

Digital Ethics

Seminar with Dr. Ofer Zur, Ph.D.

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April 7, 2011, from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm

This presentation will review cutting edge clinical and ethical complexities that clinicians face in the 21st century. It will review how the Internet and computers has affected the way therapists and clients interact and get informed about each other and relate to each other in and outside the consulting room. It will cover issues, such as online transparency, emails and texting between therapists and clients, clients Googling therapists, therapists Googling clients, and how to respond to clients "Friend requests" on Facebook. It will also review the evolving standard of care issues and provide guidelines for Office Policies, Informed Consent and ethical ways for record keeping of emails, texts and social networking communications.

Syllabus

- Ethics and Digital Technologies
- Digital Boundaries
- Effect of modern technologies on psychotherapy and counseling
- Online transparency – Clients Googling therapists
- Therapists Googling clients
- Use of e-mail in psychotherapy
- Use of texting in psychotherapy
- Clients who texts during sessions
- Social networking with clients
- Standard of care and Digital ethics
- Record keeping of e-mail and texts
- Ethical Decision making

Timeline

8:30 AM to 9:30 AM – Part I

- Digital technologies and ethics
- Digital Boundaries
- Effect of modern technologies on psychotherapy and counseling
- Therapists online transparency in the digital age

9:30 AM to 10:30 AM – Part II

- Clients Googling therapists
- Therapists Googling clients

- E-mails and texting in therapy

10:30 AM – 10:45 AM Break

10:45 AM to 11:30 AM – Part III

- Social networking with clients
- Social networking and psychotherapy

11:30 AM to 12:30 PM – Part IV

- Standard of care and Digital ethics
- Ethical decision making
- Record keeping of e-mail and texts
- Summary

References/ Resources:

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- Zur, O. (2010b). Record-Keeping of Phone Messages, Email and Texts in Psychotherapy & Counseling. Online Publication - Zur Institute. Retrieved on August 15, 2010 from http://www.zurinstitute.com/digital_records.html.
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