# Outline

#### **Overview/Confidentiality of Mental Health** Records

When and to Whom Records Can Be Released Mandatory Disclosure Requirements Alcohol/Drug and AIDS/HIV Treatment Records Necessary Documentation

#### **HIPAA 101 - Federal Confidentiality** Regulations

What Is HIPAA Today? How Do I Comply with the Regulations? What Are "Psychotherapy Notes"? When May I Release Records? How Much Paperwork Will This Be for My Office?

#### **Responding to Subpoenas, Court Orders** and Law Enforcement

Subpoenas; Types of Subpoenas; Duty to Respond; Time Limits Search Warrants & Court Orders Authority to Obtain Information Investigations Development of Policies and Procedures to Respond

#### **Balancing the Rights of Minors & Parents**

Minors' Rights Age of Majority Access to Records Rights of Minors to Refuse/Consent to Medication and Treatment

Alcohol, Drug Abuse and Treatment Issues for Minors

# **Objectives**

1. Establish practices for ensuring HIPAA compliance to protect client's privacy and minimize risk of litigation.

Parental Rights

Records

Mental Illness

Procedures

Custodial and Divorce Factors

Custodial vs. Non-Custodial Parent's Rights to

**Voluntary and Involuntary Mental Health** 

Reasons to Use a Voluntary Commitment or

Grounds for an Involuntary Commitment:

**Professional Ethics and Boundary Issues** 

**Consent Elements and Competency Issues** 

Boundary Issues: Where the Lines Are Blurred

Board of Health Professionals Investigation -

Disciplinary Proceedings

**Legal Liabilities of the Professional** 

Professional Obligations and Standards

Compliance with Contradictory Laws

25 Ethics

**CE Hours** 

Medication: Right to Refuse

**Restraints and Seclusion** 

Individual's Legal Rights

Informed Consent

Prescribing Practices

Duty to Warn Issues

Fraud & Abuse Issues

Documentation

Billing & Coding Errors

Dangerousness (as Defined by Statute)

an Involuntary Commitment

Child Abuse Allegations

Commitments

- 2. Compare the different requirements for release of protected health information via subpoenas and court orders.
- 3. Explore the legal and ethical considerations for the treatment of minor populations in New Jersey with regard to age of consent, confidentiality and custody concerns.
- 4. Differentiate between the processes for voluntary and involuntary commitment for treatment and determine the clinician's role in each.
- 5. Develop policies on ethical issues such as restraints, seclusion and informed consent.
- 6. Designate the treatment provider's responsibilities relating to mental health issues and duty to warn law in New Jersey.

#### **Target Audience:**

Social Workers • Counselors • Psychologists • Marriage and Family Therapists • AODA Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Counselors • Health Information Managers Medical Records Professionals • Nurses



veterans and active duty military personnel. Advance registration by phone required.

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- When Not to Release Your Documentation
- Prevent Liability and Avoid Paying Damages
- Protect Your Client, License & Practice
- Do's and Don't's of Documentation
- Why and When to Call an Attorney
- Avoiding the Litigation Hot Seat

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Without the proper legal awareness needed to stay in compliance, you may face grave legal and financial consequences. This seminar will show you how to continue to help the people you've been trained to help while still protecting yourself from many legal pitfalls. If you attend only one seminar this year, make it this one. Join attorney Lois Fenner for an entertaining and enlightening day and leave with a greater understanding of the latest New Jersey laws as they relate to behavioral health. You will take home practical strategies to minimize and manage legal and ethical risks and you will learn how to immediately implement these risk reducing strategies into your practice.

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## Speaker

LOIS FENNER, R.N., M.S., Attorney at Law, is an honor graduate of the University of Maryland Graduate School of Nursing, Undergraduate School of Nursing and University of Maryland Law School. She is an attorney admitted to practice before the United States Supreme Court, a Registered Nurse and a Certified Clinical Specialist. Ms. Fenner is a founding member of The American Nurse Attorneys Association, past president of the Monumental Bar Association, member of the Women's Bar Association, Phi Kappa Phi and Sigma Theta Tau Honor Societies and the National Exchange Club. She has been recognized by the Alliance of Black Women Attorneys with the Distinguished Women in Law Award; the Baltimore Marketing Association Harold Young Leadership Award, and the Baltimore County Diversity Award. Additionally, she is a three-time recipient of the Daily Record's Top 100 Women in Maryland award and was inducted into the Circle of Excellence. Attorney Fenner has been recognized as a Baltimore Business Journals Who's Who in Law and was selected as one of the Super Lawyers twice. Her practice focuses on medical litigation and health care including medical malpractice, personal injury, accreditation, wrongful death, Professional Board and licensure issues. She is a recognized educator and lecturer throughout the country providing realistic and current information in dynamic presentations.

#### Speaker Disclosures:

Financial: Lois A. Fenner is in private practice. She receives a speaking honorarium from PESI, Inc. Non-financial: Lois A. Fenner has no relevant non-financial relationships to disclose.

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