



Department of Veterans Affairs

Senior Executive Biography

Wendy N. Tenhula, Ph.D.

Deputy Chief Research and Development Officer Office of Research and Development, Veterans Health Administration

In her current role, Dr. Tenhula is responsible for directing, coordinating and evaluating the Veterans Health Administration's national Research and Development program with a focus on increasing Veteran access to high quality clinical trials, increasing the real-world impact of VA research and transforming VA data into a national research resource. Before assuming this position, Dr. Tenhula was the Deputy Chief Consultant for Specialty Mental Health / Director of Innovation & Collaboration in VHA. In this role she led VHA's specialized mental health programs, VA's collaboration with other federal agencies on mental health issues and VA's national, award-winning Make the Connection mental health outreach campaign. Dr. Tenhula is a clinical psychologist with expertise in the development, implementation, and evaluation of psychosocial interventions; cognitive functioning in schizophrenia; vocational rehabilitation; and reducing the stigma associated with seeking mental health treatment. She has published multiple research articles and book chapters in the field of Psychology.



CAREER CHRONOLOGY:

- 2018-present Deputy Chief Research and Development Officer, Office of Research and Development, Veterans Health Administration (VHA)
- 2016-2018 Deputy Chief Consultant for Specialty Mental Health / Director of Innovation & Collaboration, Office of Mental Health and Suicide Prevention, VHA
- 2011-2016 National Director, VA/DoD Integrated Mental Health, Mental Health Services, VHA
- 2009-2011 Senior Consultant / Liaison for Psychological Health, Department of Veterans Affairs and the Defense Centers of Excellence for Psychological Health and Traumatic Brain Injury.
- 2008-2009 Director, Special Fellowship for Advanced Training in Psychology, VA Capitol Health Care Network (VISN 5) Mental Illness Research, Education and Clinical Center (MIRECC).
- 2000-2009 Coordinator, VA Capitol Health Care Network (VISN 5) Mental Illness Research, Education, and Clinical Center (MIRECC).
- 2000-2009 Assistant Professor, Department of Psychiatry, University of Maryland School of Medicine.

EDUCATION:

- 1998 - 1999 Postdoctoral Fellow, Stanford University Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, Stanford, CA.
- 1997 - 1998 Postdoctoral Fellow, Hennepin County Medical Center Department of Psychiatry, Minneapolis, MN.
- 1996-1997 Clinical Psychology Internship, Hennepin County Medical Center, Department of Psychiatry, Minneapolis, MN.
- 1997 Ph.D. Clinical Psychology, Northwestern University, Department of Psychology, Evanston, IL.
- 1995 M.A. Clinical Psychology, Northwestern University, Department of Psychology, Evanston, IL.
- 1989 B.S. Psychology, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN.