**Joleen Carol Sussman, Ph.D. ABPP**

Geropsychology/Neuropsychology Program Manager

Eastern Colorado Health Care System VAMC

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**EDUCATION:**

**Bachelor of Science**  2006

University of Iowa, Iowa City

Major: Psychology

**Doctor of Philosophy**  2012

University of Iowa, Iowa City

Counseling PsychologyProgram (APA-accredited)

**Pre-doctoral Intern (APA-accredited)** 2011 – 2012

VA Medical Center, Milwaukee, WI

**Post-doctoral Fellow (Geropsychology; APA accredited)** 2012 – 2013

VA Medical Center, Milwaukee, WI

**ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS:**

**Senior Instructor** 2015 - 2021

University of Colorado School of Medicine - Division of Geriatric Medicine

**Assistant Professor** 2021 - current

University of Colorado School of Medicine - Division of Geriatric Medicine and a secondary appointment in the Department of Psychiatry

**CLINCAL EXPERIENCE:**

**Clement J. Zablocki VA Medical Center, Milwaukee, WI** 2013 – 2014

**Home-based Primary Care Psychologist**

Staff psychologist for home-based primary care team and adult day health care team. Provided care to chronically ill patients through the following services: Interdisciplinary care planning, psychotherapy, caregiver/family support, capacity evaluations, behavioral management consultation to families and team members, biopsychosocial assessments, and brief geriatric neuropsychological assessments.

**Eastern Colorado Health Care System VAMC** 2014 - current

**Primary Care Mental Health Integration Psychologist** 2014 - 2015

Community Based Outpatient Clinic, Golden VA

Developed and implemented Primary Care Mental Health Services at Golden Clinic. Provided consultation services to primary care team and same day brief behavioral therapy for primary care patients; developed and implemented a behavioral an Inter disciplinary Healthy Aging Group. Acted as liaison between Mental Health Services and Primary Care Teams.

**Dementia Care Team Psychologist** 2015 - current

Rocky Mountain Regional Medical Center

Using the healthy aging 4M’s model, provide dementia education to Veterans and their Care Partners focused on what matters most to them. Assist caregivers in learning new ways to communicate and adapt Veteran’s environment to fit their needs as their dementia progresses. Discuss and connect Veterans and their Care Partners to resources.

**Community Living Center Psychologist** 2015 - 2017

Rocky Mountain Regional Medical Center (formerly Denver VA)

Provided consultation and education to staff, psychologist assessment, capacity assessment, and therapy to residents, caregiver support and family support.

**Rural Tele-Geriatrics (GRECCconnect funded) Psychologist**

Eastern Colorado VAMC rural areas 2018 - 2020

As part of an interdisciplinary team of medicine, social work and psychology, provided services to rural Veterans with dementia and their caregivers including neurocognitive disorder-related neuropsychological evaluations, decision-making capacity evaluations, and psychotherapy. Provided rural staff education/support.

**GeriPACT (Primary Care Team) Psychologist** 2015 - 2022

Rocky Mountain Regional Medical Center

As part of the interdisciplinary Geriatric Primary Care Clinic team (GeriPACT) provided psychotherapy to older adults and their caregivers, neurocognitive disorder-related neuropsychological evaluations, decision-making capacity evaluations, and staff education/support.

**Medicine Geropsychology**

Rocky Mountain Regional Medical Center 2019 – Current

Provide consultation and education to medical/surgical unit nursing staff to better support Veterans exhibiting challenging dementia behaviors leading to long length of stay and/or staff safety concerns. Provide consultation and guidance on performing level of care decision making capacity assessments for Veteran with difficult discharges.

**CONSULTING EXPERIENCE:**

**University of Colorado Health Care Seniors Clinic**  2018-2021

Provided paid consultation to care Navigators related supporting caregivers of patients

exhibiting challenging dementia behaviors.

**LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE:**

**Eastern Colorado Health Care System VAMC**

**Team Lead, Dementia Care**  2015 - current

Lead of the outpatient interdisciplinary Dementia Care Team. Provide psychosocial support to Veterans with dementia and their caregivers; neurocognitive disorder-related neuropsychological evaluations, decision-making capacity evaluations, and staff education/support.

**Program Manager, Geropsychology/Neuropsychology** 2021 – current

Provide leadership, administrative and clinical support to 13 staff including

psychologists, social workers and psychometricians in areas of neuropsychology,

geropsychology, home-based primary care psychology, palliative care psychology,

dementia care, polytrauma, community living center, and geriatric primary care

psychology. Ensure staff practices are consistent with the business model of Mental

Health and meeting the needs of each team. Recruit, develop, remediate, and retain

staff. Lead daily and monthly meetings, round weekly with each staff. Position is

50% clinical and 50% administrative.

