



# CCPA NET Letter

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Collin County  
Psychological  
Association

APRIL 2004  
Volume 13, Issue 4

## GOING ON THE NET!

**CCPA NEWS GOES ONLINE!!**

**WITH THIS ISSUE AND IN THE FUTURE YOU WILL BE ABLE TO FIND OUR NEWS AT:**

**[www.psychselect.com/ccpa](http://www.psychselect.com/ccpa)**

*The newsletters ( past, too!), programs, awards and workshop registration will all be online at our website. These materials will be available to download and print. You will also be able to find referral information on our members!*

*We will notify by email when a new information is available and provide reminders of our meetings. Please be sure to keep us informed of your current email address.*

*You can send us questions and email addresses at [wichern@att.net](mailto:wichern@att.net)*

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**We wish to thank Cheryl Silver, PhD, for the workshop on Learning Disabilities. We received important guidelines on assessment, definitions, brain function and testing tools such as the WISC IV, WIAT-II and others. Her comments on writing useful reports and acceptable recommendations were critical**

**both for those who do testing and understanding reports we receive. This has developed into a highly specialized field and the ethical issues involved in assessment were also emphasized. As with many of the issues we face, staying current with developments and thinking is crucial!**

## "ETHICS IN OFFICE PROCEDURES"

4/23—12 PM **Ψ CCPA PANEL**

**Join CCPA at Southfork (Harvey) Hotel, Plano  
Office Policies, Forms, Ins. Filing,  
HIPPA, Marketing and More! A CD will be available!  
Please invite your colleagues and bring your questions!**

### FUTURE MEETINGS:

- 4/23 Building Private Practice Southfork Hotel 12 Noon
- 5/11 CCPA/DPA SOCIAL 7PM Royal Oaks CC
- 5/21 Psychiatric Update Southfork Hotel 12 Noon

## UPCOMING MEETINGS—SCHEDULE THESE NOW!

Our monthly meetings are held from 12:00 noon to 1:30 p.m. on the 4th Friday of each month at the Southfork Hotel Plano, unless otherwise specified. The Southfork Hotel is on the east side of 75, 1 block north of 15th Street in Plano. Meetings are usually held in the Hackberry room. Members may order lunch from the menu, or just enjoy the presentation. 1.5 CEU credits are given to members for attending the meeting.

### **Friday, April 23, 2004**

Building Private Practice— Important Information on HIPPA Compliance, Office Forms, Bill-

ing, e-filing, office management, marketing, etc. ***A CD containing forms, HIPPA issues and more will be available for \$10!***

***May 11—Joint Social with DPA at Royal Oaks Country Club 7 PM***

***May 21—Psychiatric Update with Alan Koenigsberg, MD***

***June 25— Psychological Evaluations for Gastroplasty with Andy Block, PhD***

### **FROM TPA: Policy On Ethics Course Guidelines FOR TSBEP!**

Ethics Course Guidelines for Psychologists and Providers: Material suitable for CE credit is that which reflects on the directives of the TSBEP and or the guidelines established by APA, NASP or other organizations of professional psychologists. Courses that focus on bases for ethical decision making and/or problem-solving with diverse groups, contexts and situations are particularly relevant to this category of CE.

Professional Ethics concerns conduct and practice when engaged in professional work. Any code may be considered to be a formalization of experience into a set of rules. A professional group adopts a code in order to define and promote its purposes and activities – ethical boundaries are established in order to regulate practice in a way that is acceptable to its incumbents.

Codes of Ethics are concerned with a range of issues designed to set out the ideals and responsibilities of the profession. Ethics requirements are intended to provide assistance in determining appropriate decision-making and behavior, improve consistency, and provide a minimum acceptable level of practice.

Examples of acceptable continuing education courses/topics could include: "Update on new and revised TSBEP rules" or "Informed consent with geriatric populations." Examples of unacceptable continuing education courses/topics include: "Diagnostic indicators for..." or "Medical model implications for the practice of psychology."

**The following may be considered by the Board Staff in determining whether a particular Continuing Education course may be counted for the purposes of the ethics requirement:**

**Does the title of the designated CE experience include the word or derivations of "ethics" "legal," "rules," "regulation," "risk management," or other conceptually related terms?**

**Does the title of the CE activity suggest that the focus was to enhance or improve practice that is consistent with lawful, regulated and/or ethical practice of psychology (as opposed to new, elaborated or improved techniques of practice)?**

**Is it clear from the title or course description (for audited CEs) that the course or activity was designed to enhance or upgrade professional skills or knowledge relative to ethical practice of psychology as regulated by the Rules of the TSBEP? Effective: November 2003**



## **PRESIDENT'S COLUMN:**

### ***Greetings CCPA members! April 2004***

Thanks to Dr. Cheryl Silver for her excellent March workshop presentation on "Elements of a Comprehensive Evaluation for Learning Disabilities." Her talk was a very clear and thorough summary of learning disability assessments and was of benefit both to those new to the area as well as to more experienced clinicians.

At our next meeting on April 23, several CCPA Executive Board members will present on office practices and ethics issues. Topics will include office forms, helpful software for billing and other applications, HIPAA compliance and required forms, online billing and internet resources. A CD containing standard office forms and questionnaires including HIPAA compliant forms will be made available to members for a nominal \$10 charge (\$25 for nonmembers). 1.5 hrs. ceu will be given which will count towards the Texas State Board ethics ceu requirement.

