



Board Certified in Problem Gambling (BCPG)

Scope of Practice

DOMAIN 1: Basic Knowledge of Problem Gambling and Pathological Gambling

- A. Scope of legalized gambling in the U.S.
 - 1. Recognition of prevalence of gambling problems amongst various populations
 - 2. Understanding of gambling
 - i. Types of gambling
 - ii. Gambling settings
 - 3. Understanding of gambling disorder
 - i. Terminology utilized
 - ii. Etiology and progression of the disorder
 - iii. Subtypes and pathway model
 - iv. Similarities and differences with substance use disorders
- B. Client evaluations
 - 1. Utilization of recognized screening tools
 - 2. Implementation of recognized assessment tools
 - 3. Understanding of diagnostic criteria

DOMAIN 2: Gambling Counseling Practices

- A. Examination of clients' attitudes and/or feelings
 - 1. Attitudes towards money and finances
 - 2. Deception and self-deception
 - 3. Meaning and role of gambling
 - 4. Different forms of spirituality
 - 5. Irrational thinking/cognitive distortion
 - 6. Other specific beliefs and attitudes
- B. Considerations of alternative solutions
 - 1. Abstinence
 - 2. Harm reduction
 - 3. Natural recovery
- C. Skills for treatment of gambling disorders
 - 1. Personalized engagement for clients with gambling disorders

2. Integrating the topic of gambling and problem gambling into substance use disorder and mental health treatment
3. Motivational interviewing and enhancement strategies
4. Mindfulness based interventions
5. Cognitive behavioral therapy
6. Client and family education
7. Family and other concerned individuals' interventions
8. Individual counseling
9. Group counseling
10. Treatment planning
11. Financial management issues
12. Legal issues
13. Recognizing and appropriately navigating transference and countertransference

D. Relationship to substance use and mental health

1. Integration of problem gambling into substance use disorder and mental health treatment
2. Impact of gambling on recovery from substance use and mental health disorders
3. Impact of substance use and mental health disorders on problem gambling treatment and recovery
4. Understanding the various levels of care and ASAM criteria used in diagnosing

E. Client care

1. Crisis management, including identification and resolution
2. Knowledge of referral resources and case management needs
3. Consultation of needs and desires
4. Peer support and recovery support systems available

F. Education

1. Orientation to treatment and recovery
2. Co-occurring disorders
 - i. Screeners and assessments
 - ii. Psychopharmacology and medication
 - iii. Medical needs
 - iv. Gambling and substance use

- v. Gambling and mental health
- 3. Self-help programs
 - i. 12-step based
 - ii. SMART Recovery
 - iii. Faith-based self-help programs
- 4. Research
 - i. Neurobiology, medication, and psychopharmacology
 - ii. Treatment
 - iii. Co-occurring disorders
- 5. Continuing care

DOMAIN 3: Special Issues in Gambling Treatment

- A. Specific populations affected by gambling and their individualized needs
- B. Recurrence and recurrence prevention
- C. Suicidal ideation and/or attempts
- D. Trauma and survivor concerns
- E. Chronic illness
- F. Justice involvement
- G. Military involvement (current or previous)
- H. Stigma

DOMAIN 4: Professional Issues

- A. Laws and regulations
 - 1. Client rights
 - i. Confidentiality
 - ii. Informed consent
 - iii. Reporting
 - 1. Child/other abuse
 - 2. Duty to warn
 - 2. Discrimination
 - 3. Managed care
 - i. Utilization review
 - ii. Outcomes studies



- B. Ethical considerations related to service delivery
 - 1. Adhering to pre-requisite certification/licensure code of ethics and expectations specific to problem gambling service delivery
- C. Proper supervision
 - 1. Administrative
 - 2. Treatment
 - 3. Gambling specific consultation
- D. Knowledge of current/future gambling trends
 - 1. Routinely obtains gambling continuing education (CEUs)

Additional clarification items:

- A. This stated scope of work does not supersede any reimbursement expectations from various funding sources.