

Nathaniel Van Kirk



Nathaniel Van Kirk, PhD, is a licensed clinical psychologist, specializing in severe anxiety disorders, obsessive compulsive disorder (OCD), and trauma/PTSD. At McLean Hospital, Dr. Van Kirk is the program director at the OCD Institute. He is a member of the hospital's Patient and Family Advisory Committee and Interdisciplinary Recovery Oriented Practice Committee and also serves as the site facilitator for McLean's Schwartz Rounds Committee.

Dr. Van Kirk's clinical research focuses on the role of motivation across treatment and the impact of trauma on treatment outcomes, and on promoting innovative methods to assess and conceptualize recovery. Additionally, he is involved in efforts to reduce mental health stigma (such as participating in McLean Hospital's Deconstructing Stigma campaign), emphasizing the importance of bridging the gap between therapists, researchers, and those with mental health challenges, including individuals who work in the mental health field. Dr. Van Kirk serves as the president for OCD Massachusetts, a non-profit affiliate of the International OCD Foundation, focused on raising awareness and reducing stigma associated with OCD and related disorders across Massachusetts.

Publications:

[PubMed search for Dr. Van Kirk](#)

Education & Training

Degrees:

- 2008 BS, Virginia Tech
- 2010 MS in Clinical Psychology, Virginia Tech
- 2014 PhD in Clinical Psychology, Virginia Tech

Fellowship:

- 2013-2014 Clinical Psychology Pre-Doctoral Internship, Michael E. DeBakey Veterans Affairs Medical Center
- 2014-2015 Clinical Fellowship, OCD Institute, McLean Hospital/Harvard Medical School
- 2015-2016 Research Fellowship, OCD Institute, McLean Hospital/Harvard Medical School

Board Certifications:

- 2016 Licensed Psychologist, Board of Registration of Psychologists, Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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