



Curriculum Vitae

1/3

MD, PhD, Adjunct Professor
Specialist in Gynecology and Obstetrics
Psychotherapist

KATJA KERO

former Langén
Born 5.4.1972 in Turku, Finland
Finnish citizen
Married to specialist
general practitioner Markku Kero
Two (adult) children

LANGUAGE SKILLS

Finnish, English, Swedish, (French)

CONTACT DETAILS

Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology
Turku University Hospital
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katja.kero@utu.fi

EDUCATION

Graduate of Del Oro High School

Loomis, California, United States 1990

Matriculation Examination

Turun klassillinen Upper Secondary School, Turku, Finland, 1992

Licentiate in Medicine

University of Turku, Finland, 2000

Specialist in Gynaecology and Obstetrics

University of Turku, Finland, 2009

Basic Sexology Studies (NACS) (30 ECTS)

2011

Basic university pedagogy studies (10 ETCS)

University of Turku, Finland, 2011--2012

Doctor of Medicine (PhD)

University of Turku, Finland, 2014

Psychotherapist in Cognitive Integrative Therapy (65 ECTS)

University of Helsinki and Integrum Institute for Cognitive Therapies, Helsinki, Finland, 2021

Cognitive Short Therapy Studies (Year 1, 12 ECTS)

Finland, 2020

Specialist in Mindfulness-Based Cognitive Therapies

MCBT Program, Finland, 2021

EMDR Therapist

EMDR Training Program, Finland, 2022

Special Competence in Medical Education

Association of Medical Education in Finland (AMEF), The Finnish Medical Association, 2022

Adjunct Professor (docent)

University of Turku, Finland, 2023

Sexual Therapist

Sexual Therapy Program, Finland, 2024

Clinical Sexologist

Nordic Association for Clinical Sexology (NACS), 2025

CURRENT POSITIONS

Physician in charge, Specialist in Obstetrics and Gynaecology

Sexual Health Clinic, Turku University Hospital, Finland

Physician in charge, Specialist in Seri Support Centre (TYKS)

A care center for victims of sexual assaults

Private practitioner in obstetrics and gynaecology and sexological counseling

CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

5/1998-8/1998

Harjavalta Psychiatric Hospital • Resident

5/1999-8/1999

Health Center of Lavia • General Practitioner

5/2000-10/2001

Health Center of Turku • General Practitioner

4/2002-1/2003

Forssa Hospital • Resident in Obstetrics and Gynecology

4/2003-1/2004

TYKS Loimaa Hospital • Resident in Obstetrics and Gynecology

2/2004-7/2006

Seinäjäki Central Hospital • Resident in Obstetrics and Gynecology

9/2006-12/2006

Turunmaa Hospital • Resident (Department of Surgery, Urology)

1/2007-3/2009

Turku University Hospital • Resident in Obstetrics and Gynecology

3/2009-present

Turku University Hospital • Specialist in Obstetrics and Gynecology

7/2009-present

Self-Employed • Private Practitioner

1/2011-12/2021

Turku University • Clinical Teacher

8/2011-present

Turku University Hospital, Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Sexual Health Clinic • Physician in Charge, Specialist

5/2019-present

Turku University Hospital, Seri Support Centre
• Physician in Charge, Specialist

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ACTIVITIES IN THE ACADEMIC COMMUNITY

Mannerheim League for Child Welfare, Littoinen

Member of the Board 2008–2012

The Finnish Gynecological Association

Secretary 2016–2017

The Committee for the Promotion of Sexual and Reproductive Health in Finland Proper

Chairman 2020–2021

Vice-Chairman 2016–2019

Member of the Board 2015–2019

The Sexual Health Group of the Finnish Gynecological Association

Chairman 2018–present

The Finnish Gynecological Association's Sexual Health Group

Member of the Board 2010–present

The Finnish Gynecological Association's Sexual Health Group

Member of the Board 2018–2022

The Nordic Society of Sexual Medicine

Member of the Board 2022–present

Vice President 2023–present

President 2024–present

The HPV Coalition

Member; The coalition is founded by experts and a patient organization, whose goal is to promote Finland's commitment to the EU's cancer control plan's goal of eradicating cancers caused by HPV.

The Korento ry

Expert member / "godmother"; Korento ry is a national patient organization that represents up to 200,000 Finns living with endometriosis, adenomyosis, PCOS, and vulvodynia.

The Gynecological Cancer Patients Association of Finland

Expert member

RESEARCH GRANTS

For an updated list of research grants, please refer to [the grants section on my homepage](#).

HONOURS AND PRIZES

Recipient of the Best Thesis Award in 2014

The Finnish Gynaecological Society, Ulla-Maija Mäkilä Fund

Recipient of the Best Thesis Award in 2014

Turunmaa Duodecim Medical Society

Teaching Act of the Year 2024: awarded for organizing the elective course "*Sexuality and Gender*" (Kero K et al.)

Finnish Medical Students' Association

Medical Education Award for Best Educational Program, Helsinki Medical Convention 2025, for the course "*Impact of Illness on Sexuality*"

The Finnish Medical Association

One of the nominees for Duodecim Health Sector Influencer of the Year 2025, Ambassador of Medicine section

The Finnish Medical Society Duodecim

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PHD THESES SUPERVISED

Completed PhD Theses:

PhD Sanna-Mari Manninen: *"Sexual Education in Finland: A National Survey among Medical Students and General Practitioners"*

- Completed her PhD on 8.5.2024 at the University of Turku

Ongoing PhD Supervision:

MD Anna Aromaa's Dissertation: *"Do Gynecologists Talk about Sexual Health? Attitudes, Perceived Barriers, Practice Patterns and Education of Sexual Medicine in Finland: A National Survey among Gynecologists and Obstetricians"*

- PhD thesis completed, defense scheduled for 5 December 2025

MB Viivi Virkkunen's Doctoral Thesis: *"The connection of vascular health, physical activity and fitness to women's sexual function in women of retirement age and the effect of retirement on women's sexual function"*

- First partial publication published in a peer-reviewed journal
- The second publication submitted

PHD THESES REVIEWED

Virtanen Seppo: *"Vaginal Microbiota : Sampling, Clinical Equivalence, and Combined Sequencing"*

- Completed his PhD in 2025 at the University of Helsinki, Finland (medicine)

PUBLICATIONS

Total: 101

Original publications: 29 in international academic journals (total IF count: 163.37), 2 in Finnish journals

Review articles and book chapters: 23

Editorials: 6

Submitted publications: 2 original articles

Poster presentations: 9

Total sum of citations: 434

h-index: 12 (Research Gate)

WORK AS AN EDITOR

Sexual Medicine Textbook, Duodecim Publishing Company Ltd:

- 1st edition (2020) – one of four editors of the first Finnish-language comprehensive textbook (761 pages, 42 authors), authored 9 chapters
- 2nd edition (2025) – served again as editor, authored 11 chapters

Theme Issue Editor, Duodecim Academic Journal

- Guest editor (with Professor Päivi Polo) of the special theme issue ["Impact of Diseases on Sexual Health"](#) (2020).
- Contributed both an editorial and a scientific article to the issue.

Guest Editor, Maturitas: Special Issue on Sexual Medicine.

Numerous scientific presentations nationally and internationally.

CLINICAL VISITS ABROAD

As a medical student: Budapest, Hungary 1998

As a clinical teacher with medical students: Dublin, Ireland 2012; Madrid, Spain 2013; Nice, France 2014; Amsterdam, The Netherlands 2016; Lisbon, Portugal 2017

A visit to a sexological clinic: Aalborg, Denmark 2018 Aalborg, Denmark 2018