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Dr. Susan Murasak, MD

Board Certified in Psychiatry

Articulate, Board certified Psychiatrist with more than 30 years of clinical expertise and 1 year of medical-legal expertise. Highly specialized in Bipolar Disorders, Mood Disorders, and Psychopharmacology.

EDUCATION

- **University of California, Berkeley, CA (1988)**
Bachelor's degree, Psychology
- **Columbia University, New York, NY (1991)**
Post Baccalaureate
- **Wayne State University Medical School, Detroit, MI (1996)**
Doctor of Medicine, MD
- **Harbor-UCLA Medical Center, Torrance, CA (2000)**
Internship and Residency – Psychiatry, Chief Resident (1999-2000)
- **University of California, Los Angeles, CA (2001)**
Fellowship – Psychiatry, Psychopharmacology, and Mood Disorders

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- **Private Practice, Psychopharmacology and Mood Disorders Psychiatrist (1999 to 2013)**
- **Mood Disorders Research Center, Associate Physician Diplomate (2001 to 2013)**

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- West LA VA Medical Center, Bipolar Clinic, Clinical Instructor (2000 to 2013)
- UCLA Mood Disorder Clinic, Clinical Instructor (2004 to 2013)

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology
- California Board Certified Medical License

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- American Psychiatric Association
- Southern California Psychiatric Association
- American Medical Association

HONORS AND AWARDS

- Jansen Psychiatry Resident Award of Excellence
- Chief Resident Leadership Conference Award
- Winner of Patients' Choice Award, Vitals.com 2011 and 2012
- America's Top Psychiatrists Award 2010, 2011, and 2012

RESEARCH & PUBLICATIONS

Research

1R01 MH074707 (PI: Lori Altshuler MD) (2006 to 2012)

National Institute of Mental Health

Bipolar II Depression: Lithium, SSRI or the Combination

Goal: to compare three treatments (sertraline monotherapy, lithium monotherapy, or sertraline plus lithium) in a randomized, blinded fashion to determine optimal treatment (efficacy and safety) for bipolar II depression

1R01MH084955 (PI: Lori Altshuler MD) (2009 to 2014)

National Institute of Mental Health

Mapping Brain Structure to Function in Euthymic Subjects with Bipolar Disorder

Goal: To compare brain functional deficits in persons with bipolar disorder (observed during the performance of neuropsychological tasks during functional MRI) to gray and white matter volume data obtained from structural MRI.

Publications

- Chinman, M, Hassel, J., Magnabosco, J., Nowlin-Finch, N., Marusak, S, Young, A. , July 2007
The Feasibility of Computerized Patient Self-Assessment at Mental Health Clinics.
Administration and Policy in Mental Health Services research, V.34 No4 p(410)-409

- Cardenas,J., Frye,M., Marusak,S.L., Levander, E., Chrichingno, J., Lewis, S., Nakelsky, S., Hwang, S., Mintz, J., Altshuler., L 7/12/07. Modal Subcomponents of Metabolic Syndrome in Patients with Bipolar Disorder. Journal of Affective Disorders 106(2008)91-7 7/12/2007
- Bearden, C., Shoh,V., Green, M., Sokonki, K., Levander,E., Marusak, S., Hammen, C., Sugar, C., Altshuler, L., 06/11 The impact of neurocognitive impairment on occupational recovery of clinically stable patients with bipolar disorder: a prospective study. Bipolar Disorders 13(4): 323-33
- Altshuler, LL, Wilkinson C, Roach J, Levander E, Marusak S, State R: Serum level changes associated with switching psychiatric patients from a delayed-release to an extended-release formulation of Divalproex sodium. NCDEU, Phoenix, AZ, June 2004.
- Cardenas, J, Frye MA, Marusak SL, Levander EM, Chirichigno JW, Altshuler LL: Prevalence of metabolic syndrome in VA bipolar patients. American Psychiatric Association Meetings, Toronto, Canada, May 2006.