
BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

NAME Alexandra Brînzaniuc	POSITION TITLE Research Assistant
CONTACT 7 Pandurilor St, Cluj-Napoca, Romania Telephone: (+40)745773697; Fax: (+40)264402215 alexandra.brinzaniuc@publichealth.ro	INSTITUTIONAL AFFILIATION Center for Health Policy and Public Health, Institute for Social Research, Faculty of Political, Administrative and Communication Sciences, Babes-Bolyai University, Cluj, Romania
NATIONALITY Romanian	
GENDER Female	

EDUCATION / TRAINING

INSTITUTION AND LOCATION	DEGREE	YEAR(s)	FIELD OF STUDY
“Unirea” National College, Tg. Mureș, Romania	Baccalaureate	2001-2005	Philology – English
Babeș-Bolyai University Cluj-Napoca, Romania	BA	2005-2008	Communication Sciences
Babeș-Bolyai University Cluj-Napoca, Romania	MA	2008-2011	Health Management and Health Policy
Babeș-Bolyai University Cluj-Napoca, Romania	MRes	2008-2012	Research Design and Data Analysis in Social Sciences
University of Warwick, UK	PhD	2012-2016	Health and Social Studies

A. PERSONAL STATEMENT

Alexandra Brinzaniuc is a research assistant within the Center for Health Policy and Public Health, Babes-Bolyai University Cluj-Napoca. Her main field of expertise is maternal and child health, with a specific focus on the study of the social determinants of health, health inequalities and tobacco control. Recently, her research activity focused on maternal and child health from the perspective of psychosocial stress during pregnancy (the MAIA cohort study), the prevention of postnatal smoking relapse (the PRISM study), prevention of children’s exposure to secondhand tobacco smoke (the ETS-KIDS study) and social inequalities in children’s exposure to secondhand tobacco smoke (the SHINE study). She is currently enrolled in a PhD program on health and social studies within the University of Warwick, UK focusing on health inequalities and children’s exposure to secondhand tobacco smoke in Romania.

B. PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2008-2009 Research Technician, Center for Health Policy and Public Health, Institute for Social Research, Faculty of Political, Administrative and Communication Sciences, Babeş-Bolyai University Cluj-Napoca, Romania.
- 2009-2011 Affiliate researcher, Department of Epidemiology, College of Public Health, University of Iowa, Iowa City, USA.
- 2009-present Research Assistant, Center for Health Policy and Public Health, Institute for Social Research, Faculty of Political, Administrative and Communication Sciences, Babeş-Bolyai University Cluj-Napoca, Romania.

C. HONORS

- 2011 Fogarty Iowa Non-Communicable Chronic Diseases Research Training Program in Romania, College of Public Health, University of Iowa, USA.
- 2009 Fogarty International Trauma and Injury Prevention Training Program, College of Public Health, University of Iowa, USA.
- 2007 Leonardo da Vinci Scholarship, Genova, Italy - “Students’ Training In Public Policies By A Transnational Consortium Within The EU With A View To The Specialized Vocational Training”

D. PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATION

- 2009 - 2010 American Public Health Association (APHA) - Member
- 2010-present European Public Health Association (EUPHA) - Member
- 2013-2014 COST Action ISO907 Childbirth Cultures, Concerns and Consequences: Creating a dynamic EU framework for optimal maternity care (Management Committee Substitute Member)

E. RESEARCH ACTIVITY

NAME OF THE PROJECT	POSITION	FUNDER	AMOUNT	PERIOD
<i>Health inequalities and children’s exposure to secondhand tobacco smoke: assessing the social determinants of infant and young children’s exposure (SHINE)</i>	Principal Investigator	Babes-Bolyai University – internal grant	4,500 Euro	2013-2014
<i>A social marketing intervention to prevent smoking uptake among Romanian adolescents: a pilot study in Cluj-Napoca, Romania (SMART)</i>	Co-Investigator	University of Iowa - Fogarty International Center	5,000 USD	2013-2014

