Congratulations Kara E. Rudolph, Winner of 2023 Rothman Epidemiology prize

The Editors and Editorial Board of EPIDEMIOLOGY are pleased to announce the selection of Kara E. Rudolph as the winner of this year’s Rothman Epidemiology Prize. This award of $5000 is funded from a private endowment and is given annually for the best paper published in the journal in the preceding year. The selection criteria are importance, originality, clarity of thought, and excellence in writing. Dr. Rudolph’s winning paper, titled “When Effects Cannot be Estimated: Redefining Estimands to Understand the Effects of Naloxone Access Laws,” appeared in our September 2022 issue. The paper showed that positivity violations can result when attempting to estimate the effects of naloxone access laws, so an alternative is to estimate the effect of a shift in law enactment. This effect corresponds to a modified treatment policy, and dramatically weakens the required positivity assumption, thereby offering a means to estimate policy effects even in scenarios with serious positivity problems.

Dr. Rudolph is faculty in the Department of Epidemiology at the Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University.

Congratulations also to runners-up Kosukea Inoue et al. for their paper titled “Causal Effect of Chronic Pain on Mortality Through Opioid Prescriptions: Application of the Front-Door Formula” (July, 2022), John Blosnich et al. for their paper titled “Concordance of Data About Sex From Electronic Health Records and the National Death Index: Implications for Transgender Populations’ (May, 2022), and Kevin Maloney et al. for their paper titled “Sexual Mixing by HIV Status and Pre-exposure Prophylaxis Use Among Men Who Have Sex With Men: Addressing Information Bias” (November, 2022).