

Dear whom may concern,

I am writing to support the proposal of Hong Kong Psychological Society-Division of Clinical Psychology. To protect public interest, clinical psychologists should receive intensive training and on-site supervision from registered clinical psychologists to ensure their clinical skills have reached a basic professional standard. If AR for clinical psychologists (CP) does not have such criteria, public will surely challenge the government for allowing people whose treatment sessions were almost never subjected to direct on-site supervision. Worse still, clients may take legal action again the government in the case of malpractice if the government allow sub-standard practitioners to be titled AR CP. The main reason why on-site supervision is required is because clinical psychologists rely on very refined counselling skills in treating clients, i.e. how to convey a message clinically, how to explore the underlying mental problems through observation of the clients. That could only be trained under the on-site direct supervision from a registered clinical psychologist. Although people may think that malpractice of CP does not cause as much harm as that of doctors, inappropriate counselling will definitely trigger severe negative reactions of the clients, e.g. worsen their depression.

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