams, L. B., Lemon, T. L.
2025; 25 (1): 1299
- **Health Insurance Coverage from Adolescence to Early Midlife: Variation Across Race and Ethnicity.** *Journal of general internal medicine*
Zhang, X., Adams, L. B., Lemon, T. L.
2025
- **Perceived Discrimination in Health Care Settings: Analysis of In-Depth Interviews of Patients With Type 2 Diabetes.** *Clinical diabetes : a publication of the American Diabetes Association*
Cid, M., Cook, B. L., Adams, L. B., Cortés, D. E., Rodgers, C. R., Moyer, M., Tran, N. M., de Castro, S., Lee, E., Sánchez Román, M. J., Kaushal, N. A., McCormick, D., Progovac, et al
2025; 43 (4): 483-493
- **Structural racism and intimate partner violence perpetration among racially diverse men transitioning into fatherhood: an anti-racist approach to IPV prevention.** *Injury epidemiology*
Willie, T. C., Linton, S., Adams, L. B., Overstreet, N. M., Whittaker, S., Faller, T., Knight, D., Kershaw, T. S.
2025; 12 (1): 10
- **Characterizing Patterns of Childhood Adversity in Association With Tobacco Cigarette Use Behaviors in Black Adults**
Oyedele, N., Adams, L., Johnson, R.

ELSEVIER IRELAND LTD.2025

- **DEPRESSIVE SYMPTOMS, SLEEP, AND QUALITY OF LIFE IN ADULTS WITH CHRONIC CONDITIONS**
Diallo, I., Bass, J., Musci, R., Adams, L., Gallo, J., Spira, A.
OXFORD UNIV PRESS.2024: 1020
- **Structural racism, interpersonal discrimination, and IPV perpetration among heterosexual men transitioning to parenthood**
Willie, T. C., Adams, L., Linton, S., Whittaker, S., Phillips, K., Knight, D., Overstreet, N., Kershaw, T.
WILEY.2024: 48-49
- **NAVIGATING DIVERSITY THROUGH CODING AND THEMATIC ANALYSIS IN QUALITATIVE RESEARCH**
Velez, G. E., Spencer, A. E., Adams, L. B., Florez, M., Martin, A.
ELSEVIER SCIENCE INC.2024: S383
- **Eliciting patient past experiences of healthcare discrimination as a potential pathway to reduce health disparities: A qualitative study of primary care staff** *HEALTH SERVICES RESEARCH*
Cortes, D. E., Progovac, A. M., Lu, F., Lee, E., Tran, N. M., Moyer, M. A., Odayar, V., Rodgers, C. R. R., Adams, L., Chambers, V., Delman, J., Delman, D., de Castro, et al
2024: e14373
- **Masculinity and Afrocentric Worldview: Assessing Risk and Protective Factors of Self-Reliance and Ubuntu on Young Black Men's Suicide Ideation.** *Journal of racial and ethnic health disparities*
Lateef, H., Adams, L., Leach, B., Boahen-Boaten, B., Jallesma, F., Bernard, D., Williams, E. D.
2024
- **The Association Between HIV-Related Stigma and the Uptake of HIV Testing and ART Among Older Adults in Rural South Africa: Findings from the HAALSI Cohort Study** *AIDS AND BEHAVIOR*
Mahlalela, N. B., Manne-Goehler, J., Ohene-Kwofie, D., Adams, L. B., Montana, L., Kahn, K., Rohr, J. K., Baernighausen, T., Gomez-Olive, F. X.
2024; 28 (3): 1104-1121
- **UNDERSTANDING DIVERSITY THROUGH QUALITATIVE RESEARCH**
Velez, G. E., Spencer, A. E., Adams, L. B., Florez, M.
ELSEVIER SCIENCE INC.2023: S425-S426
- **Factors Associated With Suicide in Four West African Countries Among Adolescent Students: An Analysis Using the Global School-Based Student Health Survey.** *The Journal of adolescent health : official publication of the Society for Adolescent Medicine*
Diallo, I., Aldridge, L. R., Bass, J., Adams, L. B., Spira, A. P.
2023; 73 (3): 494-502
- **Mental Health Treatment-Seeking Appraisal, Afrocentric Cultural Norms, and Mental Health Functioning: Buffering Factors of Young Black Men's Externalizing Behavior** *JOURNAL OF RACIAL AND ETHNIC HEALTH DISPARITIES*
Lateef, H., Adams, L., Bernard, D., Jellesma, F., Frempong, M., Boahen-Boaten, B., Leach, B. C. B., Borgstrom, E., Nartey, P. B.
2023: 3150-3161
- **Demographic predictors of emergency service utilization patterns in youth at risk of suicide** *SUICIDE AND LIFE-THREATENING BEHAVIOR*
Bajaj, M. A. A., Wilcox, H. C. C., Adams, L. B. B., Berman, A. L. L., Cwik, M., Kitchen, C., Miller, L., Nestadt, P. S. S., Slade, E. P. P., Haroz, E. E. E.
2023; 53 (4): 702-712
- **The relationship between neighborhood typologies and self-rated health in Maryland: A latent class analysis** *HEALTH & PLACE*
Roth, K. B., Goplerud, D. K., Adams, L. B., Maury, M. E., Musci, R. J.
2023; 83: 103079
- **Depressive symptoms and their association with age, chronic conditions and health status among middle-aged and elderly people in peri-urban Tanzania** *CAMBRIDGE PRISMS-GLOBAL MENTAL HEALTH*
Stieglitz, L., Adams, L., Baernighausen, T., Berghoefer, A., Kazonda, P. H., Killewo, J., Leyna, G. K., Lohmann, J., Rohr, J., Kohler, S.
2023; 10: e27
- **<i>When Death Hits You in Your Face, You Have to Listen":</i> A Qualitative Investigation of Peer Bereavement Support Volunteers in Black American Communities** *OMEGA-JOURNAL OF DEATH AND DYING*
Adams, L., Athey, A., Brooks, K., Lazarus, K., DeVinney, A., Leaf, P. J. J.
2023: 302228231161816

