



CLINICAL PSYCHIATRY - Kenneth G. Terkelsen, MD



Dr. Kenneth Terkelsen has devoted his career to the treatment of the seriously mentally ill as a clinician, a teacher, an innovator, and an administrator. Dividing his career between New York City and Cape Cod, he has developed programs for the treatment of schizophrenia and borderline personality while always being highly committed to patients with the greatest needs.

Dr. Terkelsen graduated from Georgetown University and Jefferson Medical College. After his internship at Boston City Hospital, he completed his psychiatric residency at Lincoln Hospital and Albert Einstein College of Medicine. He also completed a fellowship in Social and Community Psychiatry in the Southeast Bronx. Dr. Terkelsen worked for several years providing outpatient mental health services for New York State in the Washington Heights section of New York. In 1987, he moved to Cornell/ New York Hospital's Westchester Division, where he developed an intensive outpatient program for people with schizophrenia and played a leading role in making Clozapine available for treatment. He worked to develop a separate outpatient program for people with borderline personality disorder. During this period, he received the Outstanding Advocate Award in 1989 from The Alliance for the Mentally Ill of New York State. In 1989, he received the Teacher of the Year Award from the Cornell Department of Psychiatry, and in 1992, he received the Exceptional Psychiatrist Award from the National Alliance on Mental Illness. Dr. Terkelsen became Associate Professor of Clinical Psychiatry at the Weill Medical College of Cornell University.

At this point in his career, Dr. Terkelsen returned to Massachusetts, and became Medical Director in the DMH Cape and Islands Community Health Center for five years, after which he served 5 years as the Medical Director for Outpatient Services at Gosnald. From 2007-2013, he worked in private practice in general psychiatry. He became a member of the psychiatric staff of the Community Health Center of Cape Cod in 2008, where he served as a psychiatrist, closely collaborating with the primary care team. In 2017, he helped develop the telemedicine service and the Community Health Center. He is currently working with the challenges of COVID and the use of intranasal Esketamine in a primary care setting.

Dr. Terkelsen has excelled as an administrator, a teacher, a clinician and as an advocate for the mentally ill. An excellent collaborator, he has successfully brought his leadership to a large and divergent number of settings. Fortunately for the residents of Cape Cod, he shows no signs of slowing down and continues to be a pillar for psychiatric services on Cape Cod. He has truly had an outstanding and distinguished career.

The MPS is pleased to present Dr. Kenneth Terkelsen with the Massachusetts Psychiatric Society 2021 Outstanding Psychiatrist Award for Clinical Psychiatry.