

Ruth Montgomery-Andersen, Dr.PH

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Summary

Dr. Ruth Montgomery-Andersen has a Doctoral degree in Public Health with a focus in mother-child health and Rural Health disparities in the Arctic. Her strengths are in the use of Community based research methods and community involvement and ownership.

She believes in sharing with communities in forms that are culturally relevant. She is the producer of several documentary films and instructional films that are in use in Greenland, as well as in Norway, Denmark, Canada and Alaska.

Has 25 years' of experience teaching experience for medical, nursing, midwifery, education students, social-workers and has worked as a clinical supervisor at colleges and universities in Denmark and Greenland. Over the past 10 years she has been the catalyst for several empowerment and intervention projects, which are in use by the Government of Greenland. This has resulted in a varied portfolio of research and health promotion projects in several localities in Greenland and also collaborations with North American and Nordic researchers. She is a member of the Health Research Board of Greenland and is the Chairman of the Board for the newly established Save the Children in Greenland.

From 1995-2001 Montgomery worked as a primary caregiver for women in rural areas of Greenland, and from 2002-2006 she was Head Supervisor for the National Referral Hospital's (DIH) labor wards in Nuuk, Greenland. In 2000 Dr. Montgomery-Andersen was at the International Confederation of Midwives in the Haag, Holland, where she filled a 3-month consultancy in strategic development of projects concerning mother-child health.

Professional Preparation

Nordic School of Public Health NHV, Sweden	Doctor of Public Health	Dr.PH 2013
Nordic School of Public Health NHV, Sweden	Master of Public Health	MPH 2005
Danish College of Midwifery, Denmark	Certified Licensed Midwife BS	1990
Jutland's School of Primary Education, Denmark	Education	TC 1981
University of Texas, Austin	Spanish & Dance	1977-1978

Appointments

October 2014 - present

Associate Researcher at the Greenland Center for Health Research –Ilisimatusarfik, Greenland University.

September 2014 - present

Ilisimatusarfik - Greenland University. External lecturer at the Department for Culture and Social History.

August 2014 - present

Director of Culture – the Arctic Winter Games in 2016. AWG2016 will be held in Nuuk, Greenland. The Arctic Winter Games is a circumpolar sport and cultural event for youth in

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the Artic. Its goal is to promote the benefits of sport, to build partnerships, and to promote culture and values.

April – June 2014

Independent Researcher connected with the research project "Population Dynamics in Greenland." A National Science Foundation - NSF funded Research project in Kullorsuaq, Greenland.

May 2013- April 2014

Project Coordinator for the development of the research project "Population Dynamics in Greenland." A National Science Foundation - NSF funded Research project in Kullorsuaq, Greenland.

January 2010-May 2013

Project Director for "Inuulluataarneq" a National Science Foundation - NSF funded Community- Based Participatory Research project from 2010-2013 in three localities in Greenland. Inuulluataarneq is a collaborative project between Montana State University and Ilisimatusarfik-Greenland University. NSF budget award was 900.000 dollars over 3 years.

January-October 2011

Project Coordinator for Vignette Production for Inuulluataarneq. Funded by National Science Foundation Supplementary Grant and the Joint Committee for Culture and Education: Greenland, the United States and Denmark.

January 2007-December 2009

Project Manager for the Greenlandic Sexual Health Project an IPY Community Health project collaboration that included Statens Serums Institut in Denmark, University of Toronto and Montana State University.

March 2007-December 2009

The Information and Project manager at the Nordic Institute of Greenland- NAPA, that included responsibility for development of programs/projects that supported competency building for Greenlandic youth, especially within culture and education. This included information about Nordic and Greenlandic funding sources and possibilities.

August 2001- March 2006

Hospital Midwife at the national referral hospital in Nuuk, Greenland and was the primary caregiver for women and newborns. From 2003- 2006 was the supervisor for the labor ward, and was responsible for logistics and screening processes of at risk patients.

June 1995- August 2001

Rural District Hospital Midwife in Ilulissat and Sisimiut, north of the polar circle, Greenland. Was primary caregiver for 100 women and newborns per year in each of the communities. Responsibilities included prenatal, perinatal and post-natal care and follow-ups.

January- April 2000

Strategic Development Consultant at the International Confederation of Midwives the Haag, Holland Consultancy in strategic development of projects concerning mother-child health.

