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	Guideline on Commissioned Remedial Training in Clinical Psychology	Issue Date	nn/nn/2018
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# Guideline on Commissioned Remedial Training in Clinical Psychology

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**(Distribution list: This Policy shall be read by all staff and members of HKICP, Professional Council and its committees, and the general public.)**

## 1. Objective

- 1.1 This guideline describes details of the top-up training for applicants for registration with HKICP (i.e. to be a member of Register of Clinical Psychologists accredited by Department of Health) who are eligible for transitional arrangement via the following paths:
  - 1.1.1 Grandparenting clauses and subject to condition of remedial training for test use (T1 and T2), or
  - 1.1.2 Transitional arrangement via remedial training (T3) (prescription of training required to be assessed on a case-by-case basis)
- 1.2 The aim of this Remedial Training commissioned by Hong Kong Institute of Clinical Psychologists (HKICP) is to enhance inclusiveness of the register.

(Refer to the Membership Registration & Handling Policy of HKICP, HKICP-RSD-PO-002-R0 for details of the transitional arrangement.)

## 2. Scope

- 2.1 The remedial training presented here applies to practitioners who have received training in Clinical Psychology but have shortfall in full competency in terms of body of knowledge and clinical skills required for safe and effective practice in local settings.
- 2.2 The remedial training focuses on the body of knowledge and issues pertinent to local practice. These elements are essential for protection of the interest and safety of service users as well as upholding professional standards and ethics that are of value in local context.

## 3. Definitions

- 3.1 The Commissioned Remedial Training in Clinical Psychology for the Register of Clinical Psychologists accredited by Department of Health (refer hereafter as the “programme”) is launched by HKICP to bridge the

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gap between prior training and the knowledge and skills required in local practice.

- 3.2 This programme is governed by HKICP, in collaboration with the School of Professional and Continuing Education, The University of Hong Kong (HKU SPACE). It is designed specifically for the transitional arrangement for the Register of Clinical Psychologists accredited by Department of Health.
- 3.3 This module-based programme includes a body of knowledge, clinical skills and competency in assessment and intervention for clinical psychology practice. Satisfactory completion of this training programme would support the access to the Register as prescribed by the Registration Committee (RC) of HKICP.

## 4. Programme Aim and Objectives

### 4.1 Aim

To provide remedial training for applicants for registration with HKICP, who are eligible for transitional arrangement as specified in section 5 below.

### 4.2 Objectives

- 4.2.1 To cover the basic knowledge, clinical skills and competency required for safe and ethical clinical psychology practice in local settings.
- 4.2.2 To provide competence-based training in clinical psychological assessment and intervention for the following:
- 4.2.2.1 serving local populations across the lifespan, and
- 4.2.2.2 multidisciplinary collaboration in local context.

## 5. Target Participants

- 5.1 For candidates who have applied for registration with HKICP and have been screened by the Registration Committee of HKICP as eligible for either of the following:
- 5.1.1 Transitional arrangement via grandparenting clauses and subject to the condition of remedial training for test use and/or, monitoring of clinical competency and good standing for a maximum of 2 years; or

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5.1.2 Transitional arrangement via remedial training (T3).

5.2 Prescription of training required will be assessed on a case-by-case basis. (refer to the Membership Registration & Handling Policy of HKICP, HKICP-RSD-PO-002-R0).

## 6. Programme Duration

Part-time: Around 8 to 12 months.

## 7. Academic Curriculum

The curriculum consists of 3 modules, each with its unique focus relevant to local clinical context. Teaching is conducted in the form of lecture, group exercise, role-play, audio-recordings and video materials, readings, and assignments.

### 7.1 Module 1: Professional Issues and Multidisciplinary Collaboration in Clinical Practice in Hong Kong

#### 7.1.1 Overview

This module will address the professional and ethical issues in clinical practices, on the basis of Ethical Guidelines as endorsed by the Professional Council of HKICP. The different disciplines of helping professionals, their roles in the service delivery systems and mode of collaboration will be explored.

