

Sameena Koirala, BA

Business Address: 680 N. Lake Shore Dr. Suite 1400
Chicago, IL 60611
Email: sameena.koirala@northwestern.edu

NARRATIVE OF EXPERTISE

Research data analyst with experience supporting multi-site clinical and longitudinal studies in academic medical settings. My work focuses on REDCap database development, data pipeline automation, and ensuring data quality through validation and query systems. I develop data dashboards and operational reports to support study operations and improve data integrity. I primarily use R and SAS, with experience in SQL, Python, and ArcGIS, as well as database design, API integration, and longitudinal data analysis. My work spans clinical trials, medical social science research, and data coordinating center environments.

EDUCATION

Expected 2027	Northwestern University: Data Science, MS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concentration: Data Engineering
2023-2023	Harvard University Extension School: Data Science Graduate Coursework <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coursework: Statistical Modeling with R; Introduction to Computer Science with Python; Foundations of Data Science and Engineering
2017-2021	Grinnell College: Biology, BA

TRAINING

2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CITI: Information Privacy Security (IPS) - HIPAA, Security and Privacy CITI: Good Clinical Practice CITI: Human Research Protections (IRB) Basic
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POSITIONS HELD

2025-Present	Research Data Analyst Associate, Northwestern University Data Analysis and Coordinating Center (NUACC), Northwestern University, Chicago, IL <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop and maintain REDCap databases for multiple clinical studies (e.g., LCN, ASPIRIN, Premedia, PARASOL-APOL1), including instrument design and database structure Build automated R pipelines to generate analytic datasets and enable cross-project data integration for biospecimen inventory and adjudication workflows Develop query systems to identify inconsistencies and missing data Create site performance dashboards and data reports to support study operations
2023-2025	Research Data Analyst Associate, Institute for Sexual and Gender Minority Health and Wellbeing (ISGMH), Northwestern University, Chicago, IL <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensured quality assurance, organization, and processing of data through development of SAS and R programs for the RADAR project, a prominent longitudinal study in the medical-social sciences domain Conducted quantitative and qualitative analyses of study operations, including participant retention numbers, visit timestamps, visit types, and participant data to identify strengths and weaknesses and optimize study flow and structure

- Built and revised REDCap data entry forms, reports, and surveys for research staff and participants
- 2022-2023 **Clinical Research Coordinator**, *Project WISH*, University of Illinois in Chicago, Chicago, IL
- Acted as liaison between PI, regulatory coordinators, sponsors, study nurses, lab staff, and patients for the 260-participant Chicagoland site of the Moderna mRNA-1273-P301 COVID-19 vaccine treatment trial study
 - Delegated roles for a 5-person team and performed patient visits and blood draws for sample collection during months with 30+ patient appointments per week
 - Ensured research operations complied with established protocols, regulatory and monitoring agency standards, and grant sponsor guidelines by managing patient records, resolving data queries, and reporting protocol deviations
- 2021-2022 **Clinical Research Assistant**, *Project WISH*, University of Illinois in Chicago, Chicago, IL
- Assisted researchers with patient data collection and data entry
 - Prepared and organized patient blood, swab, and saliva samples to the lab for processing
 - Worked as telephone operator and clinic greeter at front desk

PUBLICATIONS

Basnet S, **Koirala S**, Pandey B, et al. (2020 Jul 1) COVID-19 containment efforts of a low-resource nation: the first four months in Nepal. *Cureus*. 12(7):e8946. doi:10.7759/cureus.8946

Koirala J, Tyagi I, Guntupalli L, **Koirala S**, Chapagain U, Quarshie C, Akram S, Sundareshan V, Koirala S, Lawhorn J, Doi Y, Olson M. (2020 Jan 26) OXA-23 and OXA-40 producing carbapenem-resistant *Acinetobacter baumannii* in Central Illinois. *Diagn Microbiol Infect Dis*. 97(1):114999. doi:10.1016/j.diagmicrobio.2020.114999

TEACHING

- Aug-Dec 2019 **Laboratory Teaching Assistant**, Charvann Bailey, PhD, Grinnell College, Grinnell, IA
- Class title: *Bio 251: Molecules, Cells, and Organisms*
 - Assisted students with lab technique, data analysis, and understanding material
 - Helped professor set up and clean up lab

COMMUNITY / PUBLIC SERVICE

- 2021-2022 **Volunteer**, *Residential Hospice*, Downers Grove, IL
- 2019 **Volunteer Tutor**, *Connecting Grinnellians Tutoring Program*, Grinnell, IA
- Summer 2018 **Hospital & Community Volunteer**, *International Health and Development Network*, Ghana
- 2013-2020 **Volunteer**, *America Nepal Medical Foundation*, USA and Nepal

TECHNICAL AND SPECIALIZED SKILLS

Software & Programming: Microsoft Office, Google Workspace, REDCap, SQL, R, SAS, ArcGIS, Python (basic)

Data & Analytical Skills: Data cleaning and validation, Longitudinal data handling, Query development, Quality assurance, Database design, Data pipelines, Exploratory data analyses, Clinical research practices

Relevant Coursework: Python for Data Analysis, Math for Modelers, Project Management, Applied Statistics with R, Database Systems, Practical Machine Learning, Decision Analytics