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Presentations

2014

- West Nordic Seminar– Vestnordisk Samarbejdsaftale. Nuuk, Greenland September 17, 2014. Title: "Uddannelse, som understøtter bæredygtig udvikling – uformelle uddannelsesmuligheder".
- The 8th Nordic Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect – Nuuk, Greenland August 26 – 28, 2014
R. Montgomery-Andersen Dr. PH & C. Gregersen, Cand. Psyk. "The Hidden Face", is 51minutes long. (GL) Workshop and viewing of a teaching film made especially for professionals.
- Kulturkonferencen: Børns mulighed for at udøve kultur. Katuaq, Nuuk Grønland. August 21- 22, 2014. Plads til unges kulturskabelse. Hvordan finder vi lokaler til unge kulturudøvere?

2013

- 18th Inuit Studies Conference "Learning from the Top of the World" Washington D.C. October 21st – 28th, 2013. Changes in the family's role during pregnancy and childbirth in the Greenlandic perinatal family- A qualitative study of the "culture of birth".
- Heritage and Change in the Arctic. An interdisciplinary conference of the humanities and social sciences. University of Greenland, Nuuk. 11- 14, October 2013. Soul Names, Songlines and Touchstones. Greenlandic communities' response to changes in the "cultural room for birth"
- NunaMed 2013. Nuuk, Greenland. 5- 11 September 2013. Changes in the family's role during pregnancy and childbirth in the Greenlandic perinatal family- A qualitative study of the "culture of birth".

Health Impact Assessments

Consultancy in Grontmij– Integrated Impact Assessment for Shell's Baffin Bay Development In Greenland. September 2011 through December 2012.

Publications

1. Montgomery-Andersen, R., Montgomery-Andersen, S. (2014). "We must be the first example for our children, an example for what they are to become" – The Caring Nature Of Men. Grønlandsk Kultur og Samfundsforskning 2012-14. Nuuk, Ilisimatusarfik/Forlaget Atuagkat.
2. Rink, E., Montgomery-Andersen, R., Anastario, M. (2014). The effectiveness of an education intervention to prevent chlamydia infection among Greenlandic youth. Int J STD AIDS. 2014 Apr 8. [Epub ahead of print]
3. Raluca Datcu, Dionne Gesink, Gert Mulvad, Ruth Montgomery-Andersen, Elisabeth Rink, Anders Koch, Peter Ahrens and Jørgen Skov Jensen. (2014). Bacterial vaginosis diagnosed from first void urine specimens. Journal of clinical microbiology 11/2014
4. Raluca Datcu, Dionne Gesink, Gert Mulvad, Ruth Montgomery-Andersen, Elisabeth Rink, Anders Koch, Peter Ahrens and Jørgen Skov Jensen. (2013). Vaginal microbiome in women from Greenland assessed by microscopy and quantitative PCR. BMC Infectious Diseases 2013, 13:480. Doi:10.1186/1471-2334-13-480
5. Montgomery-Andersen, R., Douglas, V., Borup, I. (2013). Literature Review: The 'logics' of birth settings in Arctic Greenland. Midwifery (2013), <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.midw.2013.06.014>
6. Montgomery-Andersen, R. (2013). Faces of Childbirth-The culture of birth and the health of the Greenlandic perinatal family. <http://www.nhv.se/upload/dokument/forskning/Publikationer/DrPH-avhandlingar/Ruth-Montgomery-Andersen-avhandlingen-till-webbplatsen-130418-mindre-storlek.pdf>
7. Rink, E., Montgomery-Andersen, R., Koch, A., Mulvad, G., Gesink, D. (2013). Ethical Challenges and Lessons Learned from Inuulluataarnek – "Having the Good Life" Study: A Community Based Participatory Research Project in Greenland. Journal of Empirical Research on Human Research Ethics- An International Journal. Volume 8; 1. 2013.

