
NIH BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH COMMON FORM

Name: Aslakson, Rebecca Ann

Persistent Identifier (PID) of the Senior/Key Person: <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-7599-0625>

Position Title: Professor with Tenure; Department Chair

Organization and Location: The Larner College of Medicine at the University of Vermont, Burlington, Vermont, United States

PROFESSIONAL PREPARATION

INSTITUTION AND LOCATION	DEGREE	Start Date	Completion Date	FIELD OF STUDY
The Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Baltimore, Maryland, United States	Doctor of Philosophy (PHD)	09/2008	06/2013	Clinical Investigations
The University of Ulster, Coleraine, Northern Ireland, Not Applicable, N/A, United Kingdom	Master of Science (MS)	08/2000	11/2001	Biomedical Sciences
Harvard Medical School/Massachusetts Institute of Technology Health, Sciences, and Technology Program, Boston, Massachusetts, United States	Doctor of Medicine (MD)	08/1998	06/2003	Medicine
Washington University in St. Louis, St. Louis, Missouri, United States	Bachelor of Arts (BA)	08/1994	06/1998	Biology/Mathematics

Appointments and Positions

2022 - present	Professor with Tenure; Department Chair, The Larner College of Medicine at the University of Vermont, Burlington, Vermont, United States
2022 - 2022	Professor, Stanford University, Stanford, California, United States
2019 - 2022	Chief, Division of Critical Care Medicine, Stanford University Medical Center, Stanford, California, United States
2018 - 2022	Associate Professor, Stanford University, Stanford, California, United States
2017 - 2022	Adjunct Professor, The Johns Hopkins School of Nursing, Baltimore, Maryland, United States
2016 - 2017	Associate Professor, The Johns Hopkins School of Nursing, Baltimore, Maryland, United States
2015 - 2017	Associate Professor, The Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Baltimore, Maryland, United States
2014 - 2017	Associate Professor, The Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center, Baltimore, Maryland, United States
2014 - 2017	Associate Professor, The Johns Hopkins School of Medicine - Department of Anesthesiology, Baltimore, Maryland, United States
2013 - 2017	Core Faculty, The Armstrong Institute for Patient Safety at Johns Hopkins, Baltimore, Maryland, United States
2008 - 2014	Assistant Professor, The Johns Hopkins School of Medicine - Department of Anesthesiology, Baltimore, Maryland, United States
2008 - 2010	Fellow in Research, The Johns Hopkins School of Medicine - Department of Anesthesiology, Baltimore, Maryland, United States
2007 - 2008	Fellow in Critical Care Medicine, The Johns Hopkins School of Medicine - Department of Anesthesiology, Baltimore, Maryland, United States
2004 - 2007	Resident, Massachusetts General Hospital - Department of Anesthesiology, Boston, Massachusetts, United States
2003 - 2004	Intern in Medicine and Surgery, Newton Wellesley Hospital, Newton, Massachusetts, United States

Products**Products Closely Related to the Proposed Project**

- Aslakson RA, Rickerson E, Fahy B, Waterman B, Siden R, Colborn K, Smith S, Verano M, Lira I, Hollahan C, Siddiqi A, Johnson K, Chandrashekar S, Harris E, Nudotor R, Baker J, Heidari SN, Poultides G, Conca-Cheng AM, Cook Chapman A, Lessios AS, Holdsworth LM, Gustin J, Ejaz A, Pawlik T, Miller J, Morris AM, Tulsy JA, Lorenz K, Temel JS, Smith TJ, Johnston F. Effect of Perioperative Palliative Care on Health-Related Quality of Life Among Patients Undergoing Surgery for Cancer: A Randomized Clinical Trial. JAMA Netw Open. 2023 May 1;6(5):e2314660. PubMed Central PMCID:

[PMC10233417](#).