Our first ever joint social with DPA will be held Tuesday evening, May 11, 2004 at 7:00 p.m. at the Royal Oaks Country Club, 7915 Greenville Ave. in Dallas between Royal Lane and Walnut Hill Lane. Spouses are welcome. Come and network with our colleagues to the south!

An interesting study was released this month by researchers at Children's Hospital and Regional Medical Center in Seattle and appears in the April 2004 issue of Pediatrics. The study examined data on nearly 1,300 children from a major government survey of children and youth. The researchers compared rates of TV watching during the first three years of life to the later development of attention problems at age 7 than a child who watched no TV. According to the study, the average 1-year-old is exposed to about two hours of TV a day. This number rises to about 3.6 hours a day by 3 years of age. Findings indicated that for every hour of television children watched each day, the risk of developing attentional problems increased by 10%. If a child watches 3 hours of television a day, he or she would be 30% more likely to develop attention problems at age 7. Dr. Dimitri Christakis, a pediatrician and the lead researcher of the study, attributed the findings to the rapidly changing scenes on television and the effect that such stimulation has on a developing brain which undergoes rapid growth in the first few years of life. Even children's programming exploits rapid image-change to keep children engaged with the screen – the novelty of the changing images keeps it interesting.

This study would probably make a good culture for Swiss cheese, considering the number of methodological holes it has in it, but it is provocative nevertheless and warrants follow up with a good clinical design. Dr. Christakis himself acknowledged flaws in the study including the fact that data collected was based solely on the answers of parents (no data was collected from teachers or other professionals), no diagnosis of ADD/ADHD was made by the researchers, no children were actually observed, tests used in the study only diagnosed attention problems and did not use ADD/ADHD criteria. One reviewer pointed out that television may be the effect and not the cause, as children with ADD/ADHD may be drawn to the high stimulus environment of television with its constant movement and colors.

Neurologically speaking, infants and children have never had the amount of sensory stimulation that they are now being exposed to. Infants and children today are exposed to much more stimulation than they were even 10 years ago (baby-sized computers with tiny keyboards are now available as toys and learning tools). The educational stimulation (music, toys, videos) infants and toddlers receive from well-intentioned parents may be helpful up to a point but may then start to overload the developing nervous system.

Dr. Christakis recommends to parents that "they should not let their children watch television during the first two years of life, and subsequently they should exert extreme caution both with respect to the amount and content." His study was published in time for the American Academy of Pediatrics "TV-Turnoff" week, scheduled this year for April 19 – 25.

Turn off your TV and join us for our office practices meeting at the Southfork Hotel on April 23rd!

***Bob Weiner, Ph.D.***

Suggestions, comments? Please contact me at 972-596-0272 or by e-mail at [drbobw@flash.net](mailto:drbobw@flash.net)

**Collin County  
Psychological Association**

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*The network of psychologists that  
connects!*

**CCPA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

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***Secretary***

ANNOUNCEMENT OR OTHER  
RELEVANT INFORMATION,  
CONTACT CCPA: [wichern@att.net](mailto:wichern@att.net)

***BOARD MEETINGS:***

***Please attend!***

600 W. Campbell Rd #5,  
Richardson

*NOON – First Friday of month!*

**OPPORTUNITIES!**

**Office Space**

Several large offices with waiting area available . Located in Richardson near UTD. Office with other mental health professionals.

Contact: Frank Wichern (972) 234-3178

Two story, reasonably priced (\$950), 1200 sq ft office for rent. Four offices, waiting room, break area, rest room. 1325 19<sup>th</sup> St. Ste. 4B, Plano

Contact: Dan Perkins 972-562-9140

Rooms for rent at Private Psychology Practice in N. Plano. Beautiful, new office condo, \$550-750. Contact: Grace Chew, 469-467-7595

**Services**

**Groups**

Sarah Spreda, PhD and Misty Hook, PhD will be offering several coping skills and support groups for 2004! These groups will concern anxiety, depression, pregnancy, body image and adolescent issues. Contact them at 972.377.4262 Or 214.244.5835 email:mistyhook@comcast.net

**Jobs**

Denton County MHMR Center Request for Applications

The Denton County MHMR Center (Center) issues this Request for Applications (RFA) to develop a network of **PSYCHOLOGISTS OR PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATES** to provide one or more of the following:

Determinations of Mental Retardation (DMR); Psychological Testing; Preparation of Behavior Management Plans for persons with mental illness and mental retardation.

The Center is a government entity established by the State of Texas for the purpose of providing medical, therapeutic, and residential services to the target population served by the Center that consists of mentally ill and mentally retarded persons who are residents of Denton county.

To request an RFA copy or for further information, please contact the following Center staff member: Melissa Eckstein, Administrator, Essential Services, Denton County MHMR Center, 2519 Scripture Street Denton, TX 76201-2324 940-381-5000

**CONGRATULATIONS TO:**

***Gayla Sahl Clough***

***Graduate Student, Texas Woman's University***

***"Does Mentoring Make a Difference?"***

***An Evaluation of a Mentoring Program.***

***FOR WINNING CCPA'S RESEARCH AWARD***

***LET THIS SPACE WORK FOR YOU!***

***Advertise your specialty or service so our  
members can refer or utilize it!***

***Send to:***

***[wichern@att.net](mailto:wichern@att.net)***