

## **Professional Certificate in Primary Care Psychology**

The NAPPP Primary Care Psychology Certificate training program requires the completion of 10 courses. Each course awards 15 CE credit hours. NAPPP is an APA approved sponsor of continuing education and maintains responsibility for the program and its contents. The entire program is completed online. Enclosed is a detailed recitation of the required courses.

### **Information About Examinations**

Final examinations are required in every course. This is a post doctoral training program. The subject matter is in many ways very different from that studied for your doctoral degree in psychology. It is more technical and requires a very different approach. Competency through examination ensures a minimal standard that the course objectives are met.

Psychologists typically work in solo practices. Psychology differs from other professions in that psychologists are trained to understand and interpret research results. One way to address the issues that differentiate primary care psychologists from others is to focus and prepare the practitioner to understand the number of issues that patients present to primary care physicians. These skills are essential, particularly if one seeks employment in a primary care settings as well as those who consult with PCPs. Participants in the program, therefore, can expect that final examinations will require extra work. It is part of what it will take to become a primary care psychologist.

### **Program Fee**

You must be NAPPP member to enroll in this program. The total program fee is \$500, which is the cost of administering the program and awarding CE credits.

## **Course Descriptions**

### **1. COURSE TITLE: Introduction To Primary Care Psychology Practice**

#### **COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course defines the parameters of what constitutes primary care psychology. Issues relating to the role of the primary care psychologists and the differences in services that are provided in a primary care setting are defined.

### **2. COURSE TITLE: Cardiovascular Anatomy and Function**

#### **COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course is designed as an integrated introduction to the diseases of the cardiovascular system. expect students to form a strong base of knowledge in cardiovascular pathology and pathophysiology. We expect each student to acquire solid basic comprehension of basic principles and, most importantly, a practical understanding of how physicians approach a patient with known or suspected cardiac disease. There are several videos that provide hand-on learning about this most important human system. There is a complete cardio tutorial that will ensure that on the completion of the course, a high degree of comfort with this typically non-psychological subject will be achieved.

### **3. COURSE TITLE: Hepatic Anatomy, Function & Diseases**

#### **COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course is an in-depth presentation of everything that a medical psychologist needs to know and understand about the hepatic system. Having a good working knowledge of hepatic function and the diseases associated with hepatic illness is essential when working in an integrated healthcare setting. Knowledge of hepatic function is particularly important for patients who are on medications. The course materials include several video presentations.

### **4. COURSE TITLE: Respiratory Anatomy, Function & Diseases**

#### **COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course provides an introduction to the anatomy, function and diseases of the respiratory system. Many times patients who are experiencing breathing problems are wrongly diagnosed with having an anxiety disorder. This course provides clinicians with a working knowledge to distinguish respiratory dysfunction and illness from other disorders. Students should emerge from the course with an understanding of the physiological and pathologic changes that occur in patients with a variety of respiratory diseases, and they should be able to correlate the pathological and physiological changes with the symptoms.

### **5. COURSE TITLE: Renal Anatomy, Function & Diseases**

#### **COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course is an in-depth presentation of the information that a medical psychologist needs to know and understand about renal function and illness. Having a good working knowledge of renal function and the disease associated with dysfunction is essential when working in an integrated healthcare setting. Knowledge of renal function is particularly important for patients who are on medications. The course materials include several video presentations.

### **6. COURSE TITLE: Basic Pharmacology**

#### **COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course provides an overview of principles and basics, divided into Pharmacokinetics (how does the human body handle drugs) and Pharmacodynamics (how do drugs affect the human body), and is concluded by an overview of Autonomic Nervous System Pharmacology.

### **7. COURSE TITLE: Clinical Medicine In Practice**

#### **COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

Focus of this course is on the use of medications and physical illnesses typically encountered in the clinical practice of medical psychologists. Topics covered include: when medications are appropriate, assessment protocols, risks and rewards when using medications and controlling adverse events.

### **8. COURSE TITLE: Physical and Laboratory Assessment**

#### **COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

Topics covered include: body functions and systems affected by disease, performing physical assessments and other types of examinations, how to read blood panels, and other assessments used in medical practice. This class will prepare participants to evaluate lab tests commonly used in medical practice so that the medical psychologists can effectively understand and communicate with other healthcare professions.

**9. COURSE TITLE: Introduction To Pharmacotherapeutics**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course covers clinical application of psychotropic medications to the treatment of major mental disorders. major drug classes: Anxiolytics, Antidepressants, Neuroleptics, Mood Stabilizers, Hypnotics, and drugs that treat side effects from these medications are presented in detail. Pharmacological effects, diagnostic and indicators for use are discussed along with when not to prescribe. Research on these medications and drug classes receive particular attention including placebo response and gender and ethnic responses to medications

**10. COURSE TITLE: Ethics and Research In Pharmacological Treatment**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course covers all aspects of the ethical and technical aspects of pharmacological research as it relates to prescribing. Students will also Learn key concepts in the language of medical terminology. Topics include the ethical relationships of psychopharmacological principles and agents typically encountered in clinical practice. This course integrates and builds upon the psychologist's prior knowledge of research issues but applied this to pharmacological agents. Student's will learn how to evaluate new drug research and gain knowledge of the pitfalls of clinical trials.

**APPLICATION**

**National Alliance of Professional Psychology Providers  
Professional Certificate Program in Primary Care Psychology**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_  
State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Degree: Ph.D. \_\_\_\_\_ Psy.D. \_\_\_\_\_ Ed.D. \_\_\_\_\_  
School Doctorate was earned: \_\_\_\_\_ Year Obtained: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_  
Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
State Where Licensed: \_\_\_\_\_ License Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Is your license current: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Are you now under investigation for any ethical or criminal complaint? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

Can you briefly describe your practice?

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**Please explain why you desire to obtain training in primary care psychology?**

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**Note: You must be a NAPPP member to enroll in this program.**

**This application must be emailed to: [CE@napp.org](mailto:CE@napp.org). After notification, you will be provided a link to pay the program fee.**