**Acting Section Chief, Behavioral Medicine (temp. promotion)** 2022 - 2023

Provided administrative and clinical supervision health psychology staff working in

interprofessional teams; developed interprofessional functional statements;

recruited, hired and retained staff; prepared for the Joint Commission review;

continued development of a business model in Health Psychology; led daily and

monthly meetings for staff; promoted staff engagement.

**VHA National Center for Ethics in Health Care 120 day 25% detail** 2023 – 2024

Collaborated with national offices and developed a template for VHA EHR to document decision-making capacity assessments aligned with VHA policy and federal regulation. Developed a community of practice and SharePoint materials ([VA intranet link](https://dvagov.sharepoint.com/sites/VHAethics/SitePages/dmc.aspx)) for continued education to VHA practitioners assessing decision making capacity.

**LEADERHIP TRAINING CERTIFICATIONS:**

VHA VISN 19 Mental Health Leadership Development Institute 2022

University of Colorado School of Medicine Women’s Leadership Training 2022

VHA Change Management Practitioner (in accordance with Prosci) 2023

4 Day Eastern Colorado Health Care System Supervisors Academy 2024

**MEMBERSHIPS:**

Gerontological Society of America 2019 - current

**COMMITTEE SERVICE:**

Member, Milwaukee VA Dementia Steering Committee 2012 - 2014

Co-Chair, Milwaukee VA Understanding Advance Directives 2013 - 2014

Member, Milwaukee VA Psychology Research Work Group 2013 - 2014

Chair, Milwaukee VA HBPC Substance Abuse Work Group 2014

Member, Milwaukee VA HBPC Policy Review Committee 2014

Member, HBPC National Conference Call Planning Committee 2014

Member, Eastern Colorado VA Post-Doctoral Training Committee 2015 - 2016

Member, Eastern Colorado VA Disruptive Behaviors Committee 2015 - 2017

Member, Eastern Colorado VA Pre-Doctoral Training Committee 2015 - 2021

Member, VA Central Office, Cognitive Screening Measures 2016 - 2018

Member, Eastern Colorado VA psychology intern assessment committee 2016 - 2021

Co-Chair, Eastern Colorado VA Dementia Steering Committee 2016 - current

Member, GRECC regional conference planning committee 2017

Chair, VISN 19 Dementia Steering Committee 2018 - current

Member, REACH VA for Dementia planning committee 2018 - current

Member, Geriatric Mental Health Outpatient workgroup 2019

Member, Elder Abuse Task Force 2019

Member, Alzheimer’s Task Force 2019

Chair, ECHS Primary Care Cognitive Assessment workgroup 2020 - 2022

Co-Chair, VHA Decision Making Capacity Workgroup 2022 - current

Member, ECHCS Multidisciplinary Ethics Committee 2024 - current

Member, ECHCS Multidisciplinary Committee to review life-sustaining treatment plans for patients who lack decision-making capacity and lack a surrogate. 2024 - current

**LICENSURE AND BOARD CERTIFICATION**

Licensed Psychologist in Colorado 2013 - current

Board Certified in Geropsychology (ABPP) 2016 - current

**TEACHING FELLOWSHIP:**

Augustana College, Rock Island, ILDepartment of Psychology, 2010 - 2011

**INVITED STUDENT/ HEALTHCARE TRAINEE TEACHING:**

**Schoulte, J.** & Corkery, J. (2008, March). Time Management. Training for new

international undergraduate students attending The University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA.

**Schoulte, J.** & Kroon, L. (2009, June). Staying Grounded While in Leadership Positions.

Women’s Leadership conference sponsored by The University of Iowa Women’s Resource and Action Center, Iowa City, IA.

**Sussman, J.** (2013, June). Neurocognitive Impairment and Functional Implications.

Presentation to VAMC psychology interns. Zablocki VAMC, Milwaukee WI.

**Sussman, J.** & Kostiwa, I. (2013, September). Caring for Veterans in the Community.

Presentation to Marquette University psychology graduate students. Marquette University, Milwaukee.

**Sussman, J.** (2013, March) Conducting a Mental Status Exam.University of Wisconsin Medical College 2nd Year Medical Students, Milwaukee, WI**.**

**Sussman, J.** (2014, January). Behavioral Modification for Dementia Patients.

Presentation to MCW psychiatry residents/fellow. Zablocki VAMC, Milwaukee WI.

**Sussman, J.** (2014, March). Cognitive Screening Measures: When to Use Them and

What do with the Results. Lecture to graduate level social work class. University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

**Sussman, J.** (2014, April). Challenging Dementia Conversations: driving, firearms, and

living alone. Psychology Intern Seminar. Zablocki VAMC, Milwaukee WI.

