



Te Poari Kaimātai Hinengaro o Aotearoa

NEW ZEALAND PSYCHOLOGISTS BOARD

2023 Roadshow – handout for rōpū kahurangi

Scopes of practice

In this handout, we've provided some questions below to help with your thinking, but don't feel that you are limited to just these questions.

You might want to split into smaller groups and divide up the specific examples between the groups.

Please consider all issues with scopes of practice with reference to their role in protecting the public.

Questions

- What is top of your mind when it comes to the value scopes are (or aren't) providing?
- What do we need to retain?
- What do we need to add? Remove?
- What needs clarifying?
- What will the impact be on the public with your proposed suggestions – e.g., restricting or expanding access, confusion?
- If you are suggesting expanding a scope, what will be required to ensure that every person already registered in that scope is competent to provide the additional service?

KAHURANGI

Current wording of scopes of practice in New Zealand and Australia (excluding intern and trainee scopes)

New Zealand	Australia (descriptions of endorsements on general registration)
<p>“Psychologist” – A psychologist within a general scope is defined as rendering or offering to render to individuals, groups, organisations or the public any psychological service involving the application of psychological knowledge, principles, methods and procedures of understanding, predicting ameliorating or influencing behaviour, affect or cognition. Such practice is undertaken within an individual’s area and level of expertise and with due regard to ethical, legal, and Board-prescribed standards.</p>	<p>“General registration” – no comparable description available</p> <p>Has demonstrated competence in the following areas: • knowledge of the discipline • ethical, legal and professional matters • psychological assessment and measurement • intervention strategies • research and evaluation • communication and interpersonal relationships • working with people from diverse groups • practice across the lifespan</p>
<p>“Clinical Psychologist” – Clinical Psychologists apply psychological knowledge and theory derived from research to the area of mental health and development, to assist children, young persons, adults and their families with emotional, mental, developmental or behavioural problems by using psychological assessment, formulation and diagnosis based on biological, social and psychological factors, and applying therapeutic interventions using a scientist-practitioner approach. Such practice is undertaken within an individual’s area and level of expertise and with due regard to ethical, legal, and Board-prescribed standards.</p>	<p>Clinical psychologists use their knowledge of psychology and mental health for the assessment, diagnosis, formulation, treatment, and prevention of psychological problems and mental illness across the lifespan. They research psychological problems and use their psychological knowledge to develop scientifically based approaches to improve mental health and wellbeing.</p> <p>Consumers of the services of clinical psychologists are individuals, groups and organisations, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • members of the public, families and carers • community groups • medical and health practitioners and specialists • health departments, hospitals and community practices • national, state or local government or non-government organisations • welfare agencies, educational institutions, defence, justice and community services, and • tribunals, courts and medico-legal officers and bodies. <p>Specific services of clinical psychologists include the assessment and treatment of a range of mental health problems, such as anxiety, depression, substance dependence, pain and somatic symptoms, schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, bulimia, anorexia, binge eating, conduct disorder, separation anxiety, attention deficit and hyperactivity disorder,</p>

	<p>autism spectrum disorders, and borderline, antisocial and other personality disorders. Clinical psychologists also consult more broadly with the community on mental health programs, policies, and practices related to children, adolescents, adults and older adults.</p>
<p>“Counselling Psychologist” – Counselling Psychologists apply psychological knowledge and theory derived from research to the area of client empowerment and enhancement, to assist children, young persons, adults and their families with personal, social, educational, and vocational functioning by using psychological assessments and interventions, and preventative approaches that acknowledge ecological, developmental and phenomenological dimensions. Such practice is undertaken within an individual’s area and level of expertise and with due regard to ethical, legal, and Board-prescribed standards.</p>	<p>Counselling psychologists use their knowledge of psychology and therapy to help individuals and groups develop positive strengths and wellbeing, and to assist the resolution of problems and disorders. They research and evaluate processes of growth through psychotherapy and counselling, and use their psychological knowledge to improve methods for helping people live more fulfilling and productive lives. Counselling psychologists treat a wide range of psychological problems and mental health disorders. They also work with families, organisations and communities to promote empowerment and harmonious relationships, overcome problems and manage transitions.</p> <p>Consumers of the services of counselling psychologists are persons, groups and organisations, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • members of the public, families and carers • community groups • medical and health practitioners • health departments, hospitals and community practices • national, state or local government or non-government organisations, and • welfare agencies, educational institutions, justice services, victims of crime, and community services. <p>Specific services of counselling psychologists include therapy for a wide range of issues and disorders including anxiety and depression, the provision of psychotherapy for trauma and assault, domestic violence, grief and loss, relationship difficulties and interpersonal conflicts; and mediation, employee assistance, career development and assessment services.</p>
<p>“Educational Psychologist” – Educational Psychologists apply psychological knowledge and theory derived from research to the</p>	<p>Educational and developmental psychologists use their knowledge of psychology, learning and development, to assist children, young persons,</p>

<p>area of learning and development, to assist children, young persons, adults and their families regarding their learning, academic performance, behavioural, social and emotional development, by using psychological and educational assessments and applying interventions using systemic, ecological and developmental approaches. Such practice is undertaken within an individual's area and level of expertise and with due regard to ethical, legal, and Board-prescribed standards.</p>	<p>adults and older adults regarding their learning, academic performance, behavioural, social and emotional development. They research and evaluate intellectual, social, and emotional strengths and problems, and use their psychological and scientific knowledge to improve methods for helping people live more fulfilling and productive lives.</p> <p>Consumers of the services of educational and developmental psychologists are persons, groups and organisations, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • school students and their families • teachers and principals of schools and educational institutions • medical and health practitioners and specialists • national, state or local government or non-government organisations, and • welfare agencies, juvenile justice, community and aged care services. <p>Specific services of educational and developmental psychologists include working with learning or conduct problems in childhood, peer and family relationships during schooling, career guidance and adolescent transitions, parenting skills, relationships and career transitions in adults, and healthy aging, grief and loss for older adults.</p>
<p>“Neuropsychologist” – Neuropsychologists apply scientific understanding of the relationship between the brain and neuropsychological function within applied clinical contexts. This approach forms the basis for the assessment, formulation, and rehabilitation of people who have sustained brain injuries or other neurological conditions. Neuropsychologists work with people of all ages who have neurological problems such as traumatic brain injury, stroke, epilepsy, toxic and metabolic disorders, brain tumours, and neurodegenerative diseases. Such practice is undertaken within an individual's area and level of expertise and with due regard to ethical, legal, and Board-prescribed standards.</p>	<p>Clinical neuropsychologists use their knowledge of psychology and the brain to research and diagnostically assess brain dysfunction in individuals. They also consult and design clinical interventions to assist persons with neuropsychological disability and impairment. Clinical neuropsychologists generate psychological data that enable them to provide services to a variety of groups, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • members of the public and their families affected by brain dysfunction • medical practitioners • teachers, educators and counsellors involved in assisting with learning problems • allied health professionals, disability and welfare workers, and

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • practitioners in medico-legal, health insurance and compensation areas. <p>Problems for which neuropsychologists typically provide services include difficulties with learning, memory, attention, reading, language, problem-solving, decision-making, personality changes and impulse and behavioural control. Problems in these areas can arise from single or multiple factors, such as genetic defects, neurodevelopmental factors, infectious diseases, vascular injury, degenerative disorders, drug and alcohol neurotoxicity, psychiatric disorders, and physical trauma such as car accidents affecting the brain.</p>
	Community psychologist
	Forensic psychologist
	Health psychologist
	Organisational psychologist
	Sport and exercise psychologist