

# NATALIA BABENKO

Fulbright Scholar

University of South Florida  
School of Aging Studies | College of Behavioral and Community Sciences  
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[LinkedIn](#)

## EDUCATION

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- 2023 - Present    **Ph.D. in Aging Studies**, University of South Florida  
Advisor: William E. Haley, Ph.D.
- 2021 - 2023      **Graduate Certificate**, Health Management and Leadership, University of South Florida
- 2021 - 2023      **Master of Public Health**, University of South Florida  
Concentration: Global Health Practice
- 2012 - 2013      **Master of Chemistry and Teaching**, Donetsk National University, Ukraine  
Concentration: Analytical Chemistry
- 2008 - 2012      **Bachelor of Chemistry**, Donetsk National University, Ukraine  
Concentration: Analytical Chemistry

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

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Preventing Alzheimer's disease and related dementias  
Social connection & engagement  
Health behavior & cognition of older adults  
Mental health of cancer survivors

## PUBLICATIONS

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### *Peer-Reviewed Journal Publications*

Alemasova, N., **Babenko, N.**, Alemasova, A. (2016). Electrothermal Atomic Absorption Determination of Gold in Iron-Containing Materials Following Dispersion Microextraction Concentration. *Industrial laboratory. Diagnostics of materials*, 82(7), 21-25.  
[https://www.zldm.ru/jour/article/view/272?locale=en\\_US](https://www.zldm.ru/jour/article/view/272?locale=en_US)

***Manuscripts in Progress***

**Babenko, N.,** Elayoubi, J., & Haley, W. (2024). Depressive Symptoms in Cancer Survivors and Controls over Time: The Role of Social Connection and Engagement.

**Babenko, N.,** Kranz, N., Haley, W., Dobbs, D., Bojorge, S., Perdiguero, L., & Bastardo, J. (2024). Risk Factors for Anxiety, Depression, and PTSD in Healthcare Workers During the Covid-19 Pandemic: A Multi-State Exploratory Qualitative Study.

Unni, M., **Babenko, N.,** Santana, L., & Yadav, H. (2024). Geroscience-based Targets to Delay Aging and its Related Conditions: A Drug Approach.

**HONORS AND AWARDS**

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2023	<b>Outstanding Student Organization Award,</b> University of South Florida
2022	<b>Edmund S. Muskie Professional Fellowship Program,</b> U.S. Department of State
2022	<b>Florida Public Health Student Scholarship,</b> University of South Florida
2021 - 2023	<b>International Student Book Scholarship,</b> University of South Florida
2021 - 2023	<b>Fulbright Scholarship,</b> U.S. Department of State

**Editorial and REVIEWER Tasks**

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Ad hoc reviewer, *Preventing Chronic Disease Journal*, 2023

**OTHER RESEARCH AND COMPUTER SKILLS**

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Programming Languages: Statistical Analysis Software (SAS), SPSS, ChemStat,

Data Analytic Skills: Quantitative and qualitative data analysis

Software Experience: Microsoft Office, Zoom, ChemDraw, BioRender, Atlas.ti

Management: EndNote

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

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2023 - 2024	<b>University of South Florida,</b> Tampa, FL <b>Graduate Teaching Assistant,</b> <i>GEY 4612: Psychology of Aging</i> (undergraduate class)
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***Guest Lectures***

Memory & Attention, Psychology of Aging (GEY 4612), Fall 2023, University of South Florida

Health Benefits of Social Engagement: Banishing Loneliness and Social Isolation,

Psychology of Aging (GEY 4612), Spring 2024, University of South Florida

Health Benefits of Social Engagement: Addressing Loneliness and Social Isolation, January 2024, University of South Florida, OLLI-USF

## **PRESENTATIONS AND INVITED LECTURES**

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### ***Poster Presentations***

**Babenko, N.**, Bojorge, S., Bastardo, J., McDonald, K., & Perdiguero, L. (May 2022). Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on the Mental Health of Healthcare Workers: A Multi-Center, Cross-Sectional Study. Oral presentation at the University of South Florida, Tampa, FL

**Babenko, N.**, Kranz, N., Haley, W., Dobbs, D., Bojorge, S., Perdiguero, L., & Bastardo, J. (March 2024). Risk Factors for Mental Health Crisis in Physicians During the Covid-19 Pandemic: A Multi-State Exploratory Qualitative Study. Oral presentation at USF Health Research Day, Tampa, FL

