Oregon Psychological Association Webinar Series

Risk Management and Ethical Decision-Making for Psychologists
Samuel Knapp, Ed.D., ABPP (Counseling)

Learning Objectives
At the end of the workshop, participants will be able to:

• Describe common beliefs about ethics, risk management, and decision making and their relationship to overarching ethical principles.

• List risk management strategies based on overarching ethical principle.

• Demonstrate how principle-based ethics – as informed by self-care and self-reflection--can guide their decision-making.

• Apply ethical decision making to real-life clinical problems.

• Program Justifications: Provide one or more professional sources of support for the accuracy and utility of the material to be presented.

Course Description
Psychologists often accept the "received wisdom" concerning ethical rules, risk management principles, or ways to make ethical choices. However, questions arise as to when to accept or discard this received wisdom. The presenter argues that the received wisdom concerning risk management decisions and ethical conflicts should be evaluated according to an overarching ethical principle. This program reviews ethically based risk management strategies: consultation, respecting patient autonomy, documentation, and double checking one's work. It also describes an ethically based decision-making process and reviews examples dealing with boundary conflicts, prejudiced patients, patients who fail to follow basic health care precautions, suicidal patients, and other ethical topics.

Of course, psychologists do not practice with Spock-like rationality. This workshop asks participants to consider how non-rational factors may influence their decision-making processes—for better or for worse—and asks participants to consider the importance of self-care and self-reflection in living up to their ethical ideals.

Speaker
Samuel Knapp’s areas of expertise are in ethics (and ethics education), mental health treatment (including suicide prevention), and health care policy. He has worked with a group of like-minded educators over that years who take a positive approach to ethics education. His perspective is that ethics education should be fun and rewarding, based on some overarching ethical theory, and applied to all domains of professional practice. It should not focus exclusively on laws and disciplinary processes, nor be siloed and divorced from the everyday experiences of psychologists.

Register online at www.opa.org

Friday April 9
8:00 am - 12:00 pm
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Workshop Classifications and Continuing Education Credits

Each workshop is classified according to the following system:

- **Level 1:** general or introductory content aimed at a diverse audience.
- **Level 2:** psychologically sophisticated content, at either introductory or more advanced levels, aimed at general professional audiences.
- **Level 3:** highly advanced theoretical or technical content, aimed at expert audiences.

Level 2 and 3 presentations will typically warrant CE credit for a licensed psychologist. Both level and number of hours for each workshop are indicated and official letters of completion will be awarded to participants who attend the entire workshop. APA guidelines specify that no letter of attendance will be awarded for partial workshop attendance.

Level 2 and 3 offerings are typically accepted by the Oregon Board of Psychologist Examiners. However, Oregon licensed psychologists should consult the official Continuing Education Guidelines produced by the Oregon Board of Psychologist Examiners and note that there is no pre-certification of continuing education credit by the Board of Psychologist Examiners.

Questions? Call OPA at 503.253.9155 or 800.541.9798 or email info@opa.org

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Full Name: _________________________________________ Position Title: ________________________________________

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**FEES (per person)**

- OPA Member: $75
- Non-Members: $100
- Non-Member Hardship, No Questions Asked: Free

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