

## **Michelle Mendez**



### **Biography/CV:**

Michelle A. Mendez (Barcelona, Spain) received a master's in epidemiology at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1997, and a doctorate in 2000. Trained as a nutritional epidemiologist, her primary interests focus on themes related to dietary intakes and obesity, including the role of diet in pregnancy on reproductive outcomes and longer-term health, and the role of diet in later life on the risk of obesity and chronic diseases. She has also conducted research on methodological issues related to the measurement of dietary intakes. As a staff scientist at the Center for Research in Environmental Epidemiology, her interests encompass the measurement of intakes of food-borne contaminants as well as dietary patterns, foods and nutrients. Recent work has focused on issues such as effects of fish consumption during pregnancy on fetal growth and child neurodevelopment, the role of fetal exposure to compounds such as tobacco smoke and organochlorine contaminants on future risk of obesity, and the validity of intakes estimated using food frequency questionnaires.