



**HUMAN BEHAVIOUR ACADEMY**

## **CHARTERED ATTITUDE AND BEHAVIOUR CONSULTANT EXAMINATION**

**Subject Code : CAB2013**

**Subject Name : Professional Ethics in Attitude and Behaviour**

**This examination carries 100% of the total assessment for this subject.**

**Day : SATURDAY**

**Date : 16 JUNE 2012**

**Time : 2.30 PM – 5.00 PM**

**Time allowed : 2.5 HOURS**

### **INSTRUCTION(S):**

1. This examination consists of **THREE (3)** questions. Answer **ALL THREE (3)** questions.

Answer **BOTH** questions in the answer book provided.

2. This is an **OPEN-BOOK** examination. You are permitted to bring into the examination room the recommended textbook(s), lecture notes and course materials provided by HBA, plus other references but you are expected to give your own views on the topics.

3. Please be reminded that the examiner may fail a candidate should there be wholesale copy from published references.

*(This question paper consists of 2 questions in 2 printed pages, including cover page)*

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  - PLEASE BE REMINDED THAT THE EXAMINER MAY FAIL A CANDIDATE SHOULD THERE BE WHOLESALE COPYING FROM PUBLISHED REFERENCES.
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This paper contains four (4) questions and you need to answer all questions.

**Question 1 (25 marks)**

Dr. Vincent is a psychotherapist with a full schedule of clients. To manage his busy schedule he delegates responsibility for informed consent procedure to his office assistant, Ms. Cindy. New clients meet with Ms. Cindy for 30 minutes prior to their first appointment to complete patient questionnaires, insurance forms, and informed consent documents. The patient information brochure is sent to the patient a week in advanced through email before appointment. Ms. Cindy is not trained in counselling and has no professional education in counselling, but she has been trained by Dr. Vincent to conduct these meetings. Ms. Cindy is careful to follow the protocol established by her boss and is diligent about checking to ensure that patients understand the contents of the documents they sign. Using this approach, Dr. Vincent believes the counselling sessions are more focused and his obligation to informed consent is substantially fulfilled, although he does not recognize the additional issues related to informed consent may arise in the course of counselling. Is Dr. Vincent's practice consistent with current standards for informed consent? At this stage is there anything else he ought to do about the situation?

**Question 2 (25 words)**

Dr. Wilson, a psychologist, attended a one-day seminar on the use of clinical hypnosis for posttraumatic stress. The seminar was his first exposure to hypnosis and was taught by an expert in hypnosis who has received high ratings for quality of her presentation. Since the seminar, Dr. Wilson has spent several hours reading about hypnosis and has discussed that material with his colleagues. A few days later a man who had barely escaped a serious fire in his apartment building came for counseling. An assessment indicated a moderate level of posttraumatic stress Dr. Wilson recommended hypnosis as the treatment of choice, omitting any mention of other approaches that might help this client. The psychologist was eager and excited about the ability to use his new treatment tool so soon after the workshop. The man agreed to hypnosis, and Dr. Wilson conducted three session using hypnosis. At the end of those sessions, the man showed no improvement in his symptoms. While watching the man weep over his disappointment about not improving, Dr. Wilson then realised that he had been practicing beyond the boundaries of his competence and had unfairly pushed his client into an

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experimental treatment without explaining other options. Identify the ideal ethical remedy and plan for rehabilitation.

### **Questions 3 (50 marks)**

Carolyn's husband, an army, was killed in the line of duty, leaving her with two young children. She seeks professional help from Tony and works through her grief, in the progress uncovering some deep-rooted abandonment issues pertaining to other areas in her life. After three years of therapy, she and Tony discuss termination. During the final stage of the therapy she confesses to him that she is finding it increasingly difficult to think of not seeing him some more. She has grown fond of him. She finds herself constantly thinking about him, and she wonders if they could continue to see each other socially, maybe even romantically.

At first Tony is taken aback. But he also realises that throughout the course of therapy he has come to admire and respect Carolyn, and he discloses his fondness for her. He explains to her that because of their professional relationship, he is bounded by ethical guidance not to become involved with his clients socially or romantically. He proposes to her that they not see each other for a year. If their feelings persist, he will then consider initiating a personal relationship. Carolyn expresses her disappointment at the year's delay but agrees to the stipulation rather than having no hope at all. They embrace, and Carolyn leaves the office.

- a) What are your thoughts about Tony's way of handling the situation? Do you see any possible ethical violations in how the case evolved?
- b) Are there any therapeutic issues that Tony did not evolve?
- c) If Tony was attracted to Carolyn but had withheld this information for therapeutic reasons, would you consider that to be ethical behaviour? Why, and why not?
- d) What if Tony has no feelings of attraction or desire to continue any sort of relationship but said what he did to avoid a difficult ending? How ethical would that be? If you were in a similar and did not want to pursue the relationship, how might you deal with your client's disclosure?
- e) What are your reactions to their embrace at the end?

**\*\*\*\*\*END OF EXAMINATION\*\*\*\*\***