

## **Francisca M. Acosta, Ph.D.**

Francisca M. Acosta is a NIH NIDDK F32 Postdoctoral Research Fellow in the Department of Biochemistry and Structural Biology and is also an active collaborator of the Division of Endocrinology at UT Health San Antonio (UTHSA) in San Antonio, TX. Dr. Acosta graduated with a bachelor's degree (B.S.) in Bioengineering from Rice University in 2015 and then went on to pursue postbaccalaureate training as part of the NIH The University of Kansas post-baccalaureate research training program (KU PREP), prior to coming to San Antonio to complete her doctoral degree (Ph.D.) in the Joint Biomedical Engineering Graduate program between The University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA) and UTHSA in May 2020. Her research interests are combining engineering, basic science, and translational research to the fields of Metabolism, Musculoskeletal, Diabetes, Aging, Cancer Biology, and Biomedical Engineering/Regenerative Medicine.

Beyond research, Dr. Acosta is incredibly passionate about scientific outreach, mentorship, and science communication. She currently serves as the President of the UT Health San Antonio Postdoc Association (UP), is involved in numerous service groups/committees, and truly enjoys talking to and guiding the next generation of scientists.