

# CURRICULUM VITAE

**Sarah CAIRO NOTARI, PhD**

---

**Current position:** Senior Lecturer, Clinical Psychology, Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences (FPSE), University of Geneva

**Professional address:** FPSE, Uni Mail, 40 Boulevard du Pont-d'Arve, 1205 Geneva, Switzerland  
E-mail: sarah.cairo@unige.ch | Phone: + 41 22 379 92 44

**Researcher ID:** <https://orcid.org/0000-0003-2623-2881>

---

## Education

---

2011 – 2016      **PhD in Psychology**, FPSE, University of Geneva, Switzerland  
Cairo Notari, S. (2016). *The psychological adjustment of women and partners facing breast cancer* [L'ajustement psychologique de la femme et de son partenaire au cancer du sein]  
Supervisor: Prof. Nicolas Favez (UNIGE)  
Jury: Prof. Paolo Ghisletta (UNIGE), Prof. Friedrich Stiefel (CHUV-UNIL), Prof. Darius Razavi (ULB)

2006 – 2008      **MSc in Psychology**, SSP, University of Lausanne, Switzerland

2003 – 2006      **BSc in Psychology**, SSP, University of Lausanne, Switzerland

1999 – 2003      **High School Diploma**, Liceo Cantonale di Lugano 2, Switzerland

## Language skills

---

- Italian      Native language
- French      High proficiency (reading, writing, speaking)
- English      Advanced knowledge (reading, writing), intermediate knowledge (speaking)

## Present positions

---

01/2025 – Present	<b>Independent Psychologist</b> [Psychologue indépendante] – 60%, Lausanne
02/2019 – Present	<b>Senior Lecturer</b> [Chargée de cours] – 10%, Clinical Psychology, Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences, University of Geneva

## Past positions

---

02/2019 – 10/2024	Research and Teaching Fellow [Maître-assistante] – 35%, Clinical Psychology (Prof. Nicolas Favez), Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences, University of Geneva
03/2023 – 09/2023	Scientific Collaborator [Collaboratrice scientifique], Institute of Higher Education and Research in Healthcare (Prof. Antje Horsch), Faculty of Biology and Medicine, University of Lausanne
01/2022 – 08/2023	Volunteer Scientific Collaborator [Collaboratrice associée bénévole], University Institute of Primary Care (Prof. Marie-Claude Audétat), Faculty of Medicine, University of Geneva
09/2018 – 12/2021	Research and Teaching Fellow [Maître-assistante], University Institute of Primary Care (Prof. Marie-Claude Audétat), Faculty of Medicine, University of Geneva
04/2018 – 06/2018	Visiting Researcher [Chercheuse invitée], Department of Sexology (Prof. Denise Medico), Faculty of Human Sciences, Université du Québec à Montréal, Canada
01/2017 – 02/2018	Research Associate [Adjointe scientifique], University Institute of Primary Care (Prof. Marie-Claude Audétat), Faculty of Medicine, University of Geneva
02/2016 – 01/2019	Postdoctoral Researcher [Assistante post-doctorante], Clinical Psychology (Prof. Nicolas Favez), Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences, University of Geneva
01/2011 – 01/2016	PhD Candidate [Assistante doctorante – Candoc], Clinical Psychology (Prof. Nicolas Favez), Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences, University of Geneva
2010 – 2011	Substitute Assistant [Assistante suppléante], Clinical Psychology (Prof. Nicolas Favez), Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences, University of Geneva  Research Fellow [Chargée de recherche], Centre for Psychotherapy Research (Dr Joëlle Darwiche), University Institute of Psychotherapy, DP-CHUV, University of Lausanne
2009 – 2010	Intern Psychologist [Psychologue stagiaire], Centre for Psychiatric Epidemiology and Psychopathology (Prof. Martin Preisig), DP-CHUV, University of Lausanne
2008 – 2009	Research Fellow [Chargée de recherche], University of Lausanne (Institute of Psychology, Dr Roland Capel) and Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich (Institute of Integrative Biology, Dr Mathias Wegner)  Intern Psychologist [Psychologue stagiaire], Centre for Family Study (Prof. Nicolas Favez and Dr France Frascarolo), University Institute of Psychotherapy, DP-CHUV, University of Lausanne

## Continuing Education

---

- 11/2023      *Training for clinical investigators and sponsors* (swissethics recognised research ethics and GCP course) [Formation pour investigateurs et promoteurs cliniques reconnue par swissethics], 3-days module (20<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup> November 2023), UNIL-CHUV and Unisanté, Lausanne, Switzerland
- 06/2021      *Qualitative approach in clinical research* [Approche qualitative dans la recherche clinique], 3-days module (16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> June 2021), Continuing education UNIL-EPFL, Lausanne, Switzerland