- **Rapid and Deferred Help Seeking Among African American Parents of Children With Emotional and Behavioral Difficulties.** *Psychiatric services (Washington, D.C.)*
Richmond, J., Adams, L. B., Annis, I. E., Ellis, A. R., Perryman, T., Sikich, L., Thomas, K. C.
2022; 73 (12): 1359-1366
- **Marital experiences and depressive symptoms among older adults in rural South Africa.** *SSM. Mental health*
Jennings, E. A., Chinogurei, C., Adams, L.
2022; 2
- **Typologies of mental healthcare discrimination experiences and associations with current provider care ratings: A latent class analysis.** *SSM. Mental health*
Adams, L. B., Zimmer, C., Progovac, A. M., Creedon, T., Rodgers, C. R., Sonik, R. A., Cook, B. L.
2022; 2
- **Factor analysis of the Center for Epidemiological Studies Depression Scale in American Indian women** *RESEARCH IN NURSING & HEALTH*
Brooks, J. L., Adams, L. B., Woods-Giscombe, C. L., Currin, E. G., Corbie-Smith, G. M.
2022; 45 (6): 733-741
- **Perceived healthcare discrimination and well-being among older adults in the United States and Brazil.** *SSM - population health*
Dixon, A. R., Adams, L. B., Ma, T.
2022; 18: 101113
- **Suicide attempt endophenotypes: Latent profiles of child and adolescent aggression and impulsivity differentially predict suicide attempt in females** *PREVENTIVE MEDICINE REPORTS*
Musci, R. J., Ballard, E. D., Stapp, E. K., Adams, L., Wilcox, H. C., Ialongo, N.
2022; 28: 101829
- **Methodological Considerations in Scale Refinement with Diverse Populations: A Case Example Using the CES-D with a Community Sample of American Indian Women** *ISSUES IN MENTAL HEALTH NURSING*
Brooks, J. L., Knafl, G. J., Adams, L. B., Woods-Giscombe, C. L., Berry, D. C., Currin, E. G., Corbie-Smith, G. M.
2022; 43 (8): 776-783
- **Adolescents' Concerns About School Violence or Shootings and Association With Depressive, Anxiety, and Panic Symptoms** *JAMA NETWORK OPEN*
Riehm, K. E., Mojtabai, R., Adams, L. B., Krueger, E. A., Mattingly, D. T., Nestadt, P. S., Leventhal, A. M.
2021; 4 (11): e2132131
- **Assessing the Real-time Influence of Racism-Related Stress and Suicidality Among Black Men: Protocol for an Ecological Momentary Assessment Study** *JMIR RESEARCH PROTOCOLS*
Adams, L., Igbinedion, G., DeVinney, A., Azasu, E., Nestadt, P., Thrul, J., Joe, S.
2021; 10 (10): e31241
- **Barriers to and Facilitators of Vocational Development for Black Young Adults With Serious Mental Illnesses** *PSYCHIATRIC REHABILITATION JOURNAL*
Delman, J., Adams, L. B.
2022; 45 (1): 1-10
- **Refining Black men's depression measurement using participatory approaches: a concept mapping study** *BMC PUBLIC HEALTH*
Adams, L. B., Baxter, S. L. K., Lightfoot, A. F., Gottfredson, N., Golin, C., Jackson, L. C., Tabron, J., Corbie-Smith, G., Powell, W.
2021; 21 (1): 1194
- **Association between psychological resilience and changes in mental distress during the COVID-19 pandemic** *JOURNAL OF AFFECTIVE DISORDERS*
Riehm, K. E., Brenneke, S. G., Adams, L. B., Gilan, D., Lieb, K., Kunzler, A. M., Smail, E. J., Holingue, C., Stuart, E. A., Kalb, L. G., Thrul, J.
2021; 282: 381-385
- **Parent Activation and Child Mental Health Service use in African American Families in a Large Cross-Sectional Study.** *The Permanente journal*
Thomas, K. C., Annis, I., Ellis, A. R., Adams, L. B., Davis, S. A., Lightfoot, T., Perryman, T., Wheeley, M., Sikich, L., Morrissey, J. P.
2020; 25: 1

