

Module Objectives

Upon completion of this course, the learner should be able to

- identify ethical issues in the online clinical practice;
- understand the impact of the technology-based communication for therapeutic or counselling;
- know relevant literature regarding efficacy or effectiveness of interventions based on communication technologies;
- know the literature recommendations on how to deal with the challenges of the cyberspace;
- identify how to act in different situations that could arise in the online clinical practice;
- implement skills useful to overcome the challenges of technology-based communication.

Module Outline

- Unit 5.1: Introduction/Contextualization
- Unit 5.2: Confidentiality, issues of privacy, identification of client(s) and therapist(s)
- Unit 5.3: Quality assurance
- Unit 5.4: Licensing
- Unit 5.5: Issues related to crisis interventions
- Unit 5.6: Technology in online-therapy
- Unit 5.7: Computer skills of the online therapists
- Unit 5.8: Asynchronous interventions
- Unit 5.9: Boundaries
- Unit 5.10: Cost/payment

Module 5: Ethical Aspects of the E-Tools, E-consulting with Focus on Differences from Classic Settings

- The module identifies ethical issues and studies of efficacy or effectiveness regarding the use of communication technologies in counselling and psychotherapeutic interventions through the use of ICT.
- It will be shown some recommendations identified in the literature for online clinical practice in general and in some special situations (e.g., crisis interventions; malfunctions in technology)
- Frequent doubts of advisors, counsellors and psychotherapists with regard to computer-mediated client relationships, such as security, confidentiality, lack of non-verbal communication, cost/payment are discussed with reference to both scientific research results and practical experience.

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