

Brief Biography: William Breitbart, M.D.

William Breitbart, M.D. is Chairman, the Jimmie C. Holland Chair in Psychiatric Oncology, and Attending Psychiatrist, Psychiatry Service, in the Department of Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York, NY. Dr. Breitbart is also Attending Psychiatrist, Supportive Care Service, Department of Medicine at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center (MSKCC) and Professor of Clinical Psychiatry and Vice Chairman, Department of Psychiatry at Weill Cornell Medical College.

A graduate of the Albert Einstein College of Medicine at Yeshiva University, Dr. Breitbart is board-certified in Internal Medicine, Psychiatry, and Psychosomatic Medicine. He received both a Clinical Fellowship (1985-1986) and a Career Development Award (1986-1989) from the American Cancer Society. He was a Soros Faculty Scholar of the Open Society Institute, Project on Death in America (1995-1998). Dr. Breitbart was a founding member of the American Psychosocial Oncology Society (APOS) and the International Psycho-oncology Society (IPOS). He was President of the Academy of Psychosomatic Medicine in 2007, and also served as President of the International Psycho-oncology Society. He was a member of the Board of Directors of the American Pain Society and is a member of the International Association for the Study of Pain. He was a panel member for the American Psychiatric Association Guidelines for the Management of Delirium, the AHCPR Cancer Pain Management Guidelines, and the NCCN Guidelines Panels for Distress, and for Fatigue. Dr. Breitbart served as a permanent member of the NIH Behavioral Medicine Study Section for 15 years. Dr. Breitbart also served as Chief of the Psychiatry Service at MSKCC from 1996 to 2017.

Dr. Breitbart's research efforts have focused on psychiatric aspects of cancer and palliative care, and have included studies of interventions for anxiety, depression, desire for death and delirium in cancer and AIDS patients. Other research efforts include investigating the neuropsychiatric problems of cancer and AIDS patients, including pain, fatigue and other symptoms. Most recently, Dr. Breitbart has studied cytokine mediators of depression in pancreatic cancer patients, and has developed novel psychotherapy interventions aimed at sustaining meaning and improving spiritual well-being in the terminally ill. Dr. Breitbart has had continuous NIH RO1 funding of investigator initiated research since 1989. Dr. Breitbart has received numerous awards including: the 2003 Research Award from the Academy of Psychosomatic Medicine; the 2007 Donald Oken Award from the American Psychosomatic Society; the 2008 Lifetime Achievement Award from the Society for Liaison Psychiatry; the 2009 Arthur Sutherland Lifetime Achievement Award for the International Psycho-oncology Society; the 2009 Willet F. Whitmore Award for Clinical Excellence from Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center; the 2011 Thomas Hackett Award for Lifetime Achievement from the Academy of Psychosomatic Medicine; the 2013 Jimmie Holland Distinguished Leadership Award from the American Psychosocial Oncology Society; the American Cancer Society Trish Greene Quality of Life Research Award; the 2019 International Psycho-oncology Society's Jimmie Holland Award for lifetime contributions to psychiatric oncology; and the 2023 Lifetime Achievement Award for Outstanding Contributions to Palliative Care from the MD Anderson Cancer Center.

Dr. Breitbart has published extensively on the psychiatric complications of cancer and AIDS with 200 peer-reviewed publications and over 200 chapters, review papers, and editorials. In addition, Dr. Breitbart has edited/written 13 textbooks including *Psycho-oncology - 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Editions*; the treatment manuals for *Meaning-Centered Group Psychotherapy in Advanced Cancer Patients*, and *Individual Meaning-Centered Psychotherapy for Advanced Cancer Patient*; *Meaning Centered Psychotherapy in the Cancer Setting*; and *Handbook of Psychiatry in Palliative Medicine, 1st, 2nd and 3rd Editions* from Oxford University Press. Dr. Breitbart is Editor-in-Chief, of Cambridge University Press' international palliative care journal entitled, "*Palliative & Supportive Care*". Dr. Breitbart also helped found IPOS Press, the publications arm of the International

Psycho-oncology Society and authored the IPOS Press/Oxford University Press text *Psychosocial Palliative Care*.