<i>Postnatal smoking relapse, its associated risk factors, and a proactive sustainable preventive intervention (PRISM)</i>	Research Assistant	Romanian Ministry of Education and Research – PN II TE Program	213,779 Euro	2012-2015
<i>Advancing maternal and child health in Romania: an integrated assessment of the determinants of pregnancy outcomes (MAIA)</i>	Research Assistant	Romanian Ministry of Education and Research – PN II Ideas Program	387,521 Euro	2011-2014
<i>Children’s Exposure to Environmental Tobacco Smoke in Romania – a Pilot project in Cluj County (ETS-KIDS)</i>	Co- Investigator	University of Michigan – Fogarty International Center	5,000 USD	2010-2011
<i>Pediatric Injury Prevention in Romania International Conference Grant</i>	Project Coordinator	University of Iowa - Fogarty International Center	2,500 USD	2010
<i>Increasing access to high quality primary prevention services for children and adolescents in Romania: healthy eating and physical inactivity.</i>	Research Assistant	Innovation Norway	1,300,000 Euro	2009-2011
<i>Access to Health Information in Rural Areas in Transylvania, Romania (ACCES)</i>	Research Assistant	Romanian Ministry of Education and Research – PN II Ideas Program	225,000 Euro	2009-2012
<i>Skin Cancer Environmental Risk Factors: Sun exposure behaviors of children and parental attitudes within urban settings: A comparative pilot study in Romania and Slovakia (HIDEnSEEK)</i>	Research Assistant	University of Iowa – Fogarty International Center	5,000 USD	2009-2010
<i>Informational System for the Identification and Description of Adverse Reactions Detected by Intensively Monitoring Hospitalized Patients, with the Goal of Rational Use of Medication (INFORAD)</i>	Research Assistant	Romanian Ministry of Education and Research – PN II Partnership Program	600,000 Euro	2008-2011

<i>Rural Risk Assessment: Child Injury in a Roma Community (LUMINITA)</i>	Research Assistant	University of Iowa – Injury Prevention and Research Center	15,000 USD	2009-2010
<i>Cluj Infant Feeding Study</i>	Research Assistant	Babeş-Bolyai University	2,000 USD	2006 – 2007

F. RELEVANT PUBLICATIONS

1. Publications in extenso:

Pop M.O, **Brînzaniuc A**, Şirlincan E.O., Baba C.O., Cherecheş R.M. 2013. Assessing health literacy in rural settings: A pilot study in rural areas of Cluj County, Romania. *Global Health Promotion* [*in press*]

Wallis, A; **Brînzaniuc, A.**; Oprescu F.; Cherecheş, R.; Muresan, M.; Dungy, CI. 2011. A structured public health approach to increasing rates and duration of breastfeeding in Romania, *Breastfeeding Medicine*, 6(6): 429-432.

Cherecheş, RM.; **Brînzaniuc, A.**; Ungureanu, M.; Baba, CO. 2011. Supporting an integrated approach for health promotion and primary care in rural settings through adequate legal framework, *Transylvanian Review of Administrative Sciences*, 34(E):40-48.

Baba, C.; **Brînzaniuc, A.**;Şirlincan, E.; Cherecheş, R. 2010. Promoting health in rural Transylvania, Romania; a descriptive analysis of health promotion activities, *Central European Journal of Public Health*, 4: 198-201.

Baba, C.; **Brînzaniuc, A.**;Şirlincan, E.; Cherecheş, R. 2010. Access to health information in rural areas: the implementation of the libraries law 334/2002 in Transylvania, Romania, *Transylvanian Review of Administrative Sciences*, 29(E):30-39.

Baba, C.; Cherecheş, R.; **Brînzaniuc, A.**; Rus, D. 2008. Assessment of the Reforms of the Romanian Healthcare System, *Transylvanian Review of Administrative Sciences*, 24(E):15-26.

