

Ethics, Boundaries and Standard of Care Considerations in the Digital Age and in Tele-Mental Health

Presented by

Ofer Zur, Ph.D.

Friday March 4, 2022

LIVE INTERACTIVE WEBINAR 1 p.m. - 4:15 p.m. ET

Overview

This course will focus on defining & identifying the Standard of Care, differentiating between ethical boundary crossings, and unethical boundary violations and reviewing the ethical issues of digital and traditional boundaries and Tele Mental Health.

Objectives -

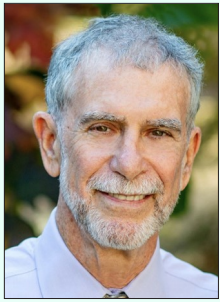
Participants will be able to describe:

- Risks associated with "after hours" online-digital communications.
- How to ethically manage clients searching for online personal information about their therapists and how to keep track of (or control) what clients can find out about their therapists online
- What should be included in the Mandatory Informed Consent for tele mental health
- Appropriate engagement in social networking with a current or former client
- The most important complex and unique boundaries and ethical issues introduced to behavioral health in the digital age and by tele mental health
- Practicing tele mental health across state lines
- Ethical responses to suicidal or danger to others or to child abuse cases of online clients in distance locations.

Ofer Zur, Ph. D.

Ofer Zur, Ph.D. is an experienced ethics, clinical and forensic consultant in mental health related issues. He has been teaching Ethics at the graduate and post-graduate levels for over 25 years, and he has published extensively in the area of standard of care as it pertain to issues such as confidentiality, record keeping, scope of practice, diagnosis, treatment and the broad area of therapeutic boundaries. He was the owner and director of the Zur Institute from 1995 to April 2020, and he has been consulting with psychologists, social workers, marriage and family therapists, counselors and attorneys on issues of boundaries and the standard of care regarding licensing board complaints, personal injury and medical malpractice cases for over 25 years. In 2021, he received authorization from the Minnesota Supreme Court to prepare an **amicus brief** regarding the standard of care for psychotherapy.

Dr. Zur is a renowned expert in the area of standard of care and therapeutic boundaries in mental health related services and is one of the most prolific writers on the topics of dual relationships, sexual and non-sexual touch in therapy, self-disclosure, gifts, bartering, fees, and telehealth. He co-edited the landmark book, *Dual Relationships and Psychotherapy*, published by Springer Pub. in 2002. In 2003 he authored the breakthrough best seller, *The HIPAA Compliance Kit*, distributed by W. W. Norton. His book, *Boundaries In Psychotherapy*, is the most comprehensive book on therapeutic boundaries published in 2007 by American Psychological Association, APA Books. His latest book: Zur, O. (Ed.) (2017) *Multiple Relationships in Psychotherapy and Counseling: Unavoidable, Common and Mandatory Dual Relations in Therapy*. New York: Routledge. The book debunks the slowly fading away myth that “all dual relationships are unethical” and explores the complex meaning of the statement that “not all dual relationships are unethical.



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Audience

Human Service Professionals

- music therapists
- case managers
- psychiatric nurses
- occupational therapists
- rehabilitation counselors
- graduate students
- psychologists
- social workers
- licensed professional counselors
- school counselors and psychologists
- drug & alcohol counselors
- marriage & family therapists

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AGENDA

Friday Afternoon -1 p.m.—4:15 p.m. ET

Dealing Ethically with Issues of:

Digital Boundaries

Social Networking with clients
 Yelp exchanges
 'Texting into the night';
 Therapists Googling clients;
 Clients Googling Therapists - Online self-disclosure;
 Disinhibition effect

Tele Mental Health

Cross States lines
 Separate Informed Consent
 Verifying clients' identity-location-age, Emergencies: 911, Duty to warn, Danger to self or others, Child abuse reporting; Internet disruption, security & privacy
 Additional Professional Liability policy

Traditional Boundaries

Boundary Crossings vs. Boundary Violations;
 Gifts
 Touch
 Dual Relationships
 Self-disclosure
 Bartering
 Home visit, Home office, 'Walk & Talk' Therapy.



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	<u>Both Days</u>
Individual Early Registration (received by January 28) _____	\$85 per person
Two or more together at the same time (by January 28) _____	\$75 per person
Regular Registration (January 29 - February 25) _____	\$95 per person
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Psychologists, Nurses, Social Workers, NBCC Counselors, D&A Professionals, Occupational Therapists

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