MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

REGULATIONS RELATING TO SCOPE OF PRACTICE OF SPECIALIST PSYCHOLOGIST: SOCIAL WORK AND PSYCHOLOGY ACT, 2004

Under section 56 of the Social Work and Psychology Act, 2004 (Act No. 6 of 2004), and on the recommendation of the Social Work and Psychology Council of Namibia, I have made the regulations set out in the Schedule.

R.N. KAMWI
MINISTER OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES
Windhoek, 3 April 2014

SCHEDULE

Definitions

1. In these regulations, unless the context otherwise indicates, a word or expression defined in the Act has that meaning, and -

“community psychology” means the use of psychological theory and practice to understand and change human behaviour in the context of the community where those humans live or work;
“child and family therapy” means means the use of psychotherapeutic principles to treat children and families after making a psychological evaluation;

“development psychology” means the study of the stages of human psychological development;

“educational psychology” means the study of human behaviour in the educational sphere;

“forensic psychology” means the study of human psychological factors in relation to their implication in a juristic or legal sense;

“neuropsychology” means the study of the nervous system in relation to human behaviour;

“psychometric evaluation” means the use of psychological testing procedures to evaluate the mind and personality of humans;

“psychotherapy” means the involvement of treatment procedures mainly through verbal communication to change maladaptive behaviour patterns in humans;

“specialist” means a clinical psychologist or an educational psychologist, as the case may be, in whose name a speciality is registered;

“speciality” means a speciality in psychology prescribed under the Act; and


**Scope of practice of clinical psychologist practising as specialist in psychotherapy**

2. A clinical psychologist practising as a specialist in psychotherapy, in addition to the scope of practice prescribed for a clinical psychologist who is not a specialist, may -

   (a) deliver services in the spectrum of psychotherapy to any person, couple or group of persons; and

   (b) diagnose mental disorders in persons.

**Scope of practice of clinical psychologist practising as specialist in child and family therapy**

3. A clinical psychologist practising as a specialist in child and family therapy, in addition to the scope of practice prescribed for a clinical psychologist who is not a specialist, may -

   (a) deliver services in the spectrum of psychotherapy to any child or family;

   (b) diagnose mental disorders in a child; and

   (c) diagnose maladaptive families.

**Scope of practice of clinical psychologist practising as specialist in neuropsychology**

4. A clinical psychologist practising as a specialist in neuropsychology, in addition to the scope of practice prescribed for a clinical psychologist who is not a specialist, may -

   (a) deliver psycho neurological services by means of the evaluation of persons with special emphasis on the use of specialised psychometric instruments with children and adults; and
(b) provide an opinion on the psycho neurological status of a person.

**Scope of practice of clinical psychologist practising as specialist in forensic psychology**

5. A clinical psychologist practising as a specialist in forensic psychology, in addition to the scope of practice prescribed for a clinical psychologist who is not a specialist, may -

(a) deliver forensic services with emphasis on the evaluation of morbid and pre morbid behaviour patterns of offenders; and

(b) provide an opinion on the psychological aspects of crime and criminal related matters, and do specialised psychological investigations including psychometrics, polygraphic and similar investigations.

**Scope of practice of clinical psychologist practising as specialist in community psychology**

6. A clinical psychologist practising as a specialist in community psychology, in addition to the scope of practice prescribed for a clinical psychologist who is not a specialist, may -

(a) provide an expert opinion on the functioning of communities relating to the psychological functioning of such communities as a whole or as individuals being part of such a community;

(b) develop strategies to ensure optimal mental functioning for members within a community context or for the community as a whole.

**Scope of practice of clinical psychologist practising as specialist in psychometric evaluation**

7. A clinical psychologist practising as a specialist in psychometric, in addition to the scope of practice prescribed for a clinical psychologist who is not a specialist, may -

(a) deliver services to communities by means of the treating, evaluating and improving the psychological well-being of those communities;

(b) provide an opinion on the psychological status of communities, and design strategies to improve or alter the psychological status of communities;

(c) apply, design, develop and use psychometric material on persons, groups of persons and communities, and formulate a specialised opinion on the results obtained from the use of this material;

(d) report to other registered persons on the results of psychometric material applied; and

(e) conduct research projects involving the psychometric evaluation of a person, groups of persons and communities.

**Scope of practice of educational psychologist who holds speciality in developmental psychology**

8. An educational psychologist practising as a specialist in developmental psychology, in addition to the scope of practice prescribed for an educational psychologist who is not a specialist, may -

(a) provide an expert opinion on the developmental phases of persons relating to their developmental progress from infancy to old age; and
(b) develop and implement strategies to ensure the optimal mental development of infants, children, youths, adolescents and adults to optimal functioning.

**Scope of practice of educational psychologist practising as specialist in child and family therapy**

9. An educational psychologist practising as a specialist in child and family therapy, in addition to the scope of practice prescribed for an educational psychologist who is not a specialist, may -

(a) deliver psychotherapeutic services to children and families; and

(b) make diagnosis of mental disorders in children and of maladaptive families.

**Scope of practice of educational psychologist practising as specialist in psychometric evaluation**

10. An educational psychologist practising as a specialist in psychometric, in addition to the scope of practice prescribed for an educational psychologist who is not a specialist, may -

(a) deliver services to communities by means of the treating, evaluating and improving the psychological well-being of those communities;

(b) provide an opinion on the psychological status of communities, and design strategies to improve or alter the psychological status of communities;

(c) apply, design, develop and use psychometric material on persons, groups of persons and communities, and formulate a specialised opinion on the results obtained from the use of this material;

(d) report to other registered persons on the results of psychometric material applied; and

(e) conduct research projects involving the psychometric evaluation of a person, groups of persons and communities.

**Scope of practice of educational psychologist practising as specialist in psychotherapy**

11. An educational psychologist practising as a specialist in psychotherapy, in addition to the scope of practice prescribed for an educational psychologist who is not a specialist, may -

(a) deliver psychotherapy services to a person or a group of persons; and

(b) make diagnosis of mental disorders in a person.

**Scope of practice of educational psychologist practising as specialist in community psychology**

12. An educational psychologist practising as a specialist in community psychology, in addition to the scope of practice prescribed for an educational psychologist who is not a specialist, may -

(a) deliver services to communities treating, evaluating and improving the psychological well-being of those communities; and
(b) provide an opinion on the psychological status of communities, and design strategies to improve or alter the psychological status of those communities.

**Scope of practice of educational psychologist practising as specialist in forensic psychology**

13. An educational psychologist practising as a specialist in forensic psychology, in addition to the scope of practice prescribed for an educational psychologist who is not a specialist, may -

(a) deliver forensic services with emphasis on the evaluation of morbid and pre morbid behaviour patterns of offenders; and

(b) provide an opinion on the psychological aspects of crime and criminal related matters, and do specialised psychological investigations including psychometrics, polygraphic and similar investigations.

**Scope of practice of educational psychologist practising as specialist in neuropsychology**

14. An educational psychologist practising as a specialist in neuropsychology, in addition to the scope of practice prescribed for an educational psychologist who is not a specialist, may -

(a) provide an expert opinion on the functioning of communities relating to the psychological functioning of such communities as a whole or as individuals being part of such a community;

(b) develop strategies to ensure optimal mental functioning for members within a community context or for the community as a whole.