Wallis, A.; **Brînzaniuc, A.**; Cherecheş, R.; Oprescu, F.; Şirlincan, E.; David I.; Dîrle, I.A.; Dungy, C. 2008. Reliability and validity of the Romanian version of a scale to measure infant feeding attitudes and knowledge. *Acta Paediatrica*. 97:1194-1199.

Baba, C.; Cherecheş, R.; **Brînzaniuc, A.**; Moşteanu, O. 2007. Using standardized health consumer indicators as policy development tool. 2007. *Transylvanian Review of Administrative Sciences*. 20(E):5-12.

Wallis, A.; Cherecheş, R.; Oprescu, F.; **Brînzaniuc, A.**; Dungy, C. 2007. An international model for staffing maternal and child health research: The use of undergraduate students. *Breastfeeding Medicine*. 2(3):139-44.

2. Book chapters:

Brînzaniuc A. (2011). The Romanian Ombudsman and Human Rights for Individuals with Disabilities in *Law in Action: Case Studies in Good Governance*, Dragos, Neamtu & Hamlin (eds), Institute for Public Policy and Social Research, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan, Proaction Institute Publications: Michigan, USA.

3. Conference proceedings:

Brînzaniuc A., Pop O.M., Rus I.A., Cherecheș R.M., Wallis A.B. 2013. Prevalence and determinants of prenatal depression symptoms in a Romanian sample of pregnant women: a comparative analysis across socioeconomic groups. Supplement of the European Journal of Public Health, 23(1), doi: 10.1093/eurpub/ckt126.215

Pop O.M., **Brînzaniuc A.**, Suciuc A.M., Cherecheș R.M. 2013. Gender differences in attitudes towards smoking among Romanian adolescent: the role of smoking status. Supplement of the European Journal of Public Health, 23(1), doi: 10.1093/eurpub/ckt123.176

Pop O.M., **Brînzaniuc A.**, Rus I.A., Baciu B., Cherecheș R.M. 2012. Predictors of smoking intentions among adolescents: a comparative analysis between never, current, and experimental smokers. Supplement of the European Journal of Public Health, 22 (2): 221

Negura D.N., **Brînzaniuc A.**, Suciuc A.M., Pop O.M., Vladut C., Cherecheș R.M., Wallis A.B. 2012. Maternal lifestyles and risk factors for adverse pregnancy outcomes: a pilot study in Cluj-Napoca, Romania, Supplement of the European Journal of Public Health, 22 (2): 279

Brînzaniuc A.; Cherecheș R.M.; Rus I.A.; Suciuc A.M.; Dușe I.A.; Pop O.M. 2011. Are tweens safe at home from second-hand tobacco smoke exposure? Evidence from Eastern Europe. Supplement of the European Journal of Public Health, 21(Suppl 1).

Baba C.O.; **Brînzaniuc A.**; Rus I.A.; Negura D.; Marushkova L.; Cherecheș R.M. 2011. Sun exposure behaviors in children and parental attitudes: a pilot study in Romania and Slovakia. Supplement of the European Journal of Public Health, 21(Suppl 1).

Brînzaniuc, A.; Baba, C.; Șirlincan, E.; Cherecheș, R. Primary health care services and health promotion in rural Transylvania, Romania: perspectives for intergrated approaches. Supplement of the European Journal of Public Health, 20(1):77.

Brînzaniuc, A.; Baber-Wallis, A.; Chereches, R.M.; Oprescu, F & Dungy, C.I. 2010. Breastfeeding attitudes, knowledge and behavioral intention among pregnant women in Cluj county. "Poster presentations (in alphabetical order by first author)", Psychology & Health, 25:6, 137-376.

Zlati, A.; **Brînzaniuc, A.**; Vladu, C.; Domnariu, C. & Băban, A. 2010. Unhealthy weight control behavior in Romanian school children. "Poster presentations (in alphabetical order by first author)", Psychology & Health, 25:6, 137-376.

G. CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

2013 - **Brînzaniuc A.**, Pop O.M., Rus I.A., Cherecheș R.M., Wallis A.B. Brînzaniuc A., Pop O.M., Rus I.A., Cherecheș R.M., Wallis A.B. Prevalence and determinants of prenatal depression symptoms in a Romanian sample of pregnant women: a comparative analysis across socioeconomic groups. Presenting author: Alexandra Brînzaniuc

2013 - Pop O.M., **Brînzaniuc A.**, Suciuc A.M., Cherecheș R.M. 6th European Public Health Conference, Brussels, Belgium. Gender differences in attitudes towards smoking among Romanian adolescent: the role of smoking status – Moderated poster presentation. Presenting author: Oana Pop

2012 – Pop O.M., **Brînzaniuc A.**, Baciu B., Suciuc A.M., Cherecheș R.M. American Public Health Association 140th Annual Meeting & Exposition, San Francisco, CA, *Improving the life of current and future generations: Exploring risk and protective factors for smoking experimentation among Romanian adolescents* – poster presentation. Presenting author: Oana Pop

2012 - Pop O.M., **Brînzaniuc A.**, Rus I.A., Baciu B., Cherecheș R.M. European Public Health Association – All inclusive public health, Portomaso, St. Jullian's, Malta, *Predictors of smoking intentions among adolescents: a comparative analysis between never, current, and experimental smokers* – poster presentation. Presenting author: Alexandra Brînzaniuc

2012 - Negura D.N., **Brînzaniuc A.**, Suciuc A.M., Pop O.M., Vladut C., Cherecheș R.M., Wallis A.B. European Public Health Association – All inclusive public health, Portomaso, St. Jullian's, Malta, *Maternal lifestyles and risk factors for adverse pregnancy outcomes: a pilot study in Cluj-Napoca, Romania* – poster presentation. Presenting author: Alexandra Brînzaniuc

2012 – Marton-Vasarhelyi O., Pop O.M., **Brînzaniuc A.**, Cherecheș R.M. TEMPUS – Public Health and Social Services: Education and Practice, Tbilisi, Georgia, *The role of local libraries in improving access to health-related information in rural settings: evidence from Cluj-Napoca, Romania* – Oral presentation. Presenting author: Marton-Vasarhelyi Oana Emanuela

2011 – Ungureanu M.; **Brînzaniuc A.**; Pop O.M.; Șirlincan, E.; Cherecheș R.M.; Baba C.O. Relația Medic-Pacient în Mediul Rural – Implicații pentru Programele de Profilaxie, *The Second Regional Conference of Family Physicians, Cluj-Napoca, România, September 22-24 2011* – oral presentation.

2011 - **Brînzaniuc A.**; Cherecheș R.M.; Rus I.A.; Suciuc A.M.; Dușe I.A.; Pop O.M. 2011. Are tweens safe at home from second-hand tobacco smoke exposure? Evidence from Eastern Europe. 4th European Public Health Conference, Copenhagen, Denmark, *Public Health and Welfare - Welfare Development and Health Copenhagen, 9–12 November 2011*– poster presentation.

2011- Baba C.O.; **Brînzaniuc A.**; Rus I.A.; Negura D.; Marushkova L.; Cherecheș R.M. 2011. Sun exposure behaviors in children and parental attitudes: a pilot study in Romania and Slovakia. 4th European Public Health Conference, Copenhagen, Denmark, *Public Health and Welfare - Welfare Development and Health Copenhagen, 9–12 November 2011*– poster presentation.

2011 - Flannery K., **Brînzaniuc A.**, Pop. O. Global Health Conference – Advancing health equity in the 21st Century, Montreal, Canada, Initial evaluation of health literacy in rural Romania – poster presentation.

2011 – Negură, D.M.; **Brînzaniuc, A.**; Rus, I.A.; Baba, C.O.; Cherecheș, R.M. 2011. *American Public Health Association Conference, Washington DC, USA*, Healthy children, healthy communities: exploring children's sun protection behaviors and policies in Romanian kindergartens – moderated panel presentation.

