

The Psychotherapists Board of Aotearoa New Zealand

Te Poari o nga Kaihaumanu Hinengaro o Aotearoa

August 2010

This issue brings you up to date with some of the Board-related work since June 2010.

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APC Renewals 2010/2011 – now open

Practitioners can now renew their Annual Practising Certificate (APC) for the 2010/2011 practising year.

To renew your APC you will need to log into your personal profile using your email address and password. You *must* be logged in to have access to the APC renewal process.

All practitioners need to advise the Board of their practice intentions each year, once logged on your options will be:

1. Renew your APC for the 2010/2011 practising year (1st October 2010-30th September 2011)
2. Retain your name on the Registrar of Psychotherapists as a non-practising practitioner.

If you hold a non-practising status this means that you have no entitlement to work as a psychotherapist or state or do anything this is calculated to suggest that you are or willing to practise as a psychotherapist.

Note: *If you hold a non-practising status for three years or longer you will be required to undergo a competency assessment prior to your next APC being issued (should you apply for one).*

3. Request to have your name removed from the Register of Psychotherapists.

All practitioners *must* choose one of the three options above and provide the Board with their completed application prior to midnight on Friday 1st October 2010. Your application will be dated as received once your application

is "complete". An application is considered complete when:

- You have completed the required online steps
- You have printed and completed the correct form (including receiving the appropriate signatures) and it has been received by the Registrar
- You have paid the appropriate fee

Note: your supervisor must sign your APC renewal form, please take this into account when considering holiday schedules.

Clarification – APC renewal form

There have been some queries regarding the supervisor section of the APC renewal form. The form has now been altered however; this clarification has been included to help clear up any confusion. Note: Supervisors only need to tick one box (see below).

A psychotherapist supervisor needs to be either:

a) A registered psychotherapist with a current APC; or

b) A Board approved person.

The Board is aware that there are many professions with practitioners who may be suitable psychotherapist supervisors e.g. psychologists, counsellors etc.

If your supervisor falls into the category above i.e. they are a psychologist and not a registered psychotherapist with a current APC then you will need to provide the Board with a CV outlining your supervisor's competence in psychotherapy supervision either by qualification, professional development, skills and/or knowledge. *Please ensure their CV focuses on the psychotherapy aspects of their qualification, professional development, skills and/or knowledge.* The Board will review the information provided and confirm their suitability.

Please contact the Board's Registrar with any questions.

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Currently 136 practitioners have started the online renewal process.

Psychotherapist Core Clinical Competencies

Under section 118(i) of the HPCAA the Board is required to develop clinical competencies to be observed by all psychotherapists.

Following extensive consultation with the profession Psychotherapists Core Clinical Competencies have now been finalised and are available on the Board's website under "For Psychotherapists".

These Core Clinical Competencies are set at the level required to protect public health and safety. All Psychotherapists are expected to be competent in the core competencies outlined within this document.

Supervision Policy – Feedback Requested Reminder

The Board has drafted a policy to clarify the Board's requirements and expectations relating to supervision and supervisors. Given supervision is a practice that impacts all psychotherapists the Board is now seeking feedback on this draft policy. The draft policy is located on the "News and Events" section of the Board's website. Please send any feedback on or before Friday 17th September 2010. Feedback should be sent to Jacq at registrar@pbanz.org.nz

Ethnicity – Feedback Requested

The Board met with Auckland practitioners during its Auckland Board meeting on Sunday 1st August 2010. During this meeting a question was raised about how a member of the public would locate a practitioner of particular ethnicity.

Provision of this information would be over and above the Board's requirements under the HPCAA. However, Board members wanted to seek practitioner feedback on this topic to establish if there is support for this. Practitioners should note that the Board is in a position to consider this inclusion, as ethnicity information is already collected on registration therefore the cost to the profession in setting up a search facility on the Board website would be minimal.

It should be further noted that the Board will consider providing an ethnicity search facility only if there is wide practitioner support. The Board will only release ethnicity information to the public with the explicit approval of each practitioner. *Any change to the Public Register will not happen until October 2011 (APC renewal next year).*

The Board wishes to clarify that the Public Register is not a practitioner advertising tool. If a practitioner wishes to advertise their expertise, ethnicity or culture this could be achieved via marketing and advertising of your practice or circumstances, or by approaching your Association to see if they would consider adding this type of information into their register of members.

Feedback should be sent to Jacq at registrar@pbanz.org.nz

Interim Psychotherapists Scope of Practice – Reminder

This is a reminder for all practitioners registered into the Interim Psychotherapists Scope of Practice (IPSP).

Registration into the IPSP is for a *limited time period* only.

Psychotherapists in the IPSP should be actively working towards registration within the Psychotherapist Scope of Practice (PSP) or Psychotherapist Scope of Practice with Child and Adolescent Psychotherapists Specialism (PSPwCAPS).