**Sussman, J.** (2014, April). Erectile Functioning: The Ups and Downs of Research. Brown Bag Psychology Research Seminar. Zablocki VAMC, Milwaukee WI.

**Sussman, J.** & Johnson, B. (2014, June). Homelessness and Veterans. VALOR nursing

students. Zablocki VAMC, Milwaukee WI.

Brundage, J. **& Sussman, J.** (2014, June). Caregiving Burden and Interventions.

Psychology Intern Seminar. Zablocki VAMC, Milwaukee WI.

**Sussman, J.** (2016, September).Update on Cognitive Screening measures in Geriatric

Care.University of Colorado Medical Center and Denver VAMC Geriatric

Medicine staff and trainees. Fellows Conference.

**Sussman, J.** (2016, September).How to utilize Geropsychology services. University of

Colorado Medical Center and Denver VAMC Geriatric Medicine staff and trainees. Fellows Conference.

**Sussman, J.** (2016, October). Psychology and GeriPACT. National Collaborative

Geropsychology Post-Doctoral Seminar. National VA Geropsychologists and Geropsychology Fellows.

**Sussman, J.** (2017, August). Identification of Dementia in Geriatrics. Denver VA and

University of Colorado GRECC Geriatric Medicine Friday Conference.

**Sussman, J.** (2017, September). Brief Tests of Cognition. Psychology Intern Seminar.

**Sussman, J.** (2018, January). Psychotherapy and Neurocognitive Disorder. ECHCS

Psychology Fellows.

**Sussman, J.** (2018, December).Responding to dementia behaviors. Psychiatry PGY2

Residency program. University of Colorado School of Medicine.

**Sussman. J.** & Schumacher J. (2020, April). End stage Dementia and Behavioral

Communication. ECHCS GRECC medicine fellowship.

**Sussman, J.** (2020, July). Virtual Assessment of cognition. ECHCS Psychology Interns.

**Sussman, J.** & Vandenbergh, L. (2021, February). Mandated Reporting of Elder Abuse

in the state of Colorado. ECHCS VAMC Psychology Post-Doctoral Residents.

**REOCCURING STUDENT/TRAINEE TEACHING:**

**Medical residents/students Monthly Lecture Series** September 2012 – August 2013

Division of Geriatrics Seminar Series, Zablocki VAMC, Milwaukee, WI

Present a peer-reviewed seminar each month on assessing and documenting decision making capacity to Medical College of Wisconsin 3rd and 4th year medical students and medical residents rotating through the GEM unit.

**Medical residents/students Monthly Lecture Series,** December 2015 -2017

Division of Geriatrics Seminar Series, Eastern Colorado Health Care System, Denver Colorado

Present a seminar each month on assessing and documenting decision making capacity to University of Colorado medical students and medical residents rotating through the GEM unit.

**GRECC Allied Health Professionals Monthly Lecture Series** September 2016 - 2022

Developed and lead a case discussion among GRECC trainees including pharmacy, psychology and social work. Trainee learning outcomes have been presented at national conferences.

**INVTIED LOCAL HEALTHCARE STAFF PRESENTATIONS:**

Smith, H. M., & **Schoulte, J.** (2012, January). Communication. Training for Operating

Room staff, Zablocki VAMC, Milwaukee WI.

**Schoulte, J.** & Krueger, N. (2012, April). Challenging Sexual Behaviors and Dementia.

Training for Long Term Care staff, Zablocki VAMC, Milwaukee WI.

Byrne, A., **Schoulte, J.** & Keenan, N. (2012, April). Motivational Interviewing Skills.

Training for Dieticians, Zablocki VAMC, Milwaukee WI.

Smith, H.M., **Sussman, J.** & Regier, N. (2012, September). Challenging Behaviors and

Dementia. Training for Long Term Care staff, Zablocki VAMC, Milwaukee WI.

**Sussman, J.** (2013, February). Medical Healing and Dementia. Training for Pressure

Ulcers Prevention Protocol Interventions Committee. Zablocki VAMC, Milwaukee WI.

Smith, H.M., & **Sussman, J.** (2013, March). Challenging Behaviors and Sundowning.

Training for Long Term Care staff, Zablocki VAMC, Milwaukee WI.

Smith, H.M., & **Sussman, J.** (2013, April). Team Building and Communication. Training

for Interventional Radiology staff. Zablocki VAMC, Milwaukee WI. Multiple

trainings.

Smith, H.M. & **Sussman, J.** (2013, May). Dementia and Related Challenging Behaviors.

Training for Acute Mental Health Staff, Zablocki VAMC, Milwaukee WI.

Krueger, N. & **Sussman, J.** (2013, June). Coping with Long-Term Care Patients’ Deaths.

Workshop for Long-Term Care Staff. Zablocki VAMC, Milwaukee WI.

