



Hong Kong Association of Doctors
in Clinical Psychology Limited
香港臨床心理學博士協會有限公司

Room 703, 7/F, Kowloon Building,
555 Nathan Road, Kowloon, Hong Kong
香港九龍彌敦道555號九龍行703室
Tel: 852-3705 4956 www.hkadcp.org.hk
Email: info@hkadcp.org.hk

07 January 2018

BY EMAIL ONLY [yeoh_ek@cuhk.edu.hk; ngai_fong@fhb.gov.hk]

Professor YEOH Eng-kiong
Director, JC School of Public Health and Primary Care
Faculty of Medicine, The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Mr FONG Ngai
Deputy Secretary for Food and Health (Health) 3
Food and Health Bureau

Dear Professor Yeoh and Mr. Fong

Re: Clinical Supervision in Clinical Psychologist Training

Further to our letter dated 24 December 2018, we would like to provide more information on the issue of clinical supervision. We mentioned in the last letter that the version of supervision model proposed by HKPS-DCP “is NOT a conventional type of on-site supervision model recognized by international professional standards in the CP profession”. For example, this model of supervision (being named as “in-room” supervision to distinguish from standard on-site supervision), was criticized by Dr. Carol Falender, a distinguished scholar on clinical supervision, that it “could potentially bring harm to the supervisee and leads to negative impact on the therapeutic services provided to clients.”

We would like to provide the video excerpt, in which these comments were made by Dr. Carol Falender (with her consent) in the panel discussion session of a recent professional training on supervision conducted in Hong Kong. Dr. Falender chaired the Supervision Guidelines Task Force of the Board of Educational Affairs (BEA) of APA and a member of the Supervision Guidelines Group of the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards (ASPPB). The video is published on our web site and you may view it from the following link:

<https://www.hkadcp.org.hk/panel-discussion>

Based on the expert’s advice, we would like to draw your attention to the following critical points regarding the AR scheme for the CP profession:

1. The current AR scheme proposal provided by HKPS-DCP is subject to bias and falls short of expectations in setting clinical requirements and may contain critical problems going against professional standards of good practice.
2. HKPS-DCP has departed from the agreeable educational and training requirement standards set forth in 2016 with HKADCP. The current exclusive AR proposal submitted by HKPS-DCP poses a serious risk of unfair exclusion of qualified CP

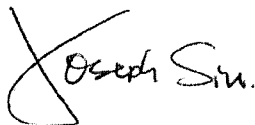
professionals who are not trained under the CP programs of the Chinese University of Hong Kong and University of Hong Kong. Since there is no clear definition and criteria of the standard of “Inclusiveness” provided by the accreditation agent, and this requirement is not explicitly spelled out in the core criteria of the AR scheme accreditation standards, the principle of Inclusiveness would only become an empty phrase. The proposed scheme’s fairness can only be questionable when professional autonomy is neglected and potential bias of one-sided solution is not guarded against.

In view of the above, we would urge that:

- a) Accreditation agent should immediately carry out an assessment on HKADCP’s proposal. In terms of procedural justice, we see there is no ground for delaying the said assessment on the alternative proposal submitted by HKADCP which actually is the only proposal handed in before the official deadline. In this regard, we would request the Agency to provide feedback on a reasonable time frame about its evaluation of HKADCP’s proposal as compared with HKPS-DCP’s.
- b) The current accreditation process against HKPS-DCP’s proposal ought to be put on hold until an appropriate mechanism is in place to ensure genuine inclusiveness and fair evaluation of the educational and training requirements. In assistance to your comparison, we suggest that an independent third party panel with experts renowned in accreditation of clinical psychology training programs should be introduced and commissioned to evaluate proposals submitted by both the HKPS-DCP and HKADCP, in order to achieve a professional and fair judgement on the criteria of “inclusiveness” based on the principle of “minimally acceptable standards”, as the pivotal underlying operational requirement always upheld by the AR Agent.

Yours sincerely,

For and On Behalf of
Hong Kong Association of Doctors
in Clinical Psychology Limited



Dr. Joseph Siu
Chairman

c.c. Dr. Carol Falender [REDACTED]
Distinguished scholar on competency-based supervision model

JCSPHPC
(Attn. : Dr. Carrie Yam) [carrieyam@cuhk.edu.hk]
(Attn. : AR Survey team, JCSPHPC c/o Ms. Carrie Yam)

Secretary for Food and Health
(Attn. : Professor Sophia Chan) [sophia_chan@fhb.gov.hk]

Director of Health
(Att. : Dr. Ronald Lam Man Kin, AD (HealthAdm & Planning)) [adhap@dh.gov.hk]

Principal Assistant Secretary for Food and Health
(Attn. :Mr. Chris Fung) [cpcfung@fhb.gov.hk]

Chairman, Panel on Health Services, Legislative Council
(Attn. : Dr. Hon. Pierre Chan) [REDACTED]

Legislative Council of Hong Kong, Panel on Health Services [panel_@legco.gov.hk]

Professor and Program Director, CSPP-HK, Alliant University
(Attn. : Dr. Liang, Tien) [liang.tien@alliant.edu]

Chairman, HKADCP
(Attn.: Dr. Joseph Siu) [REDACTED]