

NHS Connecting for Health

NHS Data Model and Dictionary Service

Type: Data Dictionary Change Notice
Reference: 1334
Version No: 1.0
Subject: Psychology Definitions
Effective Date: Immediate
Reason for Change: Change to Definitions
Publication Date: 17 September 2012

Background:

The British Psychological Society has identified that the current NHS Business Definitions for Psychologists are out of date.

This Data Dictionary Change Notice (DDCN) introduces changes to NHS Business Definitions for:

- Clinical Psychologist
- Counselling Psychologist
- Educational Psychologist
- Forensic Psychologist
- Health Psychologist
- Occupational Psychologist
- Sport and Exercise Psychologist
- Practitioner Psychologist
- The British Psychological Society

To view a demonstration on "How to Read an NHS Data Model and Dictionary Change Request", visit the NHS Data Model and Dictionary help pages at: http://www.datadictionary.nhs.uk/Flash_Files/changerequest.htm.

Note: if the web page does not open, please copy the link and paste into the web browser.

Summary of changes:

Supporting Information

BRITISH PSYCHOLOGICAL SOCIETY	Changed Description
CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST	Changed Description
COUNSELLING PSYCHOLOGIST	Changed Description
EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGIST	Changed Description
FORENSIC PSYCHOLOGIST	Changed Description
HEALTH PSYCHOLOGIST	Changed Description
OCCUPATIONAL PSYCHOLOGIST	Changed Description
PRACTITIONER PSYCHOLOGIST	Changed Description
SPORT AND EXERCISE PSYCHOLOGIST	Changed Description

Date: 17 September 2012

Sponsor: Nicholas Oughtibridge, Acting Director of Data Standards and Products, Technology Office, Department of Health

Note: New text is shown with a blue background. Deleted text is crossed out. Retired text is shown in grey. Within the Diagrams deleted classes and relationships are red, changed items are blue and new items are green.

BRITISH PSYCHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Change to Supporting Information: Changed Description

The [British Psychological Society](#) is the representative body for psychology and psychologists in the United Kingdom. The [British Psychological Society](#) is the learned society and professional representative body for Psychologists in the United Kingdom. It is a registered charity in the United Kingdom and is charged with overseeing psychology and psychologists. It has responsibility for the development, promotion and application of pure and applied psychology for the public good.

The [British Psychological Society](#) recognises the following as the main types of psychologists:

- [Clinical Psychologist](#)
- [Counselling Psychologist](#)
- [Educational Psychologist](#)
- [Forensic Psychologist](#)
- [Health Psychologist](#)
- [Neuropsychologist](#)
- [Occupational Psychologist](#)
- [Sport and Exercise Psychologist](#)
- [Teacher and Researcher in Psychology](#)
- [Practitioner Psychologist](#)

For further information on the [British Psychological Society](#), see the [British Psychological Society](#) website at:

- [The Society](#) and
- [Types of Psychologist](#).

Note: Seven of the above areas of psychology are also regulated by the [Health and Care Professions Council](#). It is necessary to be registered with the [Health and Care Professions Council](#) to practise in the UK under any of these titles: [Clinical Psychologist](#), [Counselling Psychologist](#), [Educational Psychologist](#), [Forensic Psychologist](#), [Health Psychologist](#), [Occupational Psychologist](#) and [Sport and Exercise Psychologist](#). Note: Eight of the above areas of psychology are also regulated by the [Health and Care Professions Council](#). It is necessary to be registered with the [Health and Care Professions Council](#) to practise in the UK under any of these titles: [Clinical Psychologist](#), [Counselling Psychologist](#), [Educational Psychologist](#), [Forensic Psychologist](#), [Health Psychologist](#), [Occupational Psychologist](#), [Sport and Exercise Psychologist](#) and [Practitioner Psychologist](#).

CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST

Change to Supporting Information: Changed Description

A [Clinical Psychologist](#) is recognised by the [British Psychological Society](#).

A [Clinical Psychologist](#) aims to reduce psychological distress and to enhance and promote psychological well-being. They deal with mental and physical health problems including anxiety, depression, relationship problems, addictions and relationships. Clinical Psychologists use their knowledge of human emotions, thinking and behaviour to assess mental health and social needs, plan care and deliver a range of psychological therapies including Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT).

[Clinical Psychologists](#) deal with both adults and children. [Clinical Psychologists](#) work across the age range and deliver SERVICES both in hospital and community settings.

COUNSELLING PSYCHOLOGIST

Change to Supporting Information: Changed Description

A [Counselling Psychologist](#) is recognised by the [British Psychological Society](#).

~~A [Counselling Psychologist](#) works with clients to examine mental health issues and explore the underlying problems that may have caused them. They work across a diverse range of human problems, such as bereavement, past and present relationships, mental health issues and disorders.~~ [Counselling Psychologists](#) apply psychological theories to working collaboratively and relationally with individuals across a diverse range. They work with the individual's unique subjective psychological experience to empower their recovery and alleviate distress.

[Counselling Psychologists](#) deliver **SERVICES** in a wide range of health settings and private practice. They also work within research, teaching, supervision and consultancy roles.

EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGIST

Change to Supporting Information: Changed Description

An [Educational Psychologist](#) is recognised by the [British Psychological Society](#).