2. Yefimova M, Aslakson RA, Yang L, Garcia A, Boothroyd D, Gale RC, Giannitrapani K, Morris AM, Johanning JM, Shreve S, Wachterman MW, Lorenz KA. Palliative Care and End-of-Life Outcomes Following High-risk Surgery. *JAMA Surg*. 2020 Feb 1;155(2):138-146. PubMed Central PMCID: [PMC6990868](#).
3. Aslakson RA, Isenberg SR, Crossnohere NL, Conca-Cheng AM, Moore M, Bhamidipati A, Mora S, Miller J, Singh S, Swoboda SM, Pawlik TM, Weiss M, Volandes A, Smith TJ, Bridges JFP, Roter DL. Integrating Advance Care Planning Videos into Surgical Oncologic Care: A Randomized Clinical Trial. *J Palliat Med*. 2019 Jul;22(7):764-772. PubMed PMID: [30964385](#).
4. Aslakson RA, Curtis JR, Nelson JE. The changing role of palliative care in the ICU. *Crit Care Med*. 2014 Nov;42(11):2418-28. PubMed Central PMCID: [PMC4695994](#).
5. Aslakson R, Cheng J, Vollenweider D, Galusca D, Smith TJ, Pronovost PJ. Evidence-based palliative care in the intensive care unit: a systematic review of interventions. *J Palliat Med*. 2014 Feb;17(2):219-35. PubMed Central PMCID: [PMC3924791](#).

Other Significant Products Highlighting Contributions to Science

1. Aslakson RA, Siden R, Holdsworth LM, Colborn K, Verano M, Wong BO, Johnston F, Nudotor R, Siddiqi A, Rickerson E, Hollahan C, Fahy B, Lira I, Waterman B, Johnson K, Nasso SF, Tabor H, Schapira L. Cancer treatment shared decision-making and coping during the COVID-19 pandemic (CAN-DECIDE): a mixed-methods study. *BMC Palliat Care*. 2025 Dec 29;24(1):303. PubMed Central PMCID: [PMC12750573](#).
2. Marshall MF, Davis FD, Fogelman PA, Oczkowski S, Reid JC, Arellano D, Aslakson RA, Campbell J, Courtright K, Egressy K, Epstein E, Green E, Hua M, John PR, Kross EK, Martin ND, Melo BA, Muehlschlegel S, Perez-Protto S, Roberts B, Shalev D, Wescoe Singley J, Strickland SL, Korzick KA. Society of Critical Care Medicine Clinical Practice Guidelines on Adult End-of-Life Care in the ICU. *Crit Care Med*. 2025 Dec 1;53(12):e2734-e2746. PubMed PMID: [41342842](#).
3. Hwang DY, Oczkowski SJW, Lewis K, Birriel B, Downar J, Farrier CE, Fiest KM, Gerritsen RT, Hart J, Hartog CS, Heras-La Calle G, Hope AA, Jennerich AL, Kentish-Barnes N, Kleinpell R, Kross EK, Marshall AP, Nydahl P, Peters T, Rosa RG, Scruth E, Sederstrom N, Stollings JL, Turnbull AE, Valley TS, Netzer G, Aslakson RA, Hopkins RO. Society of Critical Care Medicine Guidelines on Family-Centered Care for Adult ICUs: 2024. *Crit Care Med*. 2025 Feb 1;53(2):e465-e482. PubMed PMID: [39982184](#).
4. Verma M, Grudzen CR, Izumi S, Wenger N, El-Jawahri A, Ejem D, Aslakson RA. Palliative Care and Advance Care Planning Intervention Fidelity Monitoring: Methods and Lessons Learned From PCORI-Funded Large-Scale, Pragmatic Clinical Trials. *Med Care*. 2024 Oct 1;62(10):680-692. PubMed Central PMCID: [PMC11373891](#).
5. Davidson JE, Aslakson RA, Long AC, Puntillo KA, Kross EK, Hart J, Cox CE, Wunsch H, Wickline MA, Nunnally ME, Netzer G, Kentish-Barnes N, Sprung CL, Hartog CS, Coombs M, Gerritsen RT, Hopkins RO, Franck LS, Skrobik Y, Kon AA, Scruth EA, Harvey MA, Lewis-Newby M, White DB, Swoboda SM, Cooke CR, Levy MM, Azoulay E, Curtis JR. Guidelines for Family-Centered Care in the Neonatal, Pediatric, and Adult ICU. *Crit Care Med*. 2017 Jan;45(1):103-128. PubMed PMID: [27984278](#).