Bernstein, J. Guedet, P., & **Sussman, J.** (2013, August). Team Case Conference.

Presentation to interdisciplinary geriatrics and internal medicine teams. Zablocki VAMC, Milwaukee WI.

Williams, T., Smith, H., **Sussman, J.,** Minkin, A., Murry, M., Riggs, G., Lewis, E. &

Kostiwa, I. (2013, November). Continuous Protective Observation and Challenging Behaviors. Presentation to acute medicine and float CNAs. Zablocki VAMC, Milwaukee WI.

**Sussman, J.** (2014, June). Limit setting and Assertiveness Training. Community Based

Program Staff. Zablocki VAMC, Milwaukee WI.

**Sussman, J.** (2014, August). Assessing suicide among Veterans. Community Based

Program Staff. Zablocki, VAMC, Milwaukee WI.

**Sussman, J.** (2014, October). The Usefulness of Teaching Primary Care Patients

Diaphragmatic Breathing. Primary Care Providers. VA Eastern Colorado Health Care System, Golden CBOC.

**Sussman, J.** (2014, October). Preventing Escalating Behavior of Patients in a Primary

Care Setting. Primary Care Staff. VA Eastern Colorado Health Care System,

Golden, CBOC.

**Sussman, J. &** Kienitz, E. (2015, September). The 4 session model in Primary Care

Mental Health Integration (PMCHI). ECHS VA PCMHI team training.

Johnson, E., & **Sussman, J.** (2015, November). Early Warning Signs of Dementia. ECHS

VA Homeless Program Staff.

**Sussman, J.** &Johnson, E. (2016, March).Identifying Neurocognitive Disorder

Symptoms in a Primary Care Setting. PACT social work team Eastern Colorado

Health Care VA.

**Sussman, J.** (2016, May).Challenges of Caretaking Dementia. Medical Foster Home

Annual Training. Eastern Colorado Health Care VA.

**Sussman, J.** (2016, June).Identifying Neurocognitive Disorder in Primary Care with

Cognitive Screening Tools. Primary Care Mental Health Integration team Eastern Colorado Health Care VA.

**Sussman, J.** (2016, July).Is it PTSD or mild cognitive impairment? PSTD Clinical Team

Eastern Colorado Health Care VA.

**Sussman, J.** (2016, August).Primary Care Patients with Dementia and Fitness to Drive.

Golden Community Based Outpatient Clinic Eastern Colorado Health Care VA.

**Sussman, J.** (2017, February). Conducting a Functional-Cognitive Screen in Primary care. Denver VAMC Primary Care Mental Health Team.

**Sussman, J.** (2017, October). Assessment of Medical Decision Making Capacity and

Incorporating Patient Values. Geriatric/Palliative Care SCAN ECHO.

**Sussman, J** (2018, January). Community Care Access Rounds. ECHCS staff and

community agencies. January.

**Sussman, J.** (2018, November). Receptive language impairment and hearing aid

complaints. Audiology department. Rocky Mountain Regional VAMC.

**Sussman, J.** (2019, March).Challenging biases and assessing ADL/IADLs for person

with dementia. Eastern Colorado Health Care System VAMC Social work service.

**Sussman, J.** (2019, July).Decision Making Capacity and Guardianship in Primary Care.

Eastern Colorado Health Care System, PACT Teams across ECHCS.

**Sussman, J.** (2019, December).Pre-surgery assessment of medical decision making

capacity. Eastern Colorado Health Care System, 75 + surgery wellness project team.

**Sussman, J** & Tucker, R. (2020, March). Brief cognitive assessment via telehealth in

PCMHI. Primary care mental health team in ECHCS.

**Sussman, J.** (2020, July). Train the Trainer – Dementia Care Communication. ECHCS

medicine nurse leadership. (250 nurses trained from this workshop).

**Sussman, J,** Vandenbergh, L., & Reynolds, I. (2020, July). Guardianship and capacity

assessments. ECHCS SW service (88 attendees).

**Sussman. J.** (2021, January). Assessing and managing dementia in SCI/D clinics.

Rocky Mountain Regional VAMC SCI staff. (20 + multidisciplinary attendees).

**Sussman, J.** & Vandenbergh, L. (2021, April). Assessment of capacity in Veterans with

cognitive impairment and neurocognitive disorders. ECHCS VA Homeless Program, HUDVASH Team.

**Sussman, J.** & Etter, D. (2021, September). SCI/D Discharge planning and Values.

Spinal Cord Injury and Disorders Teams.

**Sussman, J.** (2022, January) How to provide dementia informed care on a medicine unit.

Rocky Mountain Regional VAMC medicine Nurses and staff (night and day shift). 30 in attendance.