#### 7.1.2 Content

The following will be covered in this module:

- 7.1.2.1 Overview of the Ethical Guidelines endorsed by the Professional Council of HKICP.
- 7.1.2.2 Roles of different disciplines in health service delivery systems in Hong Kong.
- 7.1.2.3 Introduction of different services where multidisciplinary collaboration is involved.

#### 7.1.3 Assessment

There is no formal examination for this module. However, students will be assessed by course assignments, class presentation and their active participation in class discussion.

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### 7.1.3.1 Continuous assessment (20%)

Students will be given various ethical dilemmas and complications in multidisciplinary collaboration to resolve in group discussion. Each group will have 10 minutes to present the problems, conceptualization and key concepts applied for the resolution. Active participation in class is expected.

### 7.1.3.2 Reflective essay (30%)

Students will read 2 assigned articles and write a reflective essay (no more than 1 page in APA formatting, single line spacing) weekly. Students may reflect on what they have learnt from the articles and any new insight obtained, exercise critical thinking through questioning or researching on relevant critiques on the topic.

### 7.1.3.3 Presentation (50%)

Each student will bring up key ethical and/or professional issues in clinical practice and lead the discussion in class. The student may identify any potential ethical or boundary issues in the field, review on previous literature about the topic and formulate his/her own opinion and judgment. The format of presentation is open. Students may use PowerPoint, newspapers, flyers, videos, interview reports, role play and the like to stimulate learning in the presentation. Informed consent is required if personal information will be disclosed. Each presentation is limited to 20 minutes.

### 7.1.4 **General policy**

Attention is drawn to the principle of honesty and respecting intellectual property and Copyright Law. Assignment that shows evidence of plagiarism will be marked down severely.

## 7.2 **Module 2: Clinical Psychological Practice in Child and Adolescent Population in Hong Kong**

### 7.2.1 **Overview**

This module will focus on the clinical practice with child and adolescent population. The practice of assessment, case formulation, treatment planning, report writing and case management as applied to a wide range of clinical problems of this category of clientele would be covered. Relevant psychometric instruments, including the locally developed instruments, will be introduced and

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coached for their administration. Issues specifically related to the local context will be discussed.

## 7.2.2 Content

The following will be covered in this module:

- 7.2.2.1 An overview of clinical problems in child & adolescent population.
- 7.2.2.2 Clinical assessment and formulation as applied to clinical problems.
- 7.2.2.3 Application of locally standardized assessment instruments.
- 7.2.2.4 Evidence-based interventions and management plan in application.

## 7.2.3 Assessment

### 7.2.3.1 Examination (40%)

- 7.2.3.1.1 To assess the skills in diagnostic formulation in the format of report writing. This comprises the skills in integrating information gathered from client's history, results of objective measures and other sources of information to derive a comprehensive case conceptualization and differential diagnosis for suggesting treatment direction.
- 7.2.3.1.2 Participants are expected to demonstrate thorough understanding of the theoretical, practical and cross-cultural issues related to the diagnostic formulation of child and adolescent psychopathology, as outlined in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders Fifth Edition (DSM-5) and International Classification of Diseases (ICD-10/11) with particular reference to the local context.

### 7.2.3.2 Skills evaluation on psychological assessment (40%)

- 7.2.3.2.1 To assess basic competence which include general assessment skills and specific skills in the administration, scoring and interpretation of psychological tests (in particular intelligence tests, e.g. WISC-IV[HK]) commonly adopted in the local clinical settings, and report writing.
- 7.2.3.2.2 To enhance effective knowledge acquisition and clinical skills, participants are expected to critically review the theoretical, practical and cross-cultural problems in the assessment of intellectual and adaptive functioning; to get familiar with the assessment tools, standardized instructions and psychometric properties; and to practice administering the assessment tools among participants.

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### 7.2.3.3 Continuous assessment (20%)

Students are expected to actively participate in class activities, such as discussion, role play, etc.

### 7.2.4 **General Policy**

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## 7.3 **Module 3: Clinical Psychological Practice in Adult Population in Hong Kong**

### 7.3.1 **Overview**

This module will focus on the clinical practice with adult populations. The practice of assessment, case formulation, treatment planning, report writing and case management as applied to a wide range of clinical problems will be covered. Relevant psychometric instruments, including those locally developed, will be introduced and coached for their administration. Issues specifically related to the local context will also be discussed.

