

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Provide the following information for the Senior/key personnel and other significant contributors in the order listed on Form Page 2. Follow this format for each person. **DO NOT EXCEED FOUR PAGES.**

NAME Kristina Little, LMSW	POSITION TITLE Social Worker, Oncology Support Mary Bird Perkins-Our Lady of the Lake Cancer Center
eRA COMMONS USER NAME (credential, e.g., agency login)	

EDUCATION/TRAINING *(Begin with baccalaureate or other initial professional education, such as nursing, include postdoctoral training and residency training if applicable.)*

INSTITUTION AND LOCATION	DEGREE <i>(if applicable)</i>	MM/YY	FIELD OF STUDY
Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA LSU School of Social Work, Baton Rouge, LA	BS MSW	05/2004 05/2011	Psychology Social Work

A. Personal Statement

A key part of the proposed project is cancer care delivery research, in which patient navigation plays an important role. As an oncology patient navigator working with the head and neck cancer population, I am in a unique position to collect and report on patient data and outcomes. I have access to clinic and hospital information which allows me to track patients from the time they are diagnosed to completion of treatment in order to recognize trends in delays of care. My main duties are performing psychosocial assessments with newly diagnosed patients, decreasing barriers to care, providing education to patients and families about their diagnosis, treatment, genetic counseling, and clinical trials; ensuring prompt follow-up; leading a laryngectomy support group; participating in the head and neck interdisciplinary team efforts to improve patient care; and providing support for patients and families throughout treatment and into survivorship. I also assist with communication between multiple disciplines and appointment coordination. I am able to perform these duties through working relationships and constant communication with clinicians in the inpatient hospital, radiation oncology clinic, medical oncology clinic, and the head and neck surgery clinic. I also participate in weekly tumor conferences and report to the Head and Neck Multidisciplinary Team. I am a member of the Head and Neck Interdisciplinary Support Team, which consists of nurses, dieticians, therapists, and medical management. With the input of the head and neck interdisciplinary support team, in 2012 I completed a Laryngectomy Patient Handbook to better prepare patients for their life-changing surgery. This handbook is now used by outpatient and inpatient speech therapists when performing all pre-surgery laryngectomy teachings. My role in the interdisciplinary support team is to pull team members together to identify and implement new strategies to improve patient care and experience.

B. Positions and Honors

Positions and Employment

- 2011 – Present Social Worker (Licensed Master of Social Work), Patient Navigation/Oncology Support, Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center
- 2007 – 2010 Patient Service Representative, LSU Healthcare Network

Honors

- 2002 Sophomore Honors Distinction, Louisiana State University
- 2010 Carl Maddox Award for Academic Achievement, LSU School of Social Work
- 2011 James Midgley Leadership Award, LSU School of Social Work

C. Research and Publications

Little, K. G., & Wilks, S. E. (2011). Psychometric Evaluation of a Proposed Alzheimer's Aggression Scale. *American Journal of Alzheimer's Disease and Other Dementias*, 26, 373-380.

Wilks, S. E., Little, K. G., Hough, H., & Spurlock, W. (2011). Alzheimer's aggression: Influences on caregiver coping strategy and resilience. *Journal of Gerontological Social Work*, 54, 160-175.

- Presented at the Life Course and Aging Center 8th Annual Student Poster Session, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, January 2011
- Accepted for presentation at the Society for Social Work and Research 15th Annual Conference, Tampa, Florida.

Undergraduate Honors Thesis, Louisiana State University, 2004. *The Effects of Music and Television on Fourth and Sixth Graders' Performance on Mathematics and Reading Comprehension Assignments*. Under the direction of Dr. Emily M. Elliott.

D. Research Support

N/A