**Sussman, J.** & Tucker, R.(2022, June). Cognitive Impairment and Blind Rehab Benefits.

ECHCS Blind Rehabilitation staff (10 in attendance).

**LOCAL INVITED PRESENTATIONS:**

**Schoulte, J.,** Smith, H.M., & Byrne, A. (2012, May). Communication. Training for the

APS staff, Zablocki VAMC, Milwaukee WI. Multiple Trainings.

**Sussman, J.** &Gowdy, C. (2016, March).Understanding and responding to PTSD

behavior at an Adult Day Care Setting. Johnson Center Adult Day Care,

Englewood, CO. (multiple trainings).

**Sussman, J.** and Schubmehl, S. (2017, January). Sex and Aging. Osher Lifelong

Learning Institute (OLLI). University of Denver Professional and Continuing Studies.

**Sussman, J. &** Brungardt, A. (2019, February). Responding to Caregivers of Dementia.

Geriatric Grand Rounds. University of Colorado School of Medicine.

**REGIONAL INVITED PRESENTATIONS:**

**Sussman, J** & Kostiwa, I. (2013, October). Responding to Challenging Behaviors

Training. Presentation to Wisconsin’s Veteran Home staff. Wisconsin’s Veteran’s Home, King, Wisconsin.

**Sussman, J.** (2016, January). Aging and Mental Health. Osher Lifelong Learning

Institute (OLLI). University of Denver Professional and Continuing Studies.

**Sussman, J.** and Schubmehl, S. (2017, March). Sex, Elderly, and Institutional Care.

Professional Advancement Certificate in Gerontology Class in Westminster, CO.

**Sussman, J.** (2017, August).Hidden Vascular Neurocognitive Disorder. GRECC

Geriatric Rocky Mountain Conference in Salt Lake City, Utah.

**Sussman, J.** (2018, September). Helping the hidden caregiver of dementia. GRECC

Geriatric Rocky Mountain Conference in Broomfield, CO.

**Sussman, J.** (2020, October). Invited Keynote: Effectively Engaging Caregivers of

Diverse Backgrounds and Needs. VISN 12 Annual Caregiver Summit. 80 participants.

**NATIONAL INVITED PRESENTATIONS:**

**Sussman, J.** (2019, March). Addressing safety and other concerns of dementia

caregivers: Language and techniques for providers. GRECC Connect Geriatric Case

Conference Series. National Webinar.

**Sussman, J.** & Soberay, K. (2021, June). Suicide and Major Neurocognitive Disorder.

Rocky Mountain MIRECC National Suicide Risk Management Lecture Series.

Continuing Education Credit available. 100 participants.

<http://va-eerc-ees.adobeconnect.com/ph7gknbwd09c/>

**Sussman, J.** & Hartz, S. (2021, September). Providing Support to Caregivers who have Experienced Chronic Abuse from Care Recipient. GRECC Connect Geriatric Case

Conference Series. National Webinar.

Geppert, C. & **Sussman, J.** (2024, January). Fundamentals of Decision Making Capacity.

GRECC Aging, Dementia, and Diversity Conference Series. National Webinar. 700+ attendees.

**Sussman, J.** (2024, April). Introduction to the Decision Making Capacity Assessment.

VHA National Decision Making Capacity Community of Practice Call. 212 attendees.

**Sussman, J.** (2024, June). Sometimes it Takes a Team: Roles in DMC Assessment. VHA

National Decision Making Capacity Community of Practice Call. 270 attendees.

**Sussman, J.,** Geppert, C., and Hester, H., (2024, July). C20 episode #370: *Capacity*

*Clarity: Understanding Decision-Making Capacity at VA*. 200 attendees. [Here is a link](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fbcove.video%2F3WTYDXq&data=05%7C02%7C%7Cbf95ba4c53364ba6680d08dcb7f29998%7Ce95f1b23abaf45ee821db7ab251ab3bf%7C0%7C0%7C638587499802741748%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=%2F%2BnB2ENIMOdnVJOvVZOGJNPN4LlKwsPaArADc1i6ssA%3D&reserved=0)