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8. Montgomery-Andersen, R., Borup, I. (2013). Songlines And Touchstones: A Study of Perinatal Health And Culture In Greenland. (In Press: AlterNative-Journal of Indigenous Research 9; 1: 88-102).
9. Elizabeth Rink, Ruth Montgomery-Andersen, Gitte Trondheim, Dionne Gesink, Louise Lennert Sandsgaard, Navarana Kotalawala. (2012). The Role of Personal Responsibility, Trust in Relationships, and Family Communication in the Prevention of Sexually Transmitted Infections Among Greenlandic Youth: Focus Group Results from Inuulluataarneq. Grønlands. In Kleist Pedersen, B., Nielsen, F., Langgård, K., Rygaard, J. (2012). Grønlandsk Kultur og Samfundsforskning 2010-12. Nuuk, Ilisimatusarfik/Forlaget Atuagkat.
10. Montgomery-Andersen, R., Borup, I., & Douglas, V. (2012). The 'Logics' of Choice and of Birth Settings in Greenland. (Under revision Midwifery Journal January 2013).
11. Montgomery-Andersen, R. & Borup, I. (2012). Family support and the child as health promoting agent in the Arctic – "The Inuit Way". Rural and Remote Health 12; 1977:1-10. Accessed January 28, 2012. (Online) Available: <http://www.rrh.org.au>.
12. Montgomery-Andersen R, Willén H, Borup I. There was no other way things could have been-Greenlandic women's experiences of referral and transfer during pregnancy. Journal of Anthropology and Medicine, 2010; 17 (3): 301-311.
13. Gesink-Law, D., Rink, E., Montgomery-Andersen, R., Mulvad, G., Koch, A. (2010) Developing a Culturally Competent and Socially Relevant Sexual Health Survey with an Urban Arctic Community. Journal of Circumpolar Health. 69(1): 25-37
14. Gesink Law DC, Rink E, Montgomery-Andersen R, Mulvad G, Koch A. Cognitive Interviewing to Exchange Sexual Health Knowledge: Developing a Sexual Health Survey with an Urban Arctic Community. International Journal of Circumpolar Health. 68 (4): 405-413
15. Rink, E. Gesink Law, D., Montgomery-Andersen, R., Mulvad, G., Koch, A. (2009). The Practical Application of Community Based Participatory Research in the North American Arctic: Initial Findings from the Greenland Sexual Health Study. International Journal of Circumpolar Health. 68 (4): 405-413
16. Ruth Montgomery-Andersen. Adolescent mothers: a challenge for First Nations. International Journal of Circumpolar Health. 2004; 63 Suppl.2: 274-9.

Synergistic Activities (including research and cultural endeavors)

1. Inuulluataarneq Video Series. Producer/ Co- Director. A series of public service and health promotion vignettes. (2013) Co- Director Pete Barnstrom.
2. The Meeting. Producer/ Director for documentary film that tells the story of friendship between two elderly women, across the boundaries of language and country. The film has been selected for the International Black Women's Film Festival (2010) in Berkley, CA. (www.ibwff.com); San Diego Black Film Festival (2012) San Diego, CA (www.sdbff.com); 60°N Film Festival (2012) Os, Norway (www.60n.no); 18th Inuit Studies Conference (2012) Smithsonian, Washington, DC (<http://www.mnh.si.edu/arctic/ISC18/filmfestival.html>) Released: 2010.
3. "Qanuqturniq- Finding the balance" Resources and a live TV Phone-in Series on Inuit Wellness. Vignette production. 12th of May 2009. Consultant and producer on the Circumpolar Inuit Wellness Program. <http://www.isuma.tv/hi/en/naasautit/greenlands-community-lay-midwife-program>
4. Commission on the Status of Women at the 51st and 53rd Session of the UN. (2007 & 2009)
5. Ajortoq Toqqortaq Parts I & II. Co- Producer for documentary/teaching film for professionals. Part two concerns life as a grown-up after being sexually abused as a child. Used as teaching tool in the fight against sexual abuse of children. Released: 2006
6. Member of Greenlandic Government's working group on healthy reproductive health decisions under Greenland's Commission on Health Reform (2006-2007)
7. Project Manager for Greenlandic government's project development for Wrap-Around Project: Early Intervention Program. Department of Health, Greenland (2006-2007)
8. Birth on Human Terms. A documentary film on the changing role of families within the Greenlandic society. Released: 2003
9. Pilot project on intervention and support program for pregnant women and their families. Focus on families whose children are at risk of being neglected. Greenland's Referral Hospital, Nuuk (2003-2005)

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10. Nordic Research Network on Health Promotion (2010- present)
11. The Greenlandic Council for Health Research (2004- present)
12. The Department of Health of Greenland's Ethics Committee (2004-2008)

Other Affiliations

Boards and Networks: Member of the board at KNR –Greenlandic Public Service TV and Radio (2014- present); Chairman of the board at Save the Children, Greenland (2013- present); Nordic Research Network on Health Promotion (2010- present); The Greenlandic Council for Health Research (2004- present); The Department of Health of Greenland's Ethics Committee (2004-2008); The Greenlandic Medical Society, Board of Advisors (2008- present); Family and Children's Council of Nuuk; Member and Chairperson (2006-2010); Member of the National Ethics Think-tank for Health Policy (2003- 2009).