



Members Undergoing Cancer Treatment Policy

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to address issues that might affect a member of CCPA Inc who receives a cancer diagnosis and has to undergo active treatment.

Policy Statement

This policy states the principles to be considered when a member is undergoing active treatment for cancer.

Scope

This policy seeks to ensure that CCPA Inc members are able to continue to provide an effective and appropriate service to their clients, taking into consideration potential conflict that could arise due to the counsellor's personal experience of a similar situation at the time of the counselling.

Principles

1. All clients have the right to receive effective counselling.
2. A cancer diagnosis may require a member to step down temporarily from their role in order to manage their own emotional, physical and psychological states.
3. If a member is having surgery and no follow up adjuvant treatment, they may choose to step down only for the duration of their surgical convalescence.
4. If a member is undergoing chemotherapy or radiotherapy, they must consider whether or not it is appropriate for them to work with clients who are also undergoing radiotherapy or chemotherapy.
5. It is recommended that members inform the President, Vice President or Secretary of their diagnosis and treatment and may discuss with the Board member whether or not they should continue to see clients whilst having treatment. This may also be an opportunity to receive additional support for themselves

6. It is recommended that the counsellor increases the frequency of their supervision if they continue to see clients affected by cancer whilst undergoing their own cancer treatment.

7. The Cancer Council NSW will continue to refer clients to the counsellor in good faith with the expectation that the counsellor, as an experienced health professional, will seek additional support to enable them to work effectively with clients.

November 2014

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