**TRAINEES MENTORED**:

Brittany Hylander, M.A. 3/2024-6/2024 Clinical Supervisor

Kristie Wood, M.A 9/2022-6/2023 Research Supervisor

Lauren Cohen, M.A. 7/2021-6/2022 Clinical Supervisor

Megan Gause, MD 12/2020-6/20/21 Research Supervisor

Kelly Soberay, M.S. 11/2020-6/2021 Clinical Supervisor

Lauren Schneider, M.S. 7/2020-6/2021 Clinical Supervisor

Julie Wilkings-Johnson, M.D. 7/2019-11/2020 Research Supervisor

Nikhil Banerjee, M.S. 7/2019-current Clinical/Research supervisor

Michaela Cuneo, M.S. 11/2019-2/2020 Clinical Supervisor

Jacquelyn Minahan, M.S. 11/2019-2/2020 Clinical Supervisor

Emily Rogers, M.D. 7/2018-6/2019 Research Supervisor

Natalie Kurnido, M.S 11/2018-3/2019 Clinical Supervisor

Saskia DeVaughn, M.S. 7/2018-6/2019 Clinical/Research supervisor

Julia Sheffler, M.S. 7/2017-6/2018 Clinical/Research supervisor

Sarah Schubmehl, M.A. 7/2016 - 6/2017 Clinical/Research supervisor

Jason Kacmarski, M.S. 10/2015-11/2015 Clinical supervisor

Eliza Kienitz, Psy.D. 8/2015 – 9/2015 Clinical supervisor

Courtney Cornick, B.S. 2/2014 - 5/2014 Clinical supervisor

Lyndsey Wallace, Psy.D. 2/2014 – 8/2014 Clinical supervisor

Irene Kostiwa, Ph.D. 8/2013 – 8/2014 Clinical supervisor

Katherine Reiter, M.S. 6/2013 – 8/2014 Research supervisor

Jessica McClintock, M.S. 8/2012 - 7/2013 Clinical supervisor

**ALLIED HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS MENTORED:**

**Discipline Time Frame Number**

Audiology Residents 7/2017-current 6

Pharmacy Residents 2/2016-current 10

Medical Social Work Interns 1/2016-current 2

Geriatric Medicine Fellows 3/2016 -current 26

Mental Health RNs 2015-2016 2

**REFEREED JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS/ORIGINAL PAPERS:**

**Schoulte, J.,** (2011). Examining grief with a multicultural lens. *Journal of Mental Health*

*Counseling, 33,*11-20.

**Schoulte, J.,** Lohnberg, J. Tallman, B., & Altmaier, E. (2011). Influence of coping style

on symptom interference among adult recipients of hematopoietic stem cell transplantation. *Oncology Nursing Forum, 38,* 582-586.

**Schoulte, J.,** Schultz, J., & Altmaier, E.(2011). Forgiveness in response to cultural

microaggressions. *Counselling Psychology Quarterly, 24,* 291-300.

**Schoulte, J.,** Sussman, Z., Tallman, B.,Cornick, C., Deb, M., & Altmaier, E. (2012). Is

there growth in grief? Measuring Posttraumatic Growth within the grief response?

*Open Journal of Medical Psychology, 1,* 38-43.

**Sussman, J.**, & Liu, W. (2013). Perceptions of Two Therapeutic Approaches for

Palliative Care Patients Experiencing Death Anxiety. *Palliative & Supportive Care.*

Wolfgram, D., Vogt, E., Smith, H., Jahn, A., **Sussman, J.,** Visotcky, A., Laud, P &

Whittle, J(2016). Hemodynamics during Dialysis and Changes in Cognitive Performance. *Wisconsin Medical Journal.*

**Sussman, J.,** Smith, H., Larsen, S., & Rieter, K. (2016). Veterans’ Satisfaction

with Erectile Dysfunction Treatment. *Federal Practitioner.*

Schubhmel, S. & **Sussman, J** (2018). Perspective on Pimavanserin and the SAPS-PD:

Novel Scale Development as a Means to FDA Approval. *American Journal of Geriatric Psychiatry.*

Sheffler, J., Schmiege, S., **Sussman, J.,** & Bekelman, D. (2020). A longitudinal

analysis of the relationships between depression, fatigue, and pain in patients with heart failure.

Geppert, C., Tarzian, A., **Sussman**, **J.,** & Hester, H. (2024). Aging and Mental Health.

Enhancing Decision-Making Capacity Assessments Beyond Outlier Cases:

A Multi-Faceted Health Care Systems Approach. *The American Journal of Bioethics 24,* 90-93. https://doi.org/10.1080/15265161.20

**BOOK CHAPTER:**

**Sussman, J.** (2019) Observe caregivers nonverbal cues: Gather information from

caregivers to increase accuracy and efficiency in the diagnosis of cognitive disorders. In S.A. Simpson and A.K. McDowell (Eds.) The Clinical Interview: *Skills for More Effective Patient encounters.*

**PEER REVIEWED PRESENTATIONS:**

Doobey, A. F., Clay, D. L., Cortina, S., Hall, T., Gross, J., Butler, C., & **Schoulte, J.**

(2006, April). Examining the effects of bullying: Academic performance, healthcare, and resiliency among middle and high schools students. Poster presented at the *National Conference on Child Health Psychology*, Gainesville, Florida.

Rodriguez-Romaguera, J., **Schoulte, J.,** Duff, M., Buchanan, T., & Tranel, D.

