

Maryland Psychology Jurisprudence Practice Test (Sample)

Study Guide



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SAMPLE

Questions

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- 1. What must therapists disclose to ensure client welfare?**
 - A. Personal beliefs about treatment efficacy**
 - B. Conflicts of interest, considering confidentiality**
 - C. The therapist's personal therapy history**
 - D. Availability of alternative therapies**
- 2. How can a patient revoke their authorization for disclosure?**
 - A. Verbally during a consultation**
 - B. In writing only**
 - C. By notifying their healthcare provider over the phone**
 - D. There is no way to revoke**
- 3. Which of the following is true regarding the disclosure of medical records for emergencies?**
 - A. They can be disclosed without patient consent**
 - B. Patient consent is mandatory**
 - C. Only verbal consent is needed**
 - D. Emergency contacts must be notified first**
- 4. Under what circumstance can an expired license NOT be reactivated?**
 - A. When it has been expired for more than 1 year**
 - B. When it has been expired for more than 2 years**
 - C. When it has been expired for more than 3 years**
 - D. When it has been expired for more than 5 years**
- 5. What must be done if a provider refuses to change a medical record, and the record was shared with third parties?**
 - A. The patient must be informed about the refusal**
 - B. The provider must contact those who received the record to explain the change request**
 - C. No further action is needed**
 - D. The provider should consult legal counsel**

- 6. What is one of the minimum CE requirements related to ethics/law/risk management?**
- A. 3 hours every year**
 - B. 5 hours every 2 years**
 - C. 3 hours every 2 years**
 - D. 10 hours every year**
- 7. What is the role of ethical principles in the practice of psychology?**
- A. They are optional guidelines for practice**
 - B. They are critical for ensuring professional integrity**
 - C. They dictate the fees for psychological services**
 - D. They mainly apply to research situations**
- 8. What is required if the report involves child abuse rather than neglect?**
- A. A copy must be given to local school officials**
 - B. A copy must be sent to a local therapist**
 - C. A copy must be sent to the local State's Attorney**
 - D. A copy must be provided to the health department**
- 9. What is one of the main roles of a psychologist according to the definition?**
- A. Assisting individuals in acquiring human effectiveness**
 - B. Conducting market research**
 - C. Only diagnosing mental disorders**
 - D. Teaching psychological principles in educational settings**
- 10. Under what circumstances should client records be released?**
- A. If the psychologist believes it's in the best interest of the client**
 - B. As permitted or required by law**
 - C. If the client requests them**
 - D. Only when a third-party request is made**

Answers

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- 1. B**
- 2. B**
- 3. A**
- 4. D**
- 5. B**
- 6. C**
- 7. B**
- 8. C**
- 9. A**
- 10. B**

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Explanations

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1. What must therapists disclose to ensure client welfare?

- A. Personal beliefs about treatment efficacy
- B. Conflicts of interest, considering confidentiality**
- C. The therapist's personal therapy history
- D. Availability of alternative therapies

The necessity for therapists to disclose conflicts of interest is paramount for ensuring client welfare. This requirement is rooted in ethical principles that guide therapeutic practice, focusing on transparency, trust, and the protection of the client's best interests. When therapists have conflicts of interest—such as financial interests in certain treatment methods or relationships that might affect their professional judgment—it is critical to disclose these to clients. This allows clients to make informed choices about their treatment, understanding how these conflicts might influence the therapist's recommendations or actions. The importance of this disclosure lies in promoting integrity in the therapeutic process. Clients need to trust that their therapist is acting solely in their best interests, and awareness of any potential conflicts fosters that trust. Additionally, while confidentiality is crucial, it does not negate the necessity for such disclosures. Therapists have a responsibility to balance confidentiality concerns with the client's right to know about factors that could compromise their therapy. In comparison, the other options, while they may hold relevance in certain contexts, do not directly address the immediate and direct influence on client welfare in the same way. Personal beliefs about treatment efficacy, a therapist's history, and the availability of alternative therapies are important, but they fall short of the essential nature of conflict disclosure in upholding the ethical standards of practice.

