

**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<br>Melissa Smithee   |                        | POSITION TITLE<br>Patient Navigator                      |                       |
| eRA COMMONS USER NAME (credential, e.g., agency login)  |                        | Mary Bird Perkins and Our Lady of the Lake Cancer Center |                       |
| 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 (if applicable) | MM/YY  | FIELD OF STUDY        |
| Louisiana State University-Baton Rouge, LA  | BS                     | 12/2005  | Sociology             |
| Louisiana State University-Baton Rouge, LA  | MSW                    | 05/2008  | Master of Social Work |

Please refer to the application instructions in order to complete sections A, B, C, and D of the Biographical Sketch.

**A. Personal Statement**

Patient navigation plays an essential role in cancer care delivery research. As a patient navigator, I collect vital data in our cancer navigation database, and track patient outcomes thorough our Lung Cancer Screening Program. I currently work with our lung and neurological oncology patients. As a patient navigator, I am responsible for completing psychosocial assessments, assessing and eliminating barriers to care, and offering support.

In 2011, I participated in a research study entitled *The Effectiveness of a Structured Patient Education Model (PITS©) in Mitigating the Effects of Neutropenia among Chemotherapy Patients*, sponsored by the Daisy Foundation. The purpose of the project was to demonstrate the efficacy of a structured patient education model, delivered by patient navigators, to increase health literacy and mitigate neutropenia consequences for chemotherapy patients scheduled for at least three treatment sessions. As a patient navigator I was responsible for teaching patients the PITS model, initial assessments, delivery of education content, patient coaching, post-assessments, follow-ups and the collection of data outcomes.

In November of 2012, we launched our Lung Cancer Screening Program, which was designated as a Center of Excellence by the *Lung Cancer Alliance*. We developed this program through our Multidisciplinary Care Team, to carry out a coordinated continuum of care for screening, diagnosis, and disease management based on best practices. I am responsible for navigating those patients through the screening process, and tracking patient outcomes.

**B. Positions and Licensure**

Positions

07/10-Present      Patient Navigator, Oncology Support, Mary Bird Perkins and Our Lady of the Lake Cancer Center

05/08-07/10      Social Worker 2, Elayn Hunt Correctional Center

Program Director/Principal Investigator (Last, First, Middle):

Licensure

08/2012-Present LCSW, Licensed Clinical Social Worker, in the state of Louisiana

08/2010-08/2012 LMSW, Licensed Master Social Worker, in the state of Louisiana

**C. Selected Peer-reviewed Publications**

N/A

**D. Research Support**

Kalil, G., Hotard, S., & Smithee, M., (2011). “The effectiveness of a Structured Patient Education Model (PITS©) in mitigating the effects of neutropenia among chemotherapy patients”. Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center, the Daisy Foundation.