(2007, July). Psychological Stress: Sex differences in cortisol response and speech productivity. Poster presented at the *Summer Research Opportunity Program, Research Conference,* Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana.

Lohnberg, J., **Schoulte, J.** Tallman, B., & Altmaier, E. (2008, March) Coping Predicts

Symptom interference Among bone marrow transplant patients. Poster presented at the *Society of Behavioral Medicine Conference,* San Diego, California.

Howarth, R., **Schoulte, J**., & Lamskova, E. (2008, March). Experiences with grief and

loss. Symposium conducted at the *International Counseling Psychology Conference*, Chicago, Illinois.

**Schoulte, J**., & Schultz, J., (2008, August). Explaining microaggressions in the context

of forgiveness. In E. Ward (Chair). Healing from racism- psychologists creating change through resilience and empowerment. Symposium conducted at the *American Psychological Association,* Boston, Massachusetts.

**Schoulte, J**., & Altmaier, E. (2008, August). Do grief measures really measures grief?

Poster presented at the *American Psychological Association,* Boston, Massachusetts.

**Schoulte, J.,** Sussman, Z., Turskey, D. Lohnberg, J., Rickels, H., & Kaffela, V. (2009,

April). Psychological predication of quality of life following interdisciplinary chronic back pain treatment. Poster presented at *Iowa Psychological Association*, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

**Sussman, J.,** (2014, May). Challenging Dementia Conversations: Driving, Firearms,

and living alone. Symposium conducted at *Wisconsin State Alzhiemer’s*

*Assocation.*, Wisconsin Dells, WI.

Nearing, K., O'Brien, E., **Sussman, J**., Church, S. (2018, March) Geriatrics Associated

Health Training Program Interprofessional Case Conference: Supporting Interpersonal Communication. Western Group on Educational Affairs (WGEA) Regional Meeting. Denver, CO.

DeVaughn, S., Johnson, R., Hale, A., Galenbeck, E., **Sussman, J**., Nearing, K., & Lum,

H. (2019, April) Implementation of a Virtual Training to Community Nursing Homes in Rural Colorado for Dementia Care.Post-Acute and Long-term Care Conference. University of Colorado School of Medicine. Aurora, CO.

Rogers, E., Bricker P., **& Sussman, J.** (2019, May).Implementation of caregiver stress

screening tool in patients with neurodegenerative diseases. American Geriatrics Society Conference. Portland, OR.

Reynolds, I., **Sussman, J.,** & Ellis, E. (2020, February). Multidisciplinary Behavioral

Approaches to Managing Dementia Symptoms. National GRECC Connect Virtual Conference (200+ attendees)

Lum, H & Hung, W (Chairs). **Sussman, J**., Dang, S., Padala, P., Gately, M., Moo, L.

(2020, May). Practical Tips for Telehealth for Older Rural Adults. National GRECC Connect Virtual Conference (700 attendees).

**Sussman, J**. & Moo, L. (2020, November). Chairs of an interdisciplinary four part

symposium. Telehealth: Providing Dementia Services to Rural Older Adult Caregivers. **Sussman J.**  Rural psychological Support to Caregivers of Dementia. Conducted at the Gerontological Society of American National Conference (virtual due to COVID-19) (180+ attendees)

Nearing, K.A., Lum, H.D., Kamper, H., Cannizzaro, K.A., Bauers, C., & **Sussman, J.**

(2019, November). Access to Care Rounds: A Unique Forum Fostering Health System and Social Service Partnerships for Older Veterans. Geriatric Society of America Conference. Austin, TX.

Wilking-Johnson, J & **Sussman, J.** Huddle Up! (2020, November). A Comprehensive

Approach to Improving Interdisciplinary Huddle in a VA Geriatric Primary Care Clinic. Poster presented at the Gerontological Society of American National Conference (virtual due to COVID-19).

**Sussman, J.** (2021, February). Living well with Dementia. Presented as part of

collaborative Emotional and Mental Health Seminar Series sponsored by University of Colorado Multidisciplinary Aging Center, University of Colorado, Colorado Springs Aging Program and Denver Public Libraries. (virtual due to COVID-19) (100+ attendees).

**Sussman, J.,** & Hartz S. (2022, September). Caring for the Caregiver of Dementia who

is Stuck. National GRECC Connect Virtual Conference (750+ attendees)

Hester, H., **Sussman, J.,** & Geppert. (Oct 2023). You Say Yes, I say No, You Say Stay, I

Say Go: Standardizing Decisional Capacity Assessment and Documentation. American Society for Bioethics and Humanities 25th Annual Conference. Baltimore, MD.