2. How can a patient revoke their authorization for disclosure?

- A. Verbally during a consultation
- B. In writing only**
- C. By notifying their healthcare provider over the phone
- D. There is no way to revoke

The correct response emphasizes the importance of written communication when it comes to revoking authorization for disclosure. In the context of healthcare and patient rights, particularly under laws such as the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), a patient is required to submit a written request to formally revoke any authorization they have previously granted for the disclosure of their private information. This written revocation serves as clear documentation that can help avoid any misunderstandings or disputes regarding the patient's wishes. Although some verbal statements can be considered expressions of intent, they lack the formality and clarity of a written document, which is why written notice is the standard accepted method for ensuring that the revocation is recognized and acted upon. Other options such as verbal revocation during a consultation or notifying the healthcare provider over the phone do not provide the legal clarity and permanence that a written revocation does. Simply stating that there is no way to revoke fails to recognize the established procedures that allow patients to control their medical information.

3. Which of the following is true regarding the disclosure of medical records for emergencies?

- A. They can be disclosed without patient consent**
- B. Patient consent is mandatory**
- C. Only verbal consent is needed**
- D. Emergency contacts must be notified first**

In emergency situations, the disclosure of medical records without patient consent is justified to ensure rapid and effective medical care. When a patient is incapacitated or unable to provide consent, healthcare providers may disclose relevant medical information to emergency responders or other medical personnel involved in the patient's care. This practice prioritizes the patient's immediate health needs over confidentiality, aligning with legal and ethical standards that allow for such exceptions in cases where obtaining consent may not be feasible or could delay treatment. The other options do not accurately reflect the legal framework regarding medical record disclosure in emergencies. Patient consent being mandatory would hinder timely care, while only requiring verbal consent does not accommodate scenarios where patients are unconscious or unable to communicate. Notifying emergency contacts first could also delay essential medical intervention, which is not permissible in acute situations.

4. Under what circumstance can an expired license NOT be reactivated?

- A. When it has been expired for more than 1 year**
- B. When it has been expired for more than 2 years**
- C. When it has been expired for more than 3 years**
- D. When it has been expired for more than 5 years**

When considering the reactivation of an expired license, it is essential to understand the specific regulations governing licensing periods in Maryland. If a license has been expired for more than five years, it typically cannot be reactivated, necessitating the individual to reapply for a new license entirely. This policy serves to ensure that all practicing psychologists maintain current competencies and adhere to updated standards and practices within the field, as lengthy gaps in licensure could indicate a lack of engagement with continuing education or current professional requirements. On the other hand, licenses that have expired for shorter durations—such as one, two, or three years—may offer more flexible reactivation options, allowing practitioners to renew their credentials without needing to start the licensing process from scratch. This approach balances the need for accessibility in the profession with the importance of ensuring that all psychological practitioners are up-to-date with their qualifications and knowledge.

5. What must be done if a provider refuses to change a medical record, and the record was shared with third parties?

A. The patient must be informed about the refusal

B. The provider must contact those who received the record to explain the change request

C. No further action is needed

D. The provider should consult legal counsel

The correct response emphasizes the need for accountability and communication when a patient requests a change to their medical record but is denied. If the provider refuses to amend the record, especially in instances where that record has been shared with third parties, it becomes essential to inform those third parties about the refusal and the reasons for it. This step is crucial for maintaining the integrity of the patient's medical information and ensuring that any decisions made based on that information are based on accurate, up-to-date records. Informing third parties of the refusal to change the record helps to prevent potential misunderstandings or miscommunications arising from outdated or incorrect information. It protects the rights of the patient and upholds the standards of transparency and ethical practice in the healthcare profession. Recognizing that such communication is vital to maintaining trust and accuracy within the patient-provider relationship is key in this context.

