

Neby Bekele, PhD

Vice President, Biostatistics and Clinical Data Management



Neby Bekele is Vice President, Biostatistics and Clinical Data Management at Exelixis. He is responsible for Biostatistics, Statistical Programming, and Clinical Data Management. Neby joined Exelixis in September of this year. Neby is excited about joining a growing, resilient, and successful team and getting back to his oncology roots.

Prior to joining Exelixis, Neby was Vice President, Biometrics at Gilead Sciences where he was Head of Biometrics (Biostatistics, Bioinformatics, Statistical Programming, & Clinical Data Management).

Prior to Gilead, he was on the faculty at M. D. Anderson Cancer Center for 10 years where he began working as a research assistant professor in 2001 and rose to the rank of tenured associate professor. During this period, he collaborated with researchers in Leukemia, Neuro-Oncology, Neuro-Surgery, Thoracic/Head and Neck and Thoracic/CV Surgery.

Neby's research includes applications of novel design and analysis methods to solve questions related to the design and analysis of clinical trial data. Other specific areas of interest include the application of Bayesian methods in clinical trials, adaptive designs, missing data problems and multiple testing procedures. He has 120+ collaborative/methodological peer-reviewed manuscripts and book chapters.

Neby earned his Ph.D. in statistics from Baylor University. Prior to studying statistics, he earned degrees in Economics (BA) Political Science (BA, MA), and Urban Planning (MCRP). In addition, he is fluent in Spanish (having lived in Mexico for 8 yrs). This background has given Neby a unique global perspective which has served him well in a variety of cross-cultural contexts. In addition to this background, Neby has an interest in exploring and understanding the intersection between critical thinking skills, communication skills, and foundations of clinical trial design and practice to improve Biostatistical decision-making.

In this seminar, Neby will focus on key highlights and milestones in his career and differences between being an academic and industry biostatistician.