**VA WORKGROUP PUBLICATIONS:**

Recommendations by the Veteran’s Health Administration Cognitive and Mood

Assessment in Dementia Evaluation Workgroup [includes **Sussman, J.** as author] (December, 2018). Cognition and Depression Assessment in Dementia Evaluation. VHA. [GEC National - Cognitive and Mood Assessment in Dementia Evaluation - All Documents (sharepoint.com)](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fdvagov.sharepoint.com%2Fsites%2FVHAGeriatrics%2Fnational%2Fah%2Fforms%2Fallitems.aspx%3Frootfolder%3D%252Fsites%252Fgeriatrics%252Fnational%252Fah%252Fdementia%2520materials%26folderctid%3D0x01200023199d6eaa75dd4088835a382085b7d2%26id%3D%252Fsites%252FVHAGeriatrics%252Fnational%252FAH%252FVHA%2520DEMENTIA%2520SHAREPOINT%252FCognitive%2520and%2520Mood%2520Assessment%2520in%2520Dementia%2520Evaluation%26viewid%3D59203246-8d8b-467a-8dea-68b7f214ea26&data=04%7C01%7C%7C43988a0114774330ae3008d9e803de13%7Ce95f1b23abaf45ee821db7ab251ab3bf%7C0%7C0%7C637795927060340538%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=Q3Dr6v%2FGaL57eL5uIBtqCp3TGYowIOt0mNy5awTK3mQ%3D&reserved=0)

Guidebook for Developing a VHA specialty Geriatric Mental Health Clinic. [includes

Sussman J as author] (January, 2022) [Guidebook for Developing a VHA Specialty Geriatric Mental Health Clinic](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fdvagov.sharepoint.com%2Fsites%2FVHAGeriatricMentalHealth%2FShared%2520Documents%2FForms%2FAllItems.aspx%3Fcsf%3D1%26web%3D1%26e%3DW67qbI%26OR%3DTeams-HL%26CT%3D1643908148204%26params%3D%257B%2522AppName%2522%253A%2522Teams-Desktop%2522%252C%2522AppVersion%2522%253A%252227%252F22010300408%2522%257D%26cid%3D362cc61f-52e2-44a1-b0f0-b078531f98af%26FolderCTID%3D0x0120008ECDEF6A2E0BDF4EA8141C4EC1B7309B%26id%3D%252Fsites%252FVHAGeriatricMentalHealth%252FShared%2520Documents%252FResources%252FPromising%2520care%2520models%252FSpecialty%2520Geriatric%2520Mental%2520Health%2520Clinic%252FSpecialty%2520Geriatric%2520Mental%2520Health%2520Clinic%2520guidebook%2520Jan%25202022.pdf%26parent%3D%252Fsites%252FVHAGeriatricMentalHealth%252FShared%2520Documents%252FResources%252FPromising%2520care%2520models%252FSpecialty%2520Geriatric%2520Mental%2520Health%2520Clinic&data=04%7C01%7C%7Ce6bbce4297674209503608d9e75a1cbd%7Ce95f1b23abaf45ee821db7ab251ab3bf%7C0%7C0%7C637795196472761713%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=daolMDUjjwXzwHOB9rQFY0T4P8K7wY6tKHq43Ri5btY%3D&reserved=0)

**MEDIA:**

Invited Speaker on NPR news story (2018): Firearms and Dementia: How to convince you loved ones to give up their guns.

<https://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2018/11/13/660052285/firearms-and-dementia-how-do-you-convince-a-loved-one-to-give-up-their-guns>

**PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT**

Developed and implemented a 6-week ACT for Pain Management group for 2012

Veterans enrolled in residential treatment at the Milwaukee VAMC.

Developed and implemented a monthly lecture series for Medical College of 2013

Wisconsin medical residents and students on assessing decision-making capacity.

Developed and implemented a 6-week interdisciplinary healthy aging class for 2015

Veterans receiving primary care services at Eastern Colorado Health Care System.

Co-developed the GRECC allied health care case conference for GRECC trainees 2016

focused on communication among trainees from various geriatric disciplines. It is a

monthly conference which has been presently nationally as an innovative project.

Co-developed the ECHCS dementia care team, an interdisciplinary consultant 2016

team focused on identifying persons with dementia and assisting care partners and caregivers in planning for the future as well as managing dementia symptoms.

In Collaboration with Veteran Community Partnership colleagues, assisted with the 2017 development of a quarterly Access to Care grand rounds focused on bridging

resources and networking between community partners and VA staff.

Co-developed a project to increase Veterans’ capacity to hear well in primary care 2020 settings. Using GRECC funding, initiated the placement of hearing amplifiers in

primary care exam rooms at Rocky Mountain Regional VAMC.

Co-developed a decision making capacity EHR template and community of 2024

practice for VHA sites.