~~An [Educational Psychologist](#) applies psychology in helping children and young people and most work within the local education authority system. They deal with difficulties in learning and social adjustment.~~ [Educational Psychologists](#) are applied psychologists who work within the educational system, in the community and with individuals and families. They are concerned with children's' learning and achievement, well-being and development at individual, class, school and Local Authority-wide levels. They use a range of approaches including, consultation, assessment, direct and indirect interventions, training and research.

FORENSIC PSYCHOLOGIST

Change to Supporting Information: Changed Description

A [Forensic Psychologist](#) is recognised by the [British Psychological Society](#).

~~A [Forensic Psychologist](#) deals with psychological aspects of legal processes, including applying theory to criminal investigations, understanding psychological problems associated with criminal behaviour, and the treatment of criminals.~~ [Forensic Psychologists](#) apply psychological principles within criminal and civil legal contexts across the domains of assessment, treatment, research, consultancy, training, management and supervision. Client groups can include the courts, offenders, victims, and criminal justice personnel such as the police, prison and probation staff.

[Forensic Psychologists](#) work across a wide range of settings that include custody, community, health, academic institutions, and the courts, in both public and private practice.

HEALTH PSYCHOLOGIST

Change to Supporting Information: Changed Description

A [Health Psychologist](#) is recognised by the [British Psychological Society](#).

~~A [Health Psychologist](#) works in a relatively new field where psychological principles are used to promote changes in people's attitudes, behaviour and thinking about health and illness. They deal with topics such as quitting smoking, skin care in the sun or promoting safer sex. The aim is promote good health and prevent illness. [Health Psychologists](#) use psychological principles to understand and promote changes in people's attitudes, behaviour and beliefs about health and illness. They deal with topics such as quitting smoking, improving nutrition and physical activity, skin care in the sun and promoting safer sex, as well as helping people to cope with and manage health conditions.~~

OCCUPATIONAL PSYCHOLOGIST

Change to Supporting Information: Changed Description

An [Occupational Psychologist](#) is recognised by the [British Psychological Society](#).

~~An [Occupational Psychologist](#) helps an [ORGANISATION](#) to get the best from its workforce and improve the job satisfaction of the individual. [Occupational Psychologists](#) are concerned with people, work and [ORGANISATIONS](#). This includes the performance and welfare of people at work and in training, how [ORGANISATIONS](#) function and and how individuals, groups and teams behave at work.~~

~~An [Occupational Psychologist](#), by applying psychological expertise, work to increase the [ORGANISATION](#)'s effectiveness and improve the career development of [EMPLOYEES](#). This can involve topics such as how to motivate staff, recruit the best people for the job or help individuals gain new skills, plan careers, or cope with redundancy. [Occupational Psychologists](#) may also design or use psychometric tests, as a way of measuring people's suitability for a particular role. [Occupational Psychologists](#) seek to increase the effectiveness of the [ORGANISATION](#), selecting and developing people and to improve the well being of the individual or team.~~

~~The [British Psychological Society](#) are of the view that this group has traditionally been under-represented within the NHS. However, they possess specialist skills and knowledge that can be applied in a health setting. For example, apart from their familiar role in human resource departments and organisational development, [Occupational Psychologists](#) work in the areas of vocational and employment rehabilitation for people with complex needs, occupational health [SERVICES](#), [PATIENT](#) and organisational safety initiatives.~~

PRACTITIONER PSYCHOLOGIST

Change to Supporting Information: Changed Description

~~A [Practitioner Psychologist](#) is a [CARE PROFESSIONAL](#) who is registered with the [Health and Care Professions Council](#). A [Practitioner Psychologist](#) is recognised by the [British Psychological Society](#).~~

~~Psychology is the scientific study of people, the mind and behaviour. [Practitioner Psychologists](#) attempt to understand the role of mental functions in individual and social behaviour and have a number of protected titles. A [Practitioner Psychologist](#) (also known as a [Registered Psychologist](#)) is the general title given to a:~~

- [Clinical Psychologist](#)
- [Counselling Psychologist](#)
- [Educational Psychologist](#)
- [Forensic Psychologist](#)
- [Counselling Psychologist](#)
- [Educational Psychologist](#)
- [Sport and Exercise Psychologist](#)
- [Health Psychologist](#)
- [Occupational Psychologist](#)

- [Sport and Exercise Psychologist](#)

~~Note: there are a small number of [ORGANISATIONS](#) who currently represent [Practitioner Psychologists](#). The largest of these is the [British Psychological Society](#). All of these groups of Psychologists are registered by the [Health and Care Professions Council](#).~~

[Practitioner Psychologists](#) use psychological theories to understand the role of mental functions in individual and social behaviour and apply these theories in their everyday practice.

PRACTITIONER PSYCHOLOGIST

Change to Supporting Information: Changed Description

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SPORT AND EXERCISE PSYCHOLOGIST

Change to Supporting Information: Changed Description

A [Sport and Exercise Psychologist](#) is recognised by the [British Psychological Society](#).

~~A [Sport and Exercise Psychologist](#) works with sports participants across a range of both team and individual sports and from amateur to elite levels of competition. A [Sport and Exercise Psychologist](#) is primarily concerned with the application of psychology to increase exercise participation and motivational levels in the general public. [Sport and Exercise Psychologists](#) use scientific principles to investigate and understand the behaviour, mental processes, and well-being of people who are involved in sport and exercise.~~

[Sport and Exercise Psychologists](#) are concerned with helping people improve their performance and enjoyment in sport, and those factors which encourage people to take up and adhere to a physically active lifestyle.

For enquiries about this Change Request, please email datastandards@nhs.net