

**COVENANT UNIVERSITY
NIGERIA**

*TUTORIAL KIT
OMEGA SEMESTER*

PROGRAMME: PSYCHOLOGY

COURSE: PSY 422

DISCLAIMER

The contents of this document are intended for practice and leaning purposes at the undergraduate level. The materials are from different sources including the internet and the contributors do not in any way claim authorship or ownership of them. The materials are also not to be used for any commercial purpose.

PSY422: Professional & Ethical Issues in Counseling & Psychology

Contributor: Dr. G.A. Adejuwon, Dr. G.O. Adejumo

Question 1

- a. What is ethics?
- b. How can psychologists recognize ethical dilemmas?
- c. Identify ethical decision-making process

Answer

(a) Ethics – what is right or what should be done in uncertain situations when values conflict.

B) Feelings of discomfort

- Conflict with values, personally and professionally
- Dissonance with virtues
- Dissonance with moral reasoning

C) Identify the situation

- Gather all relevant information
- Identify ethical standards & legal policies
- Develop and weigh alternative approaches using ethical standards & legal policies
- Consult with professionals
- Implement the approach, evaluate the outcome

Question 2

Identify principles guiding APA Code of Ethics

5 Principles are

1. Beneficence & Nonmaleficence-Do Good; Avoid Harm
2. Fidelity & Responsibility-Develop trust; accept responsibility of work; uphold professional standards of conduct
3. Integrity-Maximize benefits & minimize harm through accuracy, honesty & truthfulness
4. Justice-Exercise competence & reasonable judgment
5. Respect for People's Rights & Dignity-Respect autonomy; maintain professional boundaries; preserve confidentiality & privacy

Question 3

Identify standards of APA Code of Ethics

Standards are

1. Resolving Ethical Issues
2. Competence
3. Human Relations
4. Privacy & Confidentiality
5. Advertising & Public Statements
6. Record Keeping & Fees

7. Education & Training
8. Research & Publication
9. Assessment
10. Therapy

Question 4

Identify ways of avoiding ethical pitfalls by applying the APA Ethical Code & Deborah Smith's 10 pointers:

1. Understand Multiple Relationships
2. Protect Confidentiality
3. Respect Autonomy
4. Know Supervisory Responsibilities
5. Identify Client & Role
6. Document
7. Practice in Area of Expertise
8. Abandonment vs. Termination
9. Stick to the Evidence
10. Be Accurate in Billing

Question 5

Multiple relationships can lead to ethical dilemma in what can it be experienced?

1. Power differentials
2. Duration of relationships
3. Sexual relationships are never permissible
4. Gifts & bartering
5. Supervisor/supervisee

Question 6

- a) In what situations is confidentiality not guaranteed?
- b) How would you communicate this to the patient?

Question 7

If a patient asks you to send a report to another healthcare agency, what steps should you take?

Question 8

Regarding disclosure, when should you (or the VA) tell patients that a mistake was made in the course of their treatment?

Question 9

How do you know that a research subject understands the informed consent?

Question 10

How do you decide authorship hierarchy (i.e., who should be listed first)?