Certification:

I certify that the information provided is current, accurate, and complete. This includes, but is not limited to, information related to current, pending, and other support (both foreign and domestic) as defined in 42 U.S.C. § 6605.

In accordance with Section 10632 of the CHIPS and Science Act of 2022 (42 U.S.C. § 19232), each individual identified as a senior/key person must certify that they are not a party to a malign foreign talent recruitment program.

Research Security Training Requirement for Federal Award Personnel: In accordance with Section 10634 of the CHIPS and Science Act of 2022 (42 U.S.C. § 19234), each individual identified as a senior/key person must certify that they have completed the requisite research security training that meets the requirements specified in Item 2 of Important Notice No. 149 within 12 months prior to proposal submission.

Misrepresentations and/or omissions may be subject to prosecution and liability pursuant to, but not limited to, 18 U.S.C. §§287, 1001, 1031 and 31 U.S.C. §§3729-3733 and 3802.

Certified by Aslakson, Rebecca Ann in SciENcv on 2026-06-15 14:06:33

NIH BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH SUPPLEMENT

Name: Aslakson, Rebecca Ann

Persistent Identifier (PID) of the Senior/Key Person: <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-7599-0625>

Position Title: Professor with Tenure; Department Chair

Organization and Location: The Larner College of Medicine at the University of Vermont, Burlington, Vermont, United States

Personal Statement

Triple boarded in critical care, anesthesia, and hospice and palliative medicine and with a PhD in clinical research and advanced graduate training in qualitative methods, I am an active clinician, academician, and researcher with content expertise in clinical and pragmatic trials, health services research, and patient-centered outcomes research. I am an internationally-recognized expert in palliative care, family-centered care, and end-of-life care in intensive care units and perioperative care settings. I have been a PI on projects funded through over \$5million in research awards from diverse funders (i.e., PCORI, AHRQ, The National Palliative Care Research Center, Johns Hopkins University, and the Stanford University Department of Anesthesiology, Perioperative, and Pain Medicine). This has included a recent large pragmatic trial funded through PCORI "A Multicenter, Randomized Controlled Trial of Perioperative Palliative Care Surrounding Cancer Surgery for Patients and their Family Members (the PERIOP-PC trial)". In my current position at the University of Vermont, I am Chair of the Department of Anesthesiology and a Professor with Tenure; with this position, I inherently have 20% of my time available for research and academic activities and which the majority I devote to direct mentoring of emerging and/or early career reserachers.

Mentorship Record: Over the nearly two decades since completing fellowship training and the 15 years since finishing my PhD work, I have mentored or co-mentored 38 individuals. These include: Fabian Johnston MD (Professor, Chair of Department of Surgery, Wake Forest University); Adjoa Boateng MD, MPH (Assistant Professor, Duke University); Rachel Hadler (Assistant Professor, Emory University); Sarina Isenberg PhD, MA (Assistant Professor, University of Ottawa, Bruyere Research Institute); William (Gabe) Tharp MD, PhD (Associate Professor, University of Vermont); and Susan D. Emmett MD MPH (Endowed Professor, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences). I have mentored many individuals into further extramural research funding (K awards, R awards, and PCORI awards) as well as co-published with mentees in high-impact sub-specialty journals (JAMA Network Open, Critical Care Medicine, JAMA Surgery, Journal of Pain and Symptom Management, Journal of Palliative Medicine, and the American Journal of Bioethics).

Honors

2024	Burchardi Award which recognizes a critical care anesthesiologist who has "made considerable contributions to the specialty, not necessarily in terms of research but especially in terms of ability to motivate and touch people", Joint between the Society of Critical Care Anesthesiology and the Society of Critical Care Medicine
2024	Shubin-Weil Master Clinician/Teacher: Excellence in Bedside Teaching Award, The Society of Critical Care Medicine
2019	The Grenvik Family Award for Ethics, The Society of Critical Care Medicine
2017	Resident Research Mentor Award, The Johns Hopkins School of Medicine - Department of Anesthesiology
2017	Distinguished Alumni Award, The Johns Hopkins University
2015	Early Career Investigator Award, The American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
2015	"40 under 40" National Inspirational Leader in Palliative Care, The American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
2014	Presidential Scholar Award - Given once annually to premier Early Career Researcher in 52,000 members society; I was first female recipient ever to receive the award, The American Society of Anesthesiology
2013	Clinician Scientist Award, The Johns Hopkins School of Medicine
2013	Outstanding New Educational Program Award, Institute for Educational Excellence
2010	Subspecialty Board-Certification in Hospice and Palliative Medicine, The American Board of Anesthesiology
2008	Subspecialty Board-Certification in Critical Care Medicine, The American Board of Anesthesiology
2008	Board-Certification in Anesthesiology, The American Board of Anesthesiology
2008	Excellence in Teaching Surgical Critical Care, The Johns Hopkins Hospital