6. What is one of the minimum CE requirements related to ethics/law/risk management?

A. 3 hours every year

B. 5 hours every 2 years

C. 3 hours every 2 years

D. 10 hours every year

The minimum continuing education (CE) requirement related to ethics, law, and risk management is set at 3 hours every 2 years. This standard reflects the necessity for licensed psychologists to stay updated on ethical practices and legal regulations that govern their profession. Ongoing education is crucial in ensuring that professionals remain competent and aware of any changes in laws or ethical standards that could impact their practice. Choosing this option aligns with Maryland's regulations, which mandate that psychologists engage in professional development, specifically in areas that address ethical decision-making, legal responsibilities, and risk management strategies. By fulfilling this requirement, psychologists are better equipped to navigate complex situations that may arise in their practice, thereby safeguarding both their clients and themselves.

7. What is the role of ethical principles in the practice of psychology?

- A. They are optional guidelines for practice**
- B. They are critical for ensuring professional integrity**
- C. They dictate the fees for psychological services**
- D. They mainly apply to research situations**

The role of ethical principles in the practice of psychology is critical for ensuring professional integrity. These principles serve as a foundational framework that guides psychologists in making decisions that respect the dignity and welfare of their clients. Ethical guidelines help practitioners navigate complex situations and dilemmas that may arise in therapeutic settings, ensuring that practitioners act competently, responsibly, and ethically. Moreover, adherence to these principles fosters trust between psychologists and their clients, as well as between professionals within the field. Upholding ethical standards not only protects clients but also enhances the credibility and reputation of the profession as a whole. In essence, ethical principles are not merely optional considerations; they are essential for the effective and responsible practice of psychology.

8. What is required if the report involves child abuse rather than neglect?

- A. A copy must be given to local school officials**
- B. A copy must be sent to a local therapist**
- C. A copy must be sent to the local State's Attorney**
- D. A copy must be provided to the health department**

In cases where the report involves child abuse rather than neglect, it is vital to ensure that the appropriate legal authorities are informed so that they can take necessary action to protect the child. Sending a copy of the report to the local State's Attorney is required because this office handles the legal proceedings that may arise from such reports, including potential criminal charges against the perpetrators. The involvement of the State's Attorney is crucial since child abuse allegations often require legal interventions to ensure the safety and welfare of the child. The State's Attorney can initiate investigations and coordinate with law enforcement to appropriately assess and respond to the situation. Other options, while they may involve different parties interested in child welfare, do not meet the specific legal obligation to report child abuse as defined by Maryland law, which prioritizes the involvement of the legal system in cases of abuse.

9. What is one of the main roles of a psychologist according to the definition?

- A. Assisting individuals in acquiring human effectiveness**
- B. Conducting market research**
- C. Only diagnosing mental disorders**
- D. Teaching psychological principles in educational settings**

One of the main roles of a psychologist is indeed to assist individuals in acquiring human effectiveness. This involves helping clients to develop their potential, improve their coping skills, and enhance their overall well-being. This role encompasses various activities, including therapy, counseling, and personalized interventions aimed at fostering personal growth and problem-solving abilities. Psychologists utilize psychological principles and evidence-based practices to facilitate positive change and empower individuals. The other options, such as conducting market research, diagnosing mental disorders exclusively, or teaching psychological principles, are important activities but do not capture the broader and core mission of psychologists in promoting human effectiveness. While psychologists can engage in market research or work in educational settings, these roles are not central to their definition and objectives as mental health professionals.

10. Under what circumstances should client records be released?

- A. If the psychologist believes it's in the best interest of the client**
- B. As permitted or required by law**
- C. If the client requests them**
- D. Only when a third-party request is made**

The release of client records is primarily governed by legal and ethical standards. The correct answer reflects that client records should be released as permitted or required by law. This means that psychologists must adhere to specific regulations concerning confidentiality and the conditions under which they can disclose information about a client. For instance, laws may require the release of records in situations involving reports of child abuse, threats to harm oneself or others, or when responding to a court order. While a psychologist may consider the best interests of the client or honor a client's request for their records, these considerations must always be balanced against the legal framework that governs confidentiality. Additionally, the notion of a third-party request does not inherently justify the release of records unless specific legal criteria are met. Therefore, understanding the legal requirements is fundamental to responsibly managing client information and maintaining ethical standards in psychological practice.