2011- Negură D.N., **Brînzaniuc A.**, Rus I.A., Cherecheș R.M. Children's sun protection behaviors and policies in Romanian kindergartens: A pilot study in Cluj-Napoca, *12th International Congress for Medical students and Young Health Professionals, Cluj-Napoca, Romania* – oral presentation

2011 - Pop O.M., **Brînzaniuc A.**, Şirlincan O., Baba O. Assessing health literacy in rural settings: a pilot study in rural areas of Cluj county, Romania, *12th International Congress for Medical students and Young Health Professionals, Cluj-Napoca, Romania* – oral presentation.

2010 – **Brînzaniuc, A.**; Baba, C.; Şirlincan, E.; Cherecheş, R. Public Health Perspectives in Central and Southeastern Europe in XXI Century International Conference, Novi-Sad, Serbia, *Access to health information in rural settings and libraries' role in Transylvania, Romania* – oral presentation.

2010 - **Brînzaniuc, A.**; Baba, C.; Şirlincan, E.; Cherecheş, R. 3rd Joint European Public Health Conference, Amsterdam, The Netherlands, *Primary health care services and health promotion in rural Transylvania, Romania: perspectives for intergrated approaches* – oral presentation.

2010 - Zlati, A.; **Brînzaniuc, A.**; Vladu, C.; Domnariu, C. & Băban, A. 2010. 24th European Health Psychology Conference – Health In Context, Cluj-Napoca, Romania, *Unhealthy weight control behavior in Romanian school children* – poster presentation.

2009 – Wallis A., **Brinzaniuc A.**, Coman A., Oprescu F., Chereches R., Dungy C. 15th Maternal and Child Helath Epidemiolog Conference, CDC Sponsored, Tampa, FL, USA, *Projectul Luminita: A pilot study of pediatric injury risk in a Roma community* – oral presentation.

2009 – Oprescu F., Peek-Asa C., Wallis A., Young T., Nour D., Chereches M.R., **Brinzaniuc A.** American Public Health Association Conference, Philadelphia, PA, USA, *Pediatric poisoning control – results and recommendations from an emergency department injury registry* – poster presentation.

2009 – **Brinzaniuc A.**, Ticlau T.C., Dirle A.I., Baba C.O., Chereches M.R. American Public Health Association Conference, Philadelphia, PA, USA, *Evaluating exposure to second-hand tobacco smoke in Cluj-Napoca, Romania* – poster presentation.

2009 – Majdan M., Coman A., Gallova E., Duricov J., Bosak L., **Brinzaniuc A.** International Society of Exposure Science Conference, Mineapolis, MN, USA, *Biomass use and indoor air quality in roma villages in Slovakia and Romania – Results from the IARQ-ROMA Study* – oral presentation.

2009 – Wallis A., **Brinzaniuc A.**, Coman A., Oprescu F., Dungy C. Summer Institute on Health and the Built Environment, Cluj-Napoca, Romania, *Pediatric injury risk in a Roma community* – oral presentation.

2009 –Ticlau T., **Brinzaniuc A.** Summer Institute on Health and the Built Environment, Cluj-Napoca, Romania, *Exposure to Environmental Tobacco Smoke in Cluj-Napoca. A pilot study* – oral presentation.

2007 - Oprescu F. MD MPH, Wallis A. MHS PhD, Dungy C. MD MPH, Cherecheş R. MD MS, **Brînzaniuc A.** Maternal and Child Health Epidemiology Conference, CDC sponsored, Atlanta Georgia USA, *Breastfeeding Attitudes, Knowledge, And Behaviors Of Romanian Mothers* - oral presentation.

2007 - Oprescu F. MD MPH, Wallis A. MHS PhD, Dungy C. MD MPH, Cherecheş R. MD MS, **Brînzaniuc A.** Maternal and Child Health Epidemiology Conference, CDC sponsored, Atlanta Georgia USA, *Breastfeeding Attitudes, Knowledge, And Behaviors Of Romanian Mothers* – poster presentation.

H. Language skills

English – Advanced

Hungarian - Intermediate

Italian – Beginner

German – Beginner