- **Dimensionality and differential item endorsement of depressive symptoms among aging Black populations in South Africa: Findings from the HAALSI study** *JOURNAL OF AFFECTIVE DISORDERS*
Adams, L. B., Farrell, M., Mall, S., Mahlalela, N., Berkman, L.
2020; 277: 850-856
- **Community Health Worker Training Curricula and Intervention Outcomes in African American and Latinx Communities: A Systematic Review** *HEALTH EDUCATION & BEHAVIOR*
Adams, L. B., Richmond, J., Watson, S. N., Cene, C. W., Urrutia, R., Ataga, O., Dunlap, P., Corbie-Smith, G.
2021; 48 (4): 516-531
- **Addressing Major Health Disparities Related to Coronavirus for People With Behavioral Health Conditions Requires Strength-Based Capacity Building and Intentional Community Partnership** *WORLD MEDICAL & HEALTH POLICY*
Progovac, A. M., Cortes, D. E., Chambers, V., Adams, L. B., Jean-Claude, S., Willison, C. E., Flores, M., Creedon, T. B., Cook, B. L.
2020; 12 (3): 242-255
- **Understanding the Role of Past Health Care Discrimination in Help-Seeking and Shared Decision-Making for Depression Treatment Preferences.** *Qualitative health research*
Progovac, A. M., Cortes, D. E., Chambers, V., Delman, J., Delman, D., McCormick, D., Lee, E., De Castro, S., Sanchez Roman, M. J., Kaushal, N. A., Creedon, T. B., Sonik, R. A., Quinerly, et al
2020: 1049732320937663
- **Factor Analysis of the CES-D 12 among a Community Sample of Black Men** *AMERICAN JOURNAL OF MENS HEALTH*
Adams, L. B., Gottfredson, N., Lightfoot, A. F., Corbie-Smith, G., Golin, C., Powell, W.
2019; 13 (2): 1557988319834105
- **Patient-Centered Values and Experiences with Emergency Department and Mental Health Crisis Care** *ADMINISTRATION AND POLICY IN MENTAL HEALTH AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES RESEARCH*
Thomas, K. C., Owino, H., Ansari, S., Adams, L., Cyr, J. M., Gaynes, B. N., Glickman, S. W.
2018; 45 (4): 611-622
- **Implicit Bias and Mental Health Professionals: Priorities and Directions for Research.** *Psychiatric services (Washington, D.C.)*
Merino, Y., Adams, L., Hall, W. J.
2018; 69 (6): 723-725
- **Medical Mistrust and Colorectal Cancer Screening Among African Americans** *JOURNAL OF COMMUNITY HEALTH*
Adams, L. B., Richmond, J., Corbie-Smith, G., Powell, W.
2017; 42 (5): 1044-1061
- **School-Based Mental Health Services for Newly Arriving Immigrant Adolescents** *JOURNAL OF IMMIGRANT AND MINORITY HEALTH*
Adams, L. B.
2016; 18 (4): 715-717
- **Intervention Efficacy in Engaging Black and White Veterans with Post-traumatic Stress Disorder into Treatment** *SOCIAL WORK IN PUBLIC HEALTH*
Stecker, T., Adams, L., Carpenter-Song, E., Nicholson, J., Streltsov, N., Xie, H.
2016; 31 (6): 481-489
- **Masculinity and Race-Related Factors as Barriers to Health Help-Seeking Among African American Men** *BEHAVIORAL MEDICINE*
Powell, W., Adams, L. B., Cole-Lewis, Y., Agyemang, A., Upton, R. D.
2016; 42 (3): 150-163
- **Gender Differences in Service Utilization among OEF/OIF Veterans with Posttraumatic Stress Disorder after a Brief Cognitive-Behavioral Intervention to Increase Treatment Engagement: A Mixed Methods Study** *WOMENS HEALTH ISSUES*
Gallegos, A. M., Wolff, K. B., Streltsov, N. A., Adams, L. B., Carpenter-Song, E., Nicholson, J., Stecker, T.
2015; 25 (5): 542-547
- **An encyclopedia of mouse DNA elements (Mouse ENCODE).** *Genome biology*
Stamatoyannopoulos, J. A., Snyder, M., Hardison, R., Ren, B., Gingeras, T., Gilbert, D. M., Groudine, M., Bender, M., Kaul, R., Canfield, T., Giste, E., Johnson, A., Zhang, et al
2012; 13 (8): 418

- **Scaled Cortical Impact in Immature Swine: Effect of Age and Gender on Lesion Volume** *JOURNAL OF NEUROTRAUMA*
Missios, S., Harris, B. T., Dodge, C. P., Simoni, M. K., Costine, B. A., Lee, Y., Quebada, P. B., Hillier, S. C., Adams, L. B., Duhaime, A.
2009; 26 (11): 1943-1951