



**David Fields, PhD**

**CMRI Chickasaw Nation Endowed Research Chair in Pediatric Diabetes**

**Associate Professor**

**University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center**

**Department of Pediatrics**

**Division of Endocrinology/Diabetes**

Dr. David Fields completed his PhD in Exercise Physiology from Auburn University while receiving pre-doctoral training at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. Upon graduating, he went on for post-doctoral training in physiology and nutrition at Washington University in St. Louis.



The overarching focus of his research program is to understand how perinatal body composition affects future health with  $\approx 450$  mother/infant dyads currently enrolled in his research programs (i.e. *Baby Peas*) with greater than 60% of subjects having multiple year follow-up visits. Specifically, the emphasis is to understand the role of modifiable gravid maternal factors (e.g. diet, physical activity, diabetes, obesity and mode of feeding) on the development of their offspring's fat and lean mass in the first month of life and the subsequent influence on future disease risk in childhood, adolescence and adulthood. His current NIH study ("Maternal Obesity, Breast Milk Composition, and Infant Growth" \$3.3 million) in collaboration with the University of Minnesota (Dr. Ellen Demerath Co-PI) characterizes human breast milk in a diverse group of mothers with a focus in better understanding how it impacts early body composition.

405-271-8001, x43083    [David-Fields@ouhsc.edu](mailto:David-Fields@ouhsc.edu)