Contributions to Science

1. Critical care and ICU-based palliative care – A major research focus is improving delivery of palliative care to ICU patients and their families. I am an internationally-recognized leader and content expert with my research work exploring ways to improve delivery of effective patient- and family-centered care and palliative care in the ICU.
 - a) Hwang DY, Oczkowski SJW, Lewis K, Birriel B, Downar J, Farrier CE, Fiest KM, Gerritsen RT, Hart J, Hartog CS, Heras-La Calle G, Hope AA, Jennerich AL, Kentish-Barnes N, Kleinpell R, Kross EK, Marshall AP, Nydahl P, Peters T, Rosa RG, Scruth E, Sederstrom N, Stollings JL, Turnbull AE, Valley TS, Netzer G, Aslakson RA, Hopkins RO. Society of Critical Care Medicine Guidelines on Family-Centered Care for Adult ICUs. *Crit Care Med* 2025; 53(2):e465-e482. PMID: 39982184
 - b) Meissen H, Gong MN, Wong AKI, Zimmerman JJ, Nadkarni N, Kane-Gil S, Amador-Castaneda J, Bailey H, Brown SM, DePriest AD, Eche IM, Narayan M, Provencio JJ, Sederstrom NO, Sevransky J, Tremper J, Aslakson RA. The Future of Critical Care: Optimizing Technologies and a Learning Healthcare System to Potentiate a More Humanistic Approach to Clinical Care. Written on behalf of the Society of Critical Care Medicine's Future of Critical Care Task Force. *Crit Care Explorations* 2022 Mar 15; 4(3):e0659. PMID: 35308462
 - c) Aslakson RA, Cox CE, Baggs JG, Curtis JR. Palliative and end-of-life care: prioritizing compassion within the ICU and beyond. *Crit Care Med* 2021; 49(10):1626-1637. PMID: 34325446. **50th anniversary article for Society of Critical Care Medicine and journal Critical Care Medicine, where world-experts on sixteen topics essential for critical care practice were invited to provide articles.**
2. Perioperative palliative care in surgery – A major research focus is improving delivery of palliative care to surgical patient populations. An internationally recognized content expert with research work exploring both primary and specialist palliative care delivery models, I led the first multi-site RCT integrating specialist palliative care into perioperative care (NCT03611309).
 - a) Holdsworth LM, Siden R, Lessios AS, Verano M, Rickerson E, Fahy B, Johnston FM, Waterman B, Aslakson R. Patient experiences of specialty palliative care in the perioperative period for cancer surgery. *J Pain Symptom Manage* 2024; 68(3):292-298. PMID: 38906425
 - b) Aslakson RA, Rickerson E, Fahy B, Siden R, Colborn K, Smith S, Verano M, Lira I, Hallahan C, Siddiqi A, Johnson K, Chandrashekar S, Harris E, Nudotor R, Baker J, Heidari SN, Poultsides G, Conca-Chen AM, Chapman AC, Lessios AS, Holdsworth LM, Gustin J, Ejaz A, Pawlik T, Miller J, Morris AM, Tulsy JA, Lorenz K, Temel JS, Smith TS, Johnston F. Effect of perioperative palliative care on health-related quality of life among patients undergoing surgery for cancer: a randomized clinical trial. *JAMA Network Open* 2023;6(5):e2314660. doi:10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2023.14660. PMID: 37256623.
 - c) Yefimova M, Aslakson RA, Yang L, Garcia A, Boothroyd D, Gale RC, Giannitrapani K, Morris AM, Johanning JM, Shreve S, Wachterman MW, Lorenz KA. Palliative care and end-of-life outcomes following high-risk surgery. *JAMA Surgery* 2020; 155(2): 128-46. PMID: 31895424.
 - d) Aslakson RA, Isenberg SR, Crossnohere NL, Conca-Cheng AM, Moore M, Bhamidipati A, Mora S, Miller J, Singh S, Swoboda SM, Pawlik TM, Weiss M, Volandes AE, Smith TJ, Bridges JFP, Roter DL. Integrating advance care planning videos into surgical oncology care: a randomized clinical trial. *J Palliat Med* 2019; 58(4):721-734. PMID: 30964385.
3. Palliative care outcomes research – I am a content expert on palliative care interventions and palliative care outcomes research in both community and hospital-based settings. I have been a co-PI and co-I on two AHRQ-funded projects specifically related to palliative care interventions and palliative care assessment tools.
 - a) Aslakson R, Dy SM, Wilson RF, Waldfogel JM, Zhang A, Isenberg SR, Blair A, Sixon J, Robinson KA. Assessment Tools for Palliative Care. Technical Brief No. 30 (Prepared by the Johns Hopkins University under Contract. No. 290-2015-00006-I.) AHRQ Publication No. 14-17-EHC007-EF. Rockville, MD: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality; May 2017. effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/reports/final.cfm; doi: doi.org/10.23970/AHRQEPCTB30. PMID: 28837305.
 - b) Aslakson RA, Dy SM, Wilson RF, Waldfogel J, Zhang A, Isenberg SR, Blair A, Sixon J, Lorenz KA, Robinson KA. Patient- and caregiver-reported assessment tools for palliative care: Summary of the 2017 Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality Technical Brief. *J Pain Symptom Manage* 2017; 54(6):961-72. PMID: 28818633.
 - c) Dy SM, Aslakson RA, Wilson RF, Fawole OA, Lau BD, Martinez KA, Vollenweider D, Apostol C, Bass EB. Interventions to improve health care and palliative care for advanced and serious illness. Closing the Quality Gap: Revisiting the State of the Science. Evidence Report No. 208. (Prepared by the Johns Hopkins University Evidence-based Practice Center under Contract. No. 290-2007-10061-I.) AHRQ Publication No. 12-E014-EF. Rockville, MD: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. October 2012. effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/reports/final.cfm; PMC4781402, PMID: 24423021.

4. Patient centered outcomes research – I am a national leader in patient-centered outcomes research (PCOR), particularly concerning palliative care and advance care planning. Even before the development of the Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI), I was partnering with patients and family members to develop research questions, conduct studies, analyze results, and disseminate findings. Supportive of this dedication, PCORI has supported my research work through >\$5 million in funding.

a) Aslakson RA, Siden R, Holdsworth LM, Colborn K, Verano M, Wong BO, Johnston F, Nudotor R, Siddiqui A, Rickerson E, Hollahan C, Fahy B, Lira I, Waterman B, Johnson K, Nasso SF, Tabor H, Schapira L. Cancer treatment shared decision-making and coping during the COVID-19 pandemic (CAN-DECIDE): a mixed methods study. *BMC Palliat Care* 2025; 24(1):303. PMID: 41466257.

b) Verma M, Grudzen CR, Izumi S, Wenger N, El-Jawahri A, Ejem D, Aslakson RA. Palliative care and advance care planning intervention fidelity monitoring: methods and lessons learned from PCORI-funded large-scale, pragmatic clinical trials. *Med Care* 2024; 62(10):680-692. PMID: 39245816

c) Aslakson RA, Schuster ALR, Lynch TJ, Weiss MJ, Gregg L, Miller J, Isenberg SR, Crossnohere NL, Conca-Cheng AM, Volandes AE, Smith TJ, Bridges JFP. Developing the storyline for an advance care planning video for surgery patients: patient-centered outcomes research engagement from stakeholder summit to state fair. *J Palliat Med* 2018; 21(1):89-94. PMID: 28817359.

d) Hendricks Sloan D, Peters T, Johnson KS, Bowie JV, Ting Y, Aslakson RA. Church-based health promotion focused on advance care planning and end-of-life care at Black Baptist churches: a cross sectional survey. *J Pall Med* 2016; 19(2):190-4. PMID: 26840855

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