
Jessica Lynn Burris, Ph.D.

Brief Bio:

I am an Assistant Professor and licensed psychologist with expertise in health psychology. On the patient care side of things, I supervise the work of interns in one of Kentucky's APA-accredited internships. This work is carried out in a women's primary care practice setting and embodies integrated behavioral health models. In addition to my clinical work, I conduct research studies that span the continuum from cancer prevention to cancer control. Recently, I have focused on better understanding the "ins and outs" of smoking cessation, all with a goal of delivering more effective interventions to cancer survivors who smoke. Finally, I aspire to get more involved in advocacy and hope that my new role in KPA will provide the requisite education and platform to do so.

As a Board Member, what do you find the most rewarding - or what are you most hoping to accomplish?:

In terms of KPA membership and attendance in the KPA annual convention and academic conference, I hope to secure a wider representation across all of the colleges and universities in KY.

How did you end up in psychology?:

I always wanted a profession as a healthcare provider, but wasn't sure how to manage that due to my (undiagnosed case of) hemophobia. Late in high school, I began to settle on the pursuit of a degree in psychology because I thought it would allow me to work in healthcare without any need to face my fears. Turns out, it's also a great career path.