## Teaching Activities

---

### Undergraduate teaching: Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences, University of Geneva

- 2020 – 2024      Teacher (main responsibility) for the Master's course "Chronic Diseases, Disabilities and Sexuality" (13x2h; 3 ECTS)
- 2019 – Present      **Teacher (main responsibility) for the Master's course "Clinical Health Psychology: The Chronic Disease Journey" (13x2h; 3 ECTS)**
- 2016      Substitute teacher for two modules of the Bachelor's integrative course "Psychological assessment" (2x2h)
- 2012 – 2019      Tutor for the seminar "Problem-based learning" (practical work for Master's students in Clinical Psychology)

## Mentoring Activities

---

### Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences, University of Geneva

#### 1 PhD thesis currently co-directing

- Thierry Mathieu: *Life after cancer: Conceptualisation and analysis of the transition of people in remission through liminality concept*

#### 2 MSc theses currently directing

- Florian Marcelo Pittet: *Addressing sexuality in clinical practice: A scoping review of barriers and facilitators perceived by healthcare professionals*
- Ondine Diane Amalia Schleret Laudini: *Addressing sexuality in clinical practice: A scoping review of clinical recommendations for healthcare professionals*

#### 1 MSc thesis currently co-directing

- Karin Myriam Marthe Atallah: *Well-being during pregnancy*

#### 6 MSc theses directed

- Manon Divorne (2024): *The journey from infibulation to defibulation: A qualitative case study*
- Louise Andrée Nathalie Gourlaouen (2024): *The moderating role of romantic attachment in the relationship between genital self-image and sexual satisfaction in women with lichen sclerosus*
- Camille Hélène Mathilde Seiler (2023): *Talk about sexuality in clinical practice: What role do gynaecologists play?*
- Camille Marie Dayen (2023): *Addressing sexuality in clinical practice: A qualitative study on perceived barriers in a Swiss French-speaking gynaecologists' sample*

- Adrien Luc Renato Anex (2022): *Addressing sexuality in clinical practice: A qualitative study on the perceived competencies and comfort of psychotherapists in French-speaking Switzerland*
- Iman Laroui Trabelsi (2022): *Barriers and facilitators in addressing sexuality in psychotherapy*

#### 4 MSc theses co-directed

- Chloé Rolland (2022): *A study of the association between body appreciation and sexual desire by gender: The moderating role of attachment*
- Sarah Sanchez-Mazas (2020): *Couples' sexuality after breast cancer: A longitudinal qualitative study*
- Julie Duranton (2020): *Expressed Emotion as predictors of subjective caregiver burden in partners of women facing breast cancer*
- Cécile Gachet (2019): *Couples facing breast cancer: The role of couple's Expressed Emotion in women's body image disturbance*

#### 4 MSc committee attended

- Jihane Mohamad (2024): *Marital satisfaction: what impact do mental health and admiration for the partner have on couple-defining memories?* (Supervisors: Prof. Nicolas Favez & Thierry Mathieu)
- Sara Copetti (2023): *Social functioning in daily life and feelings of loneliness in a general population and in a population with autism spectrum disorder* (Supervisors: Prof. Maude Schneider & Clémence Feller)
- Léa Claivaz (2023): *The role of We-ness and attachment style in couple satisfaction: Comparison between heterosexual and LGB couples* (Supervisors: Prof. Nicolas Favez & Thierry Mathieu)
- Julie Fradkoff-Birr (2016): *Impact of parental emotional adjustment on psychopathological disorders among children with 22q11.2 deletion syndrome* (Supervisors: Prof. Nicolas Favez & Stephan Eliez)

#### 1 MSc research internship co-supervised

- Tania Antonini (2013, internship report): *Exploring the "Expressed Emotion" concept in couples facing breast cancer*

### Faculty of Medicine, University of Geneva

#### 1 MSc thesis currently co-directing

- Jamie Voumard: *Physicians' clinical reasoning for deprescribing in multimorbid patients*

#### 2 MSc theses directed

- Eren Ozsahin (2022): *Which communication barriers do GPs encounter when addressing sexuality during consultations?*
- Constance Bernard de Lavernette (2022): *The role of training in addressing sexuality in general practice: A preliminary qualitative study in French-speaking Switzerland*

#### 2 MSc committee attended

- Sotoudeh Ghasemi & Milena Eloise Solari Moran (2022): *Can a woman who underwent labiaplasty feel as genitally mutilated? A case report* (Supervisor: Dr Jasmine Abdulcadir)
- Ludmilla Margaux Van Delden (2022): *Testosterone and masculinities: history, gender, and hormones* (Supervisor: Dr Francesca Arena)

## Certificate of Advanced Studies (CAS) in Clinical Sexology, University of Geneva

1 CAS thesis currently directing

- Julien Toulet: *The contribution of sexology to birth and parenthood preparation courses*

1 CAS thesis directed

- Agathe Lambert (2024): *The sexuality of people with intellectual disabilities living in institution: How do the social representations of educational teams' members affect the way they address and respond to this need?*

