

Psychology Board of Australia  
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Melbourne VIC 3001  
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## Re: Public consultation paper 26: Area of practice endorsements

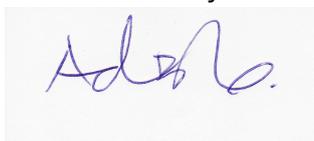
Dear Board members,

Thank you for this opportunity to provide input on the definition of counselling psychology. I wish to give my support for the revised competency statements provided to you by the Association of Counselling Psychologists and the APS College of Counselling Psychologists. I have read their updated description and list of competency statements and believe that this revision more accurately reflects the nature of training, research, and practice in the specialised domain of counselling psychology.

I am a full-time private practitioner with over six years of clinical experience and I consult with patients with complex, severe, and chronic mental health problems. I see a variety of patients, many with complex presenting issues related to a history of trauma including abuse, deprivation and trans-generational trauma. I see the full range of diagnostic presentations in my day-to-day work including all anxiety disorders, major depression, bipolar disorders and other psychotic illnesses, personality disorders, complex post-trauma reactions, adjustment disorders, eating disorders, and sexual dysfunctions including paraphilias. My training in counselling psychology (which began at Curtin University and was completed at La Trobe University) prepared me well to work with patients with complex, severe, and chronic mental health problems.

The inclusion of competency statements relating to mental health assessment, case-formulation, and appropriate evidence-based care (including couple therapy), is a far better reflection of both the postgraduate training I received and the clinical reality of my work. If you have any queries please make contact on the details provided above.

Yours Sincerely,



Dr Adam Becker MAPS MCCOUNP  
Counselling Psychologist