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# PSYCHOLOGIST AS SUPERVISOR

According to the South African Health Professions Act, Act 56 of 1974, tests, measures, questionnaires, instruments, etc. that measure/assess psychological constructs must be used, interpreted, and controlled by psychologists. Certain psychological tests may, however, be used by psychometrists, psychotechnicians and other professionals (e.g. occupational therapists) provided that:



the use of the test has been certified as relevant for that category of users; the tester complies with applicable restrictions placed on the test's use; the tester seeks mentoring from a psychologist; the tester has been appropriately trained.

(cf Health Professions Council of South Africa [HPCSA]; Form 207; Why do we Classify Tests)



To comply both with national requirements for use of psychometric tests, Jopie van Rooyen & Partners SA (Pty) Ltd [JvR] adhere to specific criteria for each test distributed and trained on. Psychological tests are only for use by professionals with at least:

- A four year Psychology qualification with a background in Tests and Measurement.
- A registration as Psychologist, Psychometrist, Counsellor (Psychometrics) or Psychotechnician with the HPCSA.

Students who do not have full registration as a Psychologist must function under supervision of a registered psychologist. Certain tests (e.g. clinical, forensic, projective and neurological assessments) may only be used by registered psychologists.

According to the HPCSA (document R-717) "Supervision" is defined as "the acceptance of liability for the acts of another practitioner." The Ethical Code of Professional Conduct (Form 223) indicates that:

- 1 A psychologist shall not delegate professional responsibilities to any person who is not qualified to provide such responsibilities.
- 2 A psychologist shall delegate to a supervisee, with the appropriate level of supervision, only those professional responsibilities that such a supervisee can reasonably be expected to perform competently and ethically based on such supervisee's education, training, and experience.
- 3 A supervisee shall have education and training accredited by the board, including training in ethical issues, to perform such professional responsibilities
- 4 A psychologist shall be responsible for determining the competency of a supervisee and shall not assign or allow such supervisee to undertake responsibilities beyond the scope of such supervisee's training and/or competency.
- 5 A psychologist shall be responsible for providing a supervisee with specific instructions regarding the limits of his or her role as a supervisee.
- 6 A supervisee shall fully inform a client receiving psychological services of his or her role as supervisee and the right of such client to confer with the supervising psychologist with regard to any aspect of the psychological services being performed.
- 7 When a clinical psychological service is rendered, a psychologist shall - (a) take part in the psychological intake process; (b) personally make a diagnosis when a diagnosis is required; and (c) personally approve a treatment plan for each client.
- 8 A psychologist shall meet personally with a supervisee on a continuous and regular basis concerning each client and must review the treatment record, including progress notes, on a regular basis as appropriate to the task to be performed.

Having read the above, I \_\_\_\_\_ ID Number \_\_\_\_\_  
with PS number \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone number \_\_\_\_\_  
and e-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

indicate that I am a registered psychologist of good standing and have a current and valid registration with the HPCSA.

I further indicate that I am willing to act as supervisor to \_\_\_\_\_  
with HPCSA registration number \_\_\_\_\_ and ID number \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ on this the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ /20 \_\_\_\_\_