

Ethical Decision Making and Risk Management in Clinical Practice

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**Presented by:
Eric Harris, Ed.D., J.D.
Jeffrey N. Younggren, Ph.D., ABPP**

Wednesday, August 5, 2009

**Registration begins at 8:00 a.m.
Workshop begins at 9:00 a.m to 4:30 p.m.**

**InterContinental Toronto Centre Downtown Hotel
Ontario Room
225 Front Street West
Toronto, ON M5V 2X3, Canada
(416) 597-1400**

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THE PRESENTERS

Eric Harris, Ed.D., J.D.



A licensed psychologist and attorney, Dr. Harris is a consultant to the Trust, through which he provides risk management services to Trust policy holders. Dr. Harris is the legal counsel to the Massachusetts Psychological Association, where he served as the Director of Professional Affairs for ten years. He was

a faculty member at the Massachusetts School of Professional Psychology for more than 15 years. Dr. Harris served for many years on the APA Committee for the Advancement of Professional Practice (CAPP) and served two terms on the APA Committee on Legal Issues. In the fifteen years before Dr. Harris became a consultant to APAIT, he conducted a part-time clinical psychology practice. Dr. Harris has written, consulted and lectured extensively on risk management, legal issues and on managed care.

Jeffrey N. Younggren, Ph.D., ABPP



A Fellow of the American Psychological Association and a Distinguished Member of the National Academy of Practice, Dr. Younggren is a clinical and forensic psychologist who practices in Rolling Hills Estates, California. He also is a clinical professor at the University of California, Los Angeles, School of Medicine. Dr.

Younggren served as a member and chair of the Ethics Committees of the California Psychological Association and the American Psychological Association. He consults to various licensing boards on ethics and standards of care, and he qualifies as an expert in criminal, civil, and administrative proceedings. Dr. Younggren testified regarding the fallibility of memory secondary to trauma and post traumatic stress disorder before the United Nations Bosnian War Crimes Tribunal in the Hague.

WORKSHOP DESCRIPTION

Today, psychologists practice with increased ethical and legal attention in order to reduce the likelihood that disciplinary complaints or malpractice suits may be filed against them.

Psychologists must learn new strategies on how to deal with these challenges should they occur. Many “rule based” risk management strategies have been developed to give psychologists concrete guidance for dealing with potential disciplinary actions and civil suits. Consequently, some psychologists have lost sight of the fundamentals of ethical decision making and clamor for “cookbook approaches” to risk management. In their desire to solve any problem quickly, they no longer engage in an active decision-making process when faced with difficult issues.

This workshop focuses on the fundamental “how tos” of ethical decision making when confronted by ethical dilemmas. Attendees will become familiar with the fundamental tenants of health care ethics and how they apply to the practice of psychology. They will also review the basic legal strategies and ethical principles that apply to psychological practice. Finally, all participants will have the opportunity to apply the principles to specific ethical dilemmas in small group discussions. These discussions will focus on resolving specific case examples in a fashion consistent with the fundamentals of good clinical practice.

OBJECTIVES

- Familiarity with the fundamentals of ethical philosophy that are the foundation of all health care ethics codes
- Understanding of how these fundamentals drive the development of ethics codes and professional standards
- Recognition of where these fundamentals are specifically expressed in the law and in the 2002 APA Ethics Code
- Knowledge of the primary provisions of the 2002 APA Ethics Code
- Awareness of how the law impacts ethics codes and the relationship of ethics to law
- Expertise in how to use the ethical fundamentals in decision-making
- Interaction with other colleagues on specific ethical dilemmas, arriving at ethically based decisions on how to deal with difficult cases

CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDITS

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No refunds will be offered for this workshop. Grievances about the workshop may be addressed to the APA Insurance Trust in writing at:

APA Insurance Trust
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REGISTRATION

Registration begins at 8:00 a.m. The workshop begins at 9:00 a.m. and ends at 4:30 p.m. **Ethical Decision Making and Risk Management in Clinical Practice** will be held on Wednesday, August 5, 2009 at the InterContinental Toronto Centre Downtown Hotel. This facility is fully accessible.

IMPORTANT NOTICE: Those who attend the workshop and complete the APAIT evaluation form will receive six continuing education credits. Please note that APA CE rules require that we only give credit to those who attend the entire workshop. Those arriving more than 15 minutes after the scheduled start time or leaving before the workshop is completed will not receive CE credits and will not be eligible for the 15% premium discount described below.

REGISTRATION FORM **Ethical Decision Making and Risk Management in Clinical Practice Strategies**

Name/Degree _____

Address _____

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Bonus!

Psychologists insured through the Trust-sponsored Professional Liability Program receive a 15% premium discount on professional liability insurance for the next two policy years for attending the workshop. (For group practices, 50% or more of the group must attend for the discount to apply. Discount not applicable for student and researcher/academician insureds).

Fees: \$175.00 - APAIT Insureds • \$250.00 - Non-Trust Insureds

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