## Invited Speaker

---

- Cairo Notari, S. (2025, April). *Cancer and sexuality*. Certificate of Applied Clinical Sexology, Catholic University of Louvain, Belgium
- Cairo Notari, S. (2023, June). *Cancer and sexuality*. Certificate of Applied Clinical Sexology, Catholic University of Louvain, Belgium
- Cairo Notari, S. & Pesenti, M. (2023, February). Facilitation of the workshop “*Reconstructing yourself, reconstructing your life*” with cancer patients, and participation to a roundtable discussion, World Cancer Day, University Hospital of Geneva, Switzerland
- Cairo Notari, S. (2022, June). *Cancer and sexuality*. Certificate of Applied Clinical Sexology, Catholic University of Louvain, Belgium
- Cairo Notari, S. (2022, February). *Disabilities and sexuality*. Certificate of Advanced Studies (CAS) in Clinical Sexology, University of Geneva, Switzerland
- Cairo Notari, S. & Stulz, A. (2017, December). *Somatic diseases and family: the cancer example*. Master of Advanced Studies (MAS) in Clinical Psychology, University of Geneva, Switzerland
- Cairo Notari, S. (2017, November). *Changes in intimate and sexual life during and after cancer care. Results of a study conducted by the University of Geneva in collaboration with the Breast Centre of the CHUV*. 7<sup>ème</sup> Rencontre romande « Sexualité, fertilité et cancer », Lausanne, Switzerland
- Cairo Notari, S. & Panes-Ruedin, B. (2015, March). *Couples facing breast cancer: the impact of body image disturbance and couple satisfaction on sexuality*. 17<sup>ème</sup> Congrès suisse des Soins en Oncologie, Bern, Switzerland

## Public/Press Presentation

---

- Cairo Notari, S. (2020, October). *Couples and breast cancer* [Le couple et le cancer du sein]. National television news “Le 12/45”, RTS. [http://avisdexperts.ch/experts/sarah\\_cairo\\_notari](http://avisdexperts.ch/experts/sarah_cairo_notari)

## Awards

---

- Medical Teacher Poster Prize 2019 – Top 3 posters: Sader, J., Ritz, C., **Cairo Notari, S.**, Fassier, T., Nendaz, M., & Audétat Voirol, M.-C. *Time to investigate the path of clinical reasoning in chronic and multimorbid conditions*. AMEE Annual Conference, 24<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> August 2019, Vienna, Austria
- Certificate of Excellence for 2<sup>nd</sup> place at the Early Career Psycho-Oncology Professionals Poster Session 2017: **Cairo Notari, S.**, Notari, L., & Favez, N. *Sexual behaviour in the immediate post-*

*surgery period predicts sexual activity 2 years later in women with non-metastatic breast cancer.*  
19th World Congress of Psycho-Oncology (IPOS), 14<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> August 2017, Berlin, Germany

- Swiss Society of Psycho-Oncology (SGPO/SSPO) Best Poster Award 2015: **Cairo Notari, S.**, Notari, L., Favez, N., Antonini, T., Panes-Ruedin, B., Charvoz, L., & Delaloye, J.-F. *Change in women's sexual functioning in the early months of breast cancer treatment: A mixed-methods study.* 12th National Symposium of Psycho-oncology, 16<sup>th</sup> April 2015, Bern, Switzerland
- Faculty Award for academic excellence 2009, Faculty of Social and Political Sciences (SSP), University of Lausanne, Switzerland

## Research Grant Support

---

2023 – 2024	<i>Life after cancer: Conceptualisation and analysis of the transition of people in remission through the liminality concept</i> (Co-applicant) Geneva Cancer League: CHF 9'097
2019 – 2020	<i>From the struggle against the disease to the return to normal life: stress and adjustment in breast cancer survivors</i> (Co-applicant) Swiss Cancer League: CHF 58'450
2018	<i>Intimate and sexual life following breast cancer: A qualitative study on the experiences of survivors' male partners</i> (Main applicant) Swiss National Science Foundation - Scientific Exchanges grant: CHF 10'200 University Funds Maurice Chalmieu: CHF 5'500
2015 – 2016	<i>Women facing breast cancer: Expressed Emotion in the couple relationship as predictor of emotional distress in the postsurgery period</i> (Co-applicant) Swiss Cancer League: CHF 101'250

## Current Research Projects

---

Principal investigator

- *Translation and validation of the "Well-being in Pregnancy" (WiP) questionnaire.* In collaboration with: Dr Valentine Rattaz and Prof. Antje Horsch (Faculty of Biology and Medicine-UNIL), Prof. Léo Pomar (HESAV), & Prof. Fiona Alderdice (University of Oxford)

## Editorial Activities

---

Ad-hoc reviewer for: *European Journal of Cancer Care; Health Psychology Open; Journal of Health Psychology; Palliative & Supportive Care; Psycho-Oncology*

## Grant Reviewer

---

National Centre of Competence in Research (NCCR) LIVES, International call projects (2020)