### 7.3.2 **Content**

The following will be covered in this module:

- 7.3.2.1 An overview of clinical problems in adult population.
- 7.3.2.2 Clinical assessment and formulation as applied to clinical problems.
- 7.3.2.3 Application of locally standardized assessment instruments.
- 7.3.2.4 Evidence-based interventions and management plan in application.
- 7.3.2.5 Psychologist's report as applied to adult population.

### 7.3.3 **Assessment**

#### 7.3.3.1 Written assignments (50%)

Students will complete <4> case reports, of which <2> are clinical assessment report based on the case materials provided. It aims to help students to develop case formulation and report writing skills. Another <2> reports involve scoring the test results of a given protocol and writing up a comprehensive intelligence assessment report. It aims to equip students with skills to compile intelligence

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assessment report basing on results of Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale-Fourth Edition (Hong Kong) (WAIS-IV [HK]).

### 7.3.3.2 Skills evaluation (30%)

Students will conduct 3 role-plays on (1) intake interview, (2) intelligence assessment, and (3) relaxation techniques. The assignments aim to help students to consolidate their skills in carrying out clinical interview with adults having mental disorder, administration of WAIS-IV (HK), and coaching relaxation techniques.

### 7.3.3.3 Group presentation (20%)

Students will work in a group to give a presentation on an assigned topic related to clinical disorders. The presentation will focus on psychopathology, assessment, evidence-based intervention(s) and relevant local issues. Students will demonstrate in-depth knowledge of clinical problems and critical appraisal of current research, make clear link between knowledge and local clinical practice.

### 7.3.4 **General Policy**

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## **8. Required Hours of Training**

- 8.1 Lectures: Approx. 100 hours in total
- 8.2 Skills lab: Approx. 30 hours in total
- 8.3 Private study: Approx. 170 hours, including doing assignments, reading course materials, preparing for presentations etc.

## **9. Requirements for Diploma in Clinical Psychology**

- 9.1 To complete the programme and obtain the Diploma in Clinical Psychology, students must attend at least 75% of lectures for each module and 100% of skills lab. Students must also pass (50%) the assessment of all the modules.

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- 9.2 Students who fail a module will have a chance to re-take the module. Those who fail the same module twice will be asked to discontinue the studies.

## 10. Requirements for Fulfilling the Prescribed Conditions for Test Use

- 10.1 To fulfill the conditions for test use as prescribed by the Registration Committee, candidates must attend at least 75% of lectures and 100% of skills lab for each of the module prescribed. Students must also pass (50%) the assessment of the prescribed module.
- 10.2 Students who fail a module will have a chance to re-take the module. Those who fail the same module twice will be asked to discontinue the studies.

## 11. Estimated Cost of the Programme

The programme shall be run on a cost-recovery principle. The estimate below is for reference only.

- 11.1 Estimated cost: <HKD 1,800,000> in total
- 11.2 Estimated tuition fee: <HKD 90,000> per student (if enrolling 20 students per batch)

## 12. Programme Workgroup

- 12.1 The programme is governed by the Education Committee (EC) of HKICP in collaboration with HKU SPACE. HKICP will provide professional support and HKU SPACE will provide administrative and technical support.
- 12.2 The Programme Workgroup is formed under the EC. EC has overall responsibility for overseeing the standard of the programme. The composition of the Programme Workgroup is as follows:

- 12.2.1 Programme Workgroup Chairs

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2 accredited clinical psychologists with a doctorate degree in Clinical Psychology or related areas and at least 15 years of experience in the field of clinical psychology.

#### 12.2.2 Module Coordinators

4 accredited clinical psychologists with at least 10 years of experience in the field of clinical psychology.

#### 12.2.3 Programme Team / Instructors

15 accredited clinical psychologists with at least 10 years of experience in the field of clinical psychology, and/or mental health professionals with substantial experience in local clinical settings.

#### 12.2.4 Student Representatives

To be arranged.