

Prof. Anja Mehnert-Theuerkauf, PhD, Professor of Medical Psychology

Research focus

- Epidemiology of mental disorders in patients with severe medical conditions
- Psychotherapy research in patients with severe medical conditions
- mHealth, digital health literacy and patient-reported outcomes
- Health services and survivorship research
- Employment, work and mental health

Official position

Chair, Department of Medical Psychology and Medical Sociology

Institution

University Medical Center Leipzig, Medical Faculty

Business address

Philipp-Rosenthal-Strasse 55, 04103 Leipzig

Academic education and degrees

2013	Licence („Approbation“) as psychological psychotherapist (behavioral therapy)
2010	Habilitation in Medical Psychology and Clinical Psychology, and Venia Legendi, Medical Faculty, University of Hamburg
2005	PhD, University of Hamburg („summa cum laude“)
2000	Postgraduate study and certificate in Health Economics, European Business School (ebs) International University Schloss Reichartshausen, Oestrich- Winkel
1993 - 1999	Study and graduation in Psychology (Diploma), University of Hamburg

Professional career

2014	Appointment as professor Medical Psychology and Medical Sociology, University Medical Center Leipzig
2013 - 2014	Interim chair, Department of Medical Psychology and Medical Sociology, University Medical Center Leipzig
2012 - 2015	Chair, Division of Psychosocial Oncology, University Medical Center Leipzig
2012	Appointment as professor for psychosocial oncology, University Medical Center Leipzig

2008 - 2012 Senior Lecturer in medical psychology and head of the psycho-oncology and palliative health services research group, Department of Medical Psychology, University Medical Center Hamburg-Eppendorf

2010 - 2011 Interim chair, Department of Clinical Psychology and Psychotherapy, Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences, University of Hamburg

2007 - 2008 Postdoctoral Research and Clinical Fellowship, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center (MSKCC), New York City, NY, USA

1999 - 2007 Postgraduate and postdoctoral research staff, Department of Medical Psychology, University Medical Center Hamburg-Eppendorf

Honors, awards and positions

Since 2020

[Boardmember German Cancer Society \(DKG\)](#)

Since 2019

Advisory board [German Cancer Aid Foundation](#) (DKH)

Since 2019

Member of the expert committee "Healthcare Measures and Research with Health / Structural Policy Orientation" of the [German Cancer Aid Foundation](#) (Deputy Spokeswoman since 10/2019) (DKH)

Since 2018

Supervisory board member, [University Medical Center Düsseldorf](#)

Since 2018

Member of the working group of the [Federal Ministry of Health \(BMG\)](#) "Long-term survival after cancer" (AG LONKO) within the National Cancer Plan (NKP) (spokeswoman U-AG 1)

2018

Congress President of the joint annual conference of the German Society for Medical Psychology (DGMP) and the German Society for Medical Sociology (DGMS): "From global challenges in health care to community-based and individual psychosocial intervention strategies", Leipzig

2017	Congress President: 19th International Psycho-Oncology (IPOS) Society Congress „Cancer throughout the lifespan – Meeting the psychosocial needs of different cancer populations“ Berlin
Since 2017	Board member, University Center of Health Services Research (UZVF) University of Leipzig
2016	German Cancer Award (Clinical Research) from the German Cancer Society (DKG)
2016	1st Research and Innovation Award of the Society for Rehabilitation Sciences
Since 2015	Board member German College of Psychosomatic Medicine (DKPM)
Since 2015	Invited member International Faculty: Global Institute of Psychosocial, Palliative and End-of-Life Care (GIPPEC)
2015 - 2020	Member of the senate of the University of Leipzig
Since 2013	Member of the management and steering committee of the University Cancer Center Leipzig (UCCL)
2012 - 2020	Board member and chair (2014 – 2018) of the Psycho-Oncology workgroup (PSO) within the German Cancer Society (DKG)
2012 - 2019	Board member International Psycho-Oncology Society (IPOS)
2010	Hans Roemer Award 2009 of the German College for Psychosomatic Medicine (DKPM)
2009	International Psycho-Oncology Society (IPOS) Hiroomi Kawano New Investigator Award
2008	Rehabilitation Science Promotional Award 2007, Karlsruhe Sanatorium AG (KASANAG)
2006	Young Scientist Award from the German Society for Medical Psychology (DGMP)
2004	PhD award bio-psycho-social medicine 2004 of the German College for Psychosomatic Medicine (DKPM)
2004	International Society for Quality of Life Research (ISOQOL) New Investigator Award

Current Journal Editorial positions

Since 2020	Specialty Chief Editor, Frontiers in Psycho-Oncology (Frontiers)
Since 2014	Associate Editor, Journal of Cancer Survivorship (Springer)
Since 2014	Associate Editor, Psychotherapie Psychosomatik Medizinische Psychologie (Thieme)
Since 2019	Editorial board, Zeitschrift für Palliativmedizin (Thieme)
Since 2018	Editorial board, Oncology Research and Treatment (Karger)
Since 2012	Editorial board, Psycho-Oncology (Wiley)

10 most important peer-reviewed papers (10 out of 254, Scopus h-index: 38)

1. **Mehnert A**, Koranyi S, Philipp R, Scheffold K, Kriston L et al. Efficacy of the Managing Cancer and Living Meaningfully (CALM) individual psychotherapy for patients with advanced cancer: A single-blind randomized controlled trial. *Psychooncology*. 2020; doi: 10.1002/pon.5521.
2. Esser P, Glaesmer H, Faller H, Koch U ... **Mehnert A**. Posttraumatic stress disorder among cancer patients-Findings from a large and representative interview-based study in Germany. *Psychooncology*. 2019;28(6):1278-1285.
3. **Mehnert A**, Hartung TJ, Friedrich M, Vehling S, Brähler E et al. One in two cancer patients is significantly distressed: Prevalence and indicators of distress. *Psychooncology*. 2018;27(1):75-82.
4. Hartung TJ, Brähler E, Faller H, Härter M, Hinz A ... **Mehnert A**. The risk of being depressed is significantly higher in cancer patients than in the general population: Prevalence and severity of depressive symptoms across major cancer types. **Eur J Cancer**. 2017;72:46-53.
5. Vehling S, Kissane DW, Lo C, Glaesmer H, Hartung TJ, Rodin G, **Mehnert A**. The association of demoralization with mental disorders and suicidal ideation in patients with cancer. *Cancer*. 2017;123(17):3394-3401.
6. Kuhnt S, Brähler E, Faller H, Härter M, Keller M ... **Mehnert A**. Twelve-Month and Lifetime Prevalence of Mental Disorders in Cancer Patients. *Psychother Psychosom*. 2016;85(5):289-96.
7. **Mehnert A**, Brähler E, Faller H, Härter M, Keller M et al. Four-week prevalence of mental disorders in patients with cancer across major tumor entities. *J Clin Oncol*. 2014;32(31):3540-6.
8. **Mehnert A**, de Boer A, Feuerstein M. Employment challenges for cancer survivors. *Cancer*. 2013;119(11):2151-9.
9. **Mehnert A**. Employment and work-related issues in cancer survivors. *Crit Rev Oncol Hematol*. 2011;77(2):109-30.
10. **Mehnert A**, Koch U. Psychological comorbidity and health-related quality of life and its association with awareness, utilization, and need for psychosocial support in a cancer register-based sample of long-term breast cancer survivors. *J Psychosom Res*. 2008;64(4):383-91.