



12 January 2012

Submission to the Psychology Board of Australia in relation to the Exposure Draft: National Psychology Examination Curriculum.

The Office of the Health Services Commissioner (OHSC) was created by the *Health Services (Conciliation and Review) Act 1987* (Vic) (HSCRA).

The OHSC is established to:

- Deal with user's complaints; and
- Suggest ways in which the guiding principles may be carried out; and
- Help service providers to improve the quality of health care.

The Guiding Principles promote:

- Quality health care, given as promptly as circumstances permit; and
- Considerate health care; and
- Respect for the privacy and dignity of persons being given health care; and
- The provision of adequate information on services provided or treatment available, in terms which are understandable; and
- Participation in decision making affecting individual health care; and
- An environment of informed choice in accepting or refusing treatment or participation in education or research programmes.

The OHSC also administers the health privacy legislation in Victoria, the *Health Records Act 2001* (Vic) (HRA). The HRA does this by promoting fair and responsible handling of health information by

- (a) protecting the privacy of an individual's health information that is held in the public and private sectors; and
- (b) providing individuals with a right of access to their health information; and
- (c) providing an accessible framework for the resolution of complaints regarding the handling of health information.

The OHSC promotes the parties to a grievance resolving the complaint between them by mediation and conciliation.

Introduction:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the draft curriculum. The Curriculum appears to be comprehensive and outlines the domains of learning necessary for psychology practitioners. The OHSC does not have the necessary clinical expertise to comment on curriculum details but obviously supports the Board in its aspirations to protect the public by ensuring psychologists have the necessary capabilities. The eight domains are clearly set out and OHSC notes the changes made.

On page 9 under Domain 3 (c), line 3 it states "... includes and measuring change...", I suggest removal of the and.

I have no further comment on these documents. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Prepared by:
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