

SUSAN C. MCMILLAN

Bachelor of Science in nursing, '81

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McMillan's research focuses on symptom assessment and management and quality of life in persons with cancer. A fellow of the American Academy of Nursing, she has developed clinically relevant tools that nurses may use in assessing patient symptoms. The Constipation Assessment Scale has been widely used both nationally and internationally to improve assessment and management of opiate-induced constipation in persons with cancer. McMillan recently completed a pain management study at two veterans hospitals in which pain resource nurses provided the intervention for staff nurses

working with inpatients with cancer. McMillan and her colleagues are now in the process of analyzing data from their hospice caregiver intervention study. The purpose of that project was to teach a psychoeducational intervention called COPE to caregivers of hospice patients with cancer with the goal of improving symptom management for patients and improving quality of life for both patients and caregivers. That study included the Hospice Quality of Life Index also developed by McMillan.

› PhD in Measurement, 1983
University of South Florida,
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