## **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

Development of Policies and Procedures to Respond

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

Minors' Rights

Investigations

Age of Majority

Access to Records

Rights of Minors to Refuse/Consent to Medication and Treatment

Alcohol, Drug Abuse and Treatment Issues for Minors

Parental Rights
Custodial and Divorce Factors
Child Abuse Allegations
Custodial vs. Non-Custodial Parent's Rights
to Records

# Voluntary and Involuntary Mental Health Commitments

Reasons to Use a Voluntary Commitment or an Involuntary Commitment

Grounds for an Involuntary Commitment: Dangerousness (as Defined by Statute)

Mental Illness

**Procedures** 

#### **Professional Ethics and Boundary Issues**

Consent Elements and Competency Issues
Medication: Right to Refuse
Restraints and Seclusion
Individual's Legal Rights
Informed Consent
Boundary Issues: Where the Lines Are

Blurred

**Prescribing Practices** 

Board of Health Professionals Investigation - Disciplinary Proceedings

#### **Legal Liabilities of the Professional**

Duty to Warn Issues
Professional Obligations and Standards
Fraud & Abuse Issues
Billing & Coding Errors
Documentation
Compliance with Contradictory Laws

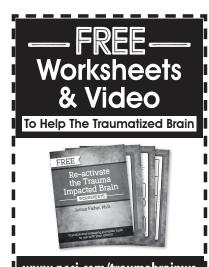
6.25 Ethics CE Hours!

# **Objectives**

- Establish practices for ensuring HIPAA compliance to protect client's privacy and minimize risk of litigation.
- 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 Arkansas 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.
- Designate the treatment provider's responsibilities relating to mental health issues and duty to warn law in Arkansas.

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#### **Featuring**

Lois Fenner, R.N., M.S., Attorney at Law



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# Legal & Ethical Issues in Behavioral Health in Arkansas

#### **Featuring**

Lois Fenner, R.N., M.S., Attorney at Law

- Court Orders: Must you Appear?
- 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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# Legal & Ethical **Issues** in **Behavioral Health** in Arkansas

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 Arkansas 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.

#### **Target Audience:**

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

# Speaker

LOIS FENNER, R.N., M.S., Attorney at Law, is an honors graduate of the University of Maryland School of Nursing Graduate School and the University of Maryland School of Law. She is an attorney and registered nurse, certified clinical specialist. Ms. Fenner is a member of the Maryland Trial Lawyers Association, The American Nurse Attorneys Association, Women's Bar Association, past president of the Monumental City 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 1997 Distinguished Women in Law Award, the Baltimore Marketing Association Harold Young Leadership Award in 2000, and the Baltimore County Diversity Award in 2001. Additionally, she is a three-time recipient of the Daily Record's Top 100 Women in Maryland Award, and has been recognized as a Baltimore Business Journal's Who's Who in Law in 2003.

She was selected as one of the Super Lawyers in 2009 and 2010. Her practice focuses on medical litigation and health care to include medical malpractice, personal injury, accreditation, workers compensation, wrongful death and licensure issues.

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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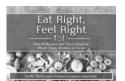
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#### **Legal and Ethical Issues for Mental Health Clinicians**

Best Practices for Avoiding Litigation, Complaints and Malpractice By Susan Lewis, Ph.D., J.D.

Guidance, strategies, solutions and up-to-date information to help keep you out of court and jail. Easy-to-understand language to step you through the legalese, highlighted by 30 engaging case examples to illustrate how you can overcome legal and ethical challenges, including risk management, contracts, HIPPA privileged communication, licensing complaints, supervision pitfalls, rights of minors and technology.



#### Eat Right, Feel Right:

Over 80 Recipes and Tips to Improve Mood, Sleep, Attention & Focus

By Leslie Korn, PhD, MPH, LMHC

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**8:00** Program begins

**11:50-1:00** Lunch (on your own)

**4:00** Program ends

There will be two 15-min breaks (mid-morning & mid-afternoon). Actual lunch and break start times are at the discretion of the speaker. A more detailed schedule is available upon request.



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lf your profession is not listed, please contact your licensing board to determine your continuing education requirements and check for reciprocal approval. For other credit inquiries not specified below or questions on home study credit availability, please contact cepesi@pesi.com or 800-844-8260 before

Materials that are included in this course may include interventions and modalities that are beyond the authorized practice of mental health professionals. As a licensed professional, you are responsible for reviewing the scope of practice, including activities that are defined in law as beyond the boundaries of practice in accordance with and in compliance with your profession's standards.

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