



YALE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Department of Psychiatry / Psychology Section

Doctoral Internship Policy & Procedures

Telesupervision Policy

Revised 01-17-20

Rationale for Telesupervision: The Yale Doctoral Internship in Clinical and Community Psychology places a premium on clinical and professional supervision. Within the internship program, it is the expectation that fellows will receive supervision by way of in-person supervision. However, the program recognizes that certain special circumstances may arise that create the need to consider alternative routes to delivery of high quality supervision.

Because consistent access to and continuity of supervision is foundational to health service psychology training and practice, the program has adopted a Telesupervision Policy to guide provision of supervision under special circumstances.

Adherence to APA Standards and Regulations: The internship program adheres to the telesupervision requirements issued by the APA Commission on Accreditation (APA CoA) through its *Standards of Accreditation for Health Service Psychology* [Standard II.C.3.] and corresponding Implementing Regulation [C-15 I.]

Notably, this policy does not supersede, reduce or alter supervision requirements in the internship Supervision Policy.

APA CoA Definitions and Distinctions

1. **Telesupervision:** supervision (as defined in the supervision policy) of psychological services through a synchronous audio and video format where the supervisor is not in the same physical location as the trainee.
2. **In-Person supervision:** supervision of psychological services where the supervisor is physically in the same room as the trainee.

APA CoA Guidelines and limits: The internship program observes the guidelines and limits set forth by the APA CoA regarding Telesupervision which are as follows:

1. Telesupervision **may not** account for more than one hour (50%) of the minimum required (as defined in the SoA) two weekly hours of individual supervision, and two hours (50%) of the minimum required (as defined in the SoA) four total weekly hours of supervision.
2. Supervision beyond the minimum number of required hours may utilize methods are modalities that are deemed appropriate by the Yale Doctoral Internship program.

Criteria for Telesupervision Usage: Telesupervision is to be used only in those special circumstances in which a fellow's in-person access to an already established supervisor:

1. Is expected to be prolonged (e.g., 4 weeks or more),
2. Is expected to significantly interrupt/eliminate continuity of clinical supervision,
3. and/or where specialized clinical supervisory expertise is contingent upon using telesupervision and would otherwise be unavailable to the trainee.

Privacy and Compliance: Approved telesupervision of clinical services must be conducted using HIPAA compliant software. The Primary advisor of the fellow being supervised, should provide the name of the HIPAA compliant software to be used between the fellow and supervisor to the Director of Training and the Chief of Psychology at the training facility.

Primary Advisor Responsibility and Oversight: In keeping with the standards set forth in the internship supervision policy, in cases of approved telesupervision, the Primary Advisor for the fellow, who is a doctoral-level psychologist licensed in the State of Connecticut and member of the employed faculty, maintains overall responsibility for all supervision, including oversight of the telesupervision and integration of in person supervision provided by other mental health professionals.

Approval: Requests for approval for telesupervision should be submitted to the Chief of Psychology at the Training facility, and subsequently to the Director of Training using the Telesupervision Rationale and Request Form by the Fellow's Primary Advisor.