

# Practical Ethics for Challenging Times: A Positive Approach

Mental health clinicians live and practice in challenging times, providing services in a wide range of settings with a wide range of clients. Numerous legal issues, ethics requirements, ethical dilemmas, stressors, and a litigious environment may make ethical practice seem to be a daunting proposition. This workshop focuses on positive ethics and risk management strategies for practicing mental health professionals, taking a positive approach to ethical practice that helps minimize risks to the clinician. Fundamental issues for ethical practice by mental health professionals will be addressed along a review of basic risk management strategies, and a process for ethical decision-making when faced with ethical dilemmas and challenges. Common dilemmas and challenges will be reviewed and specific recommendations for ethical and effective practice will be provided.

## Target Audience

Psychologists  
Therapists  
Social Workers  
Psychiatrists  
Counselors  
Nurses  
Course level: Intermediate

## Learning Objectives

At the end of this seminar, participants will be able to:

Following attendance at this workshop, participants will be able to:

- 1) Describe the roles of positive ethics and risk management in clinical practice.
- 2) List the four basic risk management strategies.
- 3) List commonly occurring ethical challenges and dilemmas in clinical practice.
- 4) Explain and implement an ethical decision-making model when confronted with an ethical dilemma.
- 5) Name the four D's of malpractice.

## Seminar Schedule

Typically begins at 11 AM and ends at 2:15 PM Eastern time. There is one 15 minute break. However, check the webinar schedule.

## Outline

Begin 11 AM ET  
The four D's of malpractice  
Ethics virtues and ethical practice  
Applying the virtues  
Ethical decision making  
Models of ethical decision making  
Informed consent  
Treatment of minors  
Competence  
Break 12:30-12:45 PM ET  
Psychotherapist wellness  
Competence constellation  
Mandatory reporting  
Documentation and record keeping  
Boundaries  
Multiple relationships  
Supervision  
Suicide  
End 2:15 Pm ET

Our seminars are available in two formats. The first is a live, interactive webinar. If the webinar time is not convenient for you, you can purchase the Home Study version. It is a recorded version of the webinar. You will have to pass a test to earn CE's for both the live webinar and the Home Study version.

## Continuing Education Credit

To earn CE's, you must attend the entire webinar. No partial credit is available. For both the webinar and the home study version, you will have to pass a post-test with 80% correct and complete a seminar evaluation to earn the certificate. You can take the test up to three times. Participants will earn 3 CE's for attending once they have completed these requirements.

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## The Presenter

Jeffrey E. Barnett, Psy.D., ABPP is a licensed psychologist and is board certified by the American Board of Professional Psychology in Clinical Psychology and in Clinical Child and Adolescent Psychology. Additionally, he is a Distinguished Practitioner in Psychology of the National Academies of Practice. He also is a Professor of Psychology at Loyola University Maryland. He is a nationally recognized expert in professional ethics issues for mental health professionals and has served as chair of the ethics committees of the Maryland Psychological Association, the American Psychological Association, and the American Board of Professional Psychology. He also has served as the Vice Chair of the Maryland Psychology Licensing Board. Dr. Barnett has numerous publications to include 13 books and over 250 articles and book chapters and over 300 professional presentations that focus on ethics, legal, and professional practice issues for mental health professionals. Through his many publications and presentations Dr. Barnett has made major contributions in ethics and ethics education, ethical decision-making, online education, mentoring, boundaries and multiple relationships, self-care and the promotion of psychological wellness, clinical supervision, tele-mental health, integrating religion and spirituality into clinical practice, business of practice, and integrating Complementary and Alternative Medicine into clinical practice. Among his many awards he is a recipient of the American Psychological Association's Award for Outstanding Contributions to Ethics Education and its award for Distinguished Contributions to the Independent Practice of Psychology.

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This seminar has been reviewed and approved by Keith Hannan, Ph.D., Phil Rich, LICSW, Daphne Fatter, Ph.D., and Loreen Yearick, MSN, RN. This approval expires on March 1, 2025.

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