1. Practitioners registered in the Interim Psychotherapists Scope of Practice via the Tertiary Pathway must complete the requirements for registration in the Psychotherapists Scope of Practice within 3 years from the date of their registration.

2. Practitioners registered in the Interim Psychotherapists Scope of Practice via the Professional Development Pathway must complete the requirements for registration in the Psychotherapists Scope of Practice within 5 years from the date of their registration.

To ensure practitioners are moving forward with this requirement, each year (during the APC renewal) practitioners will be asked to confirm that they are actively moving toward registration in the Psychotherapists Scope of Practice or the Psychotherapist Scope of Practice with Child and Adolescent Psychotherapists Specialism.

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All practitioners registered in the IPSP should be aware of what they need to achieve to move into the PSP or PSPwCAPS – the onus rests with the practitioner to ensure they meet both requirements and timeframes.

Points of Interest on the Website

Policy Statement, in consideration of the Treaty of Waitangi in carrying out the Board's regulatory functions under the Health Practitioners Competency Assurance Act 2003

The Board has now finalised its policy statement on the above. This is located on the Board's website under "Board policies".

Please note this is a policy statement created for the Board and its members by the Board. This relates to how Board members will work in consideration of the Treaty of Waitangi while carrying out the Board's regulatory functions under the HPCAA.

General Board Statements / Points of Clarification

Grandparenting Reminder

Practitioners who hold a Board approved qualification that is **no longer in existence have until August 31st 2010 to register** with the Board. The Board approved qualifications that are no longer in existence are:

- AIT Diploma of Psychotherapy (Auckland)
- AIT/AUT Graduate Diploma in Psychotherapy (Auckland)
- AIT/AUT Graduate Diploma in Clinical Child Psychotherapy (Auckland)
- University of Otago Certificate in Child Psychotherapy
- University of Otago Postgraduate Diploma in Child Psychotherapy (Wellington)
- University of Otago Master of Health Science in Child Psychotherapy (Wellington)

When Grandparenting expires (31st August 2010) practitioners will no longer be able to register using one of the above qualifications.

The Board is seeking to employ an Acting Registrar for a fixed term to assist the Board while the Registrar is on parental leave

Members of the Psychotherapists Board of Aotearoa New Zealand are delighted to congratulate the Board's Registrar, Jacq

Manley and her husband Steve on the pending arrival of their first child in January 2011. Sadly this means the Board will lose Jacq's expertise for a period in 2011. The Board is therefore seeking an Acting Registrar to assist the Board while the Jacq is on parental leave.

The position is to assist the Board implement all aspects of the Health Practitioners' Competence Assurance Act 2003 (HPCAA) and be responsible for the operation and management of the office of the Board.

The Board shares an office and some administrative functions with the Occupational Therapy Board of New Zealand. The office is based in the central business area of Wellington. The Board currently has no other staff but the Registrar does work with contractors and/or advisors as required.

The Acting Registrar will have a period of induction and training by the current Registrar.

A job description is available on request. The salary will be \$60-\$70,000 for a full time position depending on experience. It will be a fixed term contract for up to 15 months to cover the period of parental leave. Some travel and attendance at meetings at weekends will be required. It is a full time position but the Board would consider some flexibility or reduction in overall weekly hours of employment.

If you or anyone you know would be interested in this position please forward your expression of interest accompanied by a current CV, to Mihiteria King, the Board Chair at mihiteria@xtra.co.nz. Expressions of interest should be submitted on or before Friday 27th August 2010.

A message from the Chair, Mihiteria King

We are living in interesting and challenging times, where considerable uncertainty, unpredictability and unprecedented tragic events are impacting on the lives of millions of people around our planet, where many of those are suffering and/or coming to terms with the need to adapt to change and manage new skills.

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Those in the business and profession of psychotherapy have been facing their own challenges in our own small-world way, particularly with the effects of the recession.

Considerable changes have affected individual or collective practices, associations and businesses, with client's ability to access our services also affected. Things like the appointment of the Board under the HPCAA (2007) requiring practitioners to register to practice. Or the changes to ACC pathways and funding decisions (ongoing).

Or the increase in GST to 15% (1st Oct 2010). For example, MYOB contacted me to advise that my accounting programme may require an upgrade for the change in GST which would of course incur a cost. I hadn't even considered that change.

There are no doubt many more issues that impact on our lives that we just wish would go away, like your computer dying and wishing that you had done a backup last night. As some say, "it's all happening too fast and seems out of control" or "I just want it to go back to how it was before."

When it comes to the Board, there is also certain element of unpredictability while we wait for the Minister to decide on the Board reappointments due in October this year.

What we do know is that there will be change. New members will take their place at the table and will need to be brought up to speed. They will bring fresh eyes to a process that is still in a development phase. We don't know who will be here from October, or more accurately, from when the Minister advises us of his decision. Updates will be provided in a future edition of this newsletter.

Two things we can count on are that Christmas and summer are not really that far away now. Enjoy your planning for both events.

Cheers