## **PROFESSIONAL WORK EXPERIENCE**

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- 01.2024 - present **CDC Fellow, Oakland CA**  
**ChangeLab Solutions (CDC Public Health Law Fellowship)**
- Created content pertaining to public health law and legal epidemiology.
  - Developed emergency preparedness laws and policies.
  - Created policies to increase the diversity and capacity of the public health law workforce.
- 05.2022 - 05.2023 **President of the Global Health Student Association, Tampa, University of South Florida**
- Run the Global Health Student Association.
  - Preside over meetings, oversee organizational functions, and act as a primary University liaison.
  - Plan the annual organizational budget.
  - Plan and organize student activities related to global health.
- 05.2022 – 08.2022 **Performance Improvement Intern, Washington, D.C.**  
**Public Health Foundation**
- Developed grant proposals to improve public health infrastructure of local health departments.
  - Developed two training plans and two learning bundles for continuing education for healthcare professionals.
  - Developed a PHF blog about early detection of Alzheimer's disease.
- 09.2020 – 07.2021 **Regulatory Affairs Manager for the Eurasian Economic Union, Moscow, Russia**  
**Belupo Pharmaceuticals & Cosmetics Inc.**
- Planned and implemented drug registration strategies in the EAEU which resulted in an *expansion of market share by 10%*.
  - Established and optimized regulatory affairs procedures in the company

- headquarters, resulting in a 30%-time reduction in dossier compilation.
- Planned and monitored budget of \$170,000 for regulatory activities.

02.2018 – 09.2020 **Analytical Documentation Specialist**, Yegorievsk, Russia

**JSC Gedeon Richter-RUS**

- Coordinated and supervised the performance of analytical and technological transfers.
- Assisted in the development of a multi-country regulatory drug strategy.
- Developed and implemented Risk Assessment policies.
- Collaborated with Polish, Hungarian, and Romanian colleagues on developing regulatory strategies for new drugs.

11.2014 – 02.2018 **Quality Engineer**, Yegorievsk, Russia

**JSC Gedeon Richter-RUS**

- Elaborated Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), plans, validation reports, and specifications for active pharmaceutical ingredients and final dosage forms.
- Developed and implemented corrective and preventive measures in the department, and ensured the quality management system.
- Performed analytical and technological transfers for new drugs.
- Developed analytical procedures for validation and monitoring of washing machines.

07.2013 – 10.2014 **Analytical Development Chemist**, Makeevka, Ukraine

**NIKO LLC**

- Developed analytical techniques for multi-component drugs.
- Tested, validated, and verified analytical methods.
- Performed drug product stability.
- Established SOPs.

## CERTIFICATIONS

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2023	Preparing for College Teaching <i>University of South Florida</i>
2022	Certified in Public Health (CPH) <i>National Board of Public Health Examiners</i>
2022	Social/Behavioral Investigators and Key Personnel – Refresher Course <i>Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI)</i>
2021	Social and Behavioral Responsible Conduct of Research <i>Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI)</i>
2021	Social and Behavioral Research Best Practices for Clinical Research <i>Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI)</i>

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

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2021 - Present	American Psychological Association (APA)
2022 - Present	Infectious Disease Society of America (IDSA)
2023 - Present	Gerontological Society of America (GSA)
2023 - Present	Florida Council on Aging
2023 - Present	American Public Health Association (APHA)
2023 - Present	Sleep Research Society (SRS)
2023 - Present	Alzheimer's Association International Society to Advance Alzheimer's Research and Treatment (ISTAART)

## **Volunteer Experience**

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10.2023 – present	Seniors in Service, <i>Tampa, FL</i> <b>Healthy Buddy Volunteer</b>
09.2023 – present	The Journals of Gerontology <b>Journal Reviewer</b>
09.2023 – present	The Gerontologist <b>Journal Reviewer</b>
06.2022 – 11.2022	Alzheimer's Association, <i>Washington D.C.</i> <b>New IDEAS Study Volunteer</b>
03.2022 – present	Osher Lifelong Learning at University of South Florida, <i>Tampa, FL</i> <b>Educator</b>
10.2021	USF Hurricane Activating Hybrid Shelter Exercise, <i>Tampa, FL</i> <b>Assistant</b>