Outline

Clinician-Client Relationship

Law vs. ethics Elements of legal informed consent Nuts and bolts of office policies

Records vs. psychotherapy notes What to put in a record

Limitations on confidentiality

Michigan case law & danger to others

Michigan duty to warn potential victims HIPAA

The latest updates you need to know

Practical Approach to Risk Management

Elements of consent Competence & scope of practice Boundary violations/crossings Issues with modern technology Texting, cell phones, e-mail, video psychotherapy Perils of supervision

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Litigation

Licensing complaints & malpractice lawsuits

Michigan-specific statutes Michigan rules and regulations Case law and how to find it

Navigate the Legal System

Roles of attorneys Confidentiality/privilege Subpoena & disclosure of confidential information

Depositions, interrogatories, expert testimony

Treatment of Minors

Michigan age of majority Consent to treatment Privilege/confidentiality Separation & divorce

Case Studies

Live Webcast Schedule (Times listed in Eastern)

8:00 Program begins

11:50-1:00 Lunch Break

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.

Objectives

- 1. Describe how to avoid litigation dilemmas, licensing complaints and malpractice actions.
- 2. Analyze the legal and ethical considerations for the treatment of minor populations in Michigan with regard to age of consent, confidentiality and custody concerns.
- 3. Explain how an understanding of common boundary and dual relationship issues/dilemmas can help you maintain appropriate relationships with your clients.
- should consider when responding to subpoenas that request disclosure of client records.
- 5. Discuss the limits of confidentiality as it relates to duty to warn law in Michigan.
- 6. Demonstrate how risk management strategies regarding technology can keep client information secure and avoid violating HIPAA.

4. Identify the ethical challenges you

Target Audience

Counselors • Social Workers • Psychologists • Case Managers • Addiction Counselors • Therapists Nurses • Marriage & Family Therapists • Other Mental Health Professionals



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Michigan

Legal and Ethical Issues for Mental Health Clinicians

This program focuses on ethical, legal, statutory or regulatory policies, guidelines and standards that impact psychological practice and explores the manner by which clinical and ethical issues affect the everyday practice of the mental health professional in Michigan. This unique blend of clinical and ethical concerns allows for a more meaningful understanding and interpretation of the rules that govern mental health practice and allows the attendee to identify specific state laws that affect and govern their practice.

Through lecture, a review of references including the APA "Ethics Code" and the seminar manual with state specific policies and regulations; Dr. Lewis will prepare you for litigation issues which can put your client, your license and your practice at risk. You will learn how to structure your practice to limit exposure of risk, as well as discover record keeping practices that may help protect you in the event of a complaint. Susan will provide you with the following take-home tools to minimize risk:

- Updates on HIPAA and Michigan laws and regulations
- Risk management strategies
- How to minimize litigation dilemmas, complaints and malpractice actions
- Best practices in the professional relationship, informed consent and office policies

You will learn through problem solving discussions that are representative of actual ethical decisions you encounter in your clinical practice. The blending of Susan's experience as a lawyer, work within the court system and extensive clinical experience makes her a hands-on, knowledgeable instructor!

Speaker _

Susan J. Lewis, Ph.D., J.D., is a licensed clinical and forensic psychologist and lawyer. She has over 25 years of experience in clinical practice with unique populations that have included female sexual offenders incarcerated at a woman's prison, self-injurious individuals, forensic patients and individuals who suffer from severe and persistent mental illness. In addition to clinical practice, Dr. Lewis has served in leadership roles as clinical director, program manager, and supervisor for psychiatry residents and post-doctoral psychologists.

Currently, Dr. Lewis teaches courses on Law and Ethics in Mental Health that are state specific to the laws of each state. She has also lectured nationwide on the DSM-5° and differential diagnosis. She taught courses at Harvard's Extension School and Northeastern University on The Psychology of Criminal Behavior. She is the author of Legal and Ethical Issues for Mental Health Clinicians: Best Practices for Avoiding Litigation, Complaints and Malpractice (PPM, 2016) and her latest book From Deep Within: A Forensic and Clinical Psychologist's Journey (2018).

A sought after consultant, Dr. Lewis works with attorneys on controversial issues such as dangerousness, competence to stand trial, criminal responsibility evaluations, and civil and criminal commitment. She works with attorneys on strategies of how mental illness might impinge on legal decision-making. Dr. Lewis has been adjudicated an expert in almost all of the district and superior courts in Massachusetts.

Speaker Disclosures:

Financial: Susan Lewis is in private practice. She receives a speaking honorarium from PESI, Inc. Non-financial: Susan Lewis is a member of the American Psychological Association.



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Ethics: This seminar includes 6.25 hours of state specific ethics instruction. If ethics is not specified within your licensing board's approval statement below, please contact your board to determine the applicability and amount of ethics allowed.

Michigan Addiction Counselors: This course has been submitted to the Michigan Certification Board for Addiction Professionals (MCBAP). Credit is pending.

Counselors: This intermediate activity consists of 6.25 clock hours of continuing education instruction. Credit requirements and approvals vary per state board regulations. Please save the course outline, the certificate of completion you receive from the activity and contact your state board or organization to determine specific filing requirements.

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Other Professions: This activity qualifies for 380 minutes of instructional content as required by many national, state and local licensing boards and professional organizations. Save your course outline and certificate of completion, and contact your own board or organization for specific requirements.

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