

# Psychotherapy with Clients with HIV/AIDS: Clinical, Ethical, and Legal Complexities

**Workshop sponsored by CA Department of Public Health, Office of AIDS**

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**Instructor: Ofer Zur, Ph.D.**

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**Six (6) C.E. Credits - Feb. 11, 2009 - 9 AM to 4 PM - Sacramento, CA**  
*DoubleTree Hotel, 2001 Point West Way, Sacramento 95815, Ph: (916) 929-8855.*

*Six (6) CE Credits are available for California Psychologists, LCSWs, MFTs, Nurses, Psych. Techs., and Physical Therapists. Course fulfills the California Law & Ethics requirement for psychologists, MFTs and LCSWs*

## COURSE DESCRIPTION

Treating people with HIV is complex and challenging. The moral, emotional, political, ethical, legal, and clinical issues that are involved in the such treatment often present a conflicting set of views, attitudes, priorities, and values. Often, the HIV policy debate is characterized as an inevitable conflict between public health and individual rights. Issues of discrimination, economic justice, and racial and gender biases are highly relevant to the understanding of the global HIV crisis. Clinicians who are working with people diagnosed with HIV/AIDS often face not only the emotionally intense and complicated clinical challenge of helping people in deep crisis but also the need to bear with conflicting laws, vague ethical guidelines, and inconsistent regulations.

This course intends to address the ethical, legal, and clinical issues that surround treating the HIV positive individual. It will help clinicians identify the relevant standard of care and learn to conduct thorough and ethical decision-making. More specifically, the course will cover the relevant CA laws and relevant professional organizations' codes of ethics. Finally, the course will attempt to help clinicians deal effectively with the emotional and other challenges that working with people with HIV present and devise ways to prevent burnout and increase self-care.

## EDUCATIONAL GOALS & OBJECTIVES

*The intermediate-advanced level course will*

- Give participants an understanding of what is the standard of care.
- Review the clinical, ethical, and legal complexities of working with clients with HIV/AIDS.
- Review HIPAA regulations in regard to record keeping with clients with HIV
- Provide a framework for ethical decision-making.
- Support clinicians in their work with clients with HIV/AIDS
- Teach clinicians ways to prevent burnout.

# Syllabus: Psychotherapy with Clients with HIV/AIDS

## Morning Session:

- Introduction to ethics
- The standard of care: What it is and what it is not
- Complexities in working with clients with HIV/AIDS:
  - Clinical – Ethical - Legal
- Working with non-compliant clients with HIV/AIDS
- Boundaries in therapy: Dual relationships, self-disclosure, leaving the office, etc.

## *Lunch break*

## Afternoon Session:

- HIPAA: Overview and record keeping regulations
- Confidentiality and privacy
- Critical thinking and moral reasoning in clinical work clients with HIV/AIDS
- Ethical decision making
- Avoiding therapists burnout
- Q & A
- Summary
- Evaluation, certificates, check out

## **CE & Instructor's Information**

- Participants must attend the entire workshop and submit the evaluation in order to receive the certificate of completion. No partial credits are available.
- **Instructor:** Ofer Zur, Ph.D., Director, Zur Institute, Sonoma, CA, is a licensed psychologist (CA-PSY10763). Dr. Zur's CV is at <http://www.zurinstitute.com/cvita.html>, Phone: 707-935-0655, E-mail: [info@zurinstitute.com](mailto:info@zurinstitute.com), and Web Site: <http://www.zurinstitute.com>.
- **CE Credits for this course are provided by the Zur Institute, LLC.**
  - The Zur Institute is approved by the American Psychological Association (**APA**) to sponsor continuing education for **psychologists**. The Zur Institute maintains responsibility for this program and its content.
  - This course meets the qualifications for 6 CE credits for **MFTs** and **LCSWs** as required by the California Board of Behavioral Sciences (**BBS**). Provider # PCE 6.
  - This course meets qualifications for 6 CE credits for **Nurses** in CA: Provider approved by The California Board of Registered Nursing (**CA BRN**), Provider #CEP 14826.
- Course is designed to fulfill the Law-Ethics requirement for CA psychologists, LCSWs, & MFTs.

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