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Professionalism in Neurotherapy

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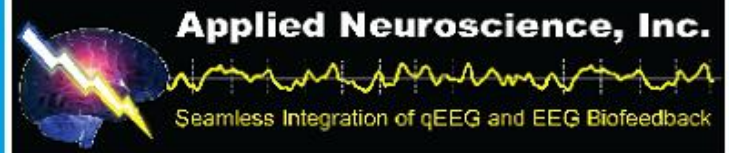
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PROFESSIONALISM IN NEUROTHERAPY

by Frederick Johnson, Publisher

Neurotherapy is slowly becoming the profession many thought it could become. As the industry has matured, several things have happened: 1) Professional Organizations are addressing the needs of the neurotherapist, 2) Certification Organizations have arisen, 3) a Professional Code of Ethics is forming, and 4) a professional Journal is emerging. I would like to address each of these issues for just a moment.

The Association for Psychophysiology and Biofeedback (AAPB, 10200 W. 44th Ave, Suite 304, Wheat Ridge, CO 80033-2840) has instituted a BrainWave section in their annual meetings. This section is growing and under the able leadership of Dr. Joel Lubar, President Elect of AAPB, we look for more growth, better papers, and a higher level of professionalism. Neurotherapists should seriously consider joining this organization and attending their annual meeting.

The Society for the Study of Neuronal Regulation (SSNR, 4600 Post Oak Place, Suite 301, Houston, TX 77027) is an outgrowth and competitor of AAPB which has gone through some unfortunately tumultuous times which are inappropriate for me to address. Let me say only that presently this organization is under the leadership of President Dr. Dale Walters, Vice President Dr. Al Byers, Secretary Dr. Nancy White, and Treasurer Dr. Sebastian Streifel. With these four people at the helm, this organization will emerge as a strong, healthy neurotherapy organization deserving not only your attention, but your support.

There is another group which isn't a professional organization, but which supports an annual meeting of neurotherapists in Key West which is highly recommended by top neurotherapists. This organization is Futurehealth (3171 Rail Avenue, Trevoese, PA 19053) and the organizer of this seminar is Robert A. Kall at that address. I recommend this conference to you as well as the two previous organizations and their conferences.

The Academy of Certified Neurotherapists has recently merged with the Biofeedback Certification Institute of America (BCIA, 10200 W. 44th Ave, Suite 304, Wheat Ridge, CO 80033-2840), bringing together a strong organization and the cream of the crop in neurotherapists. This strong marriage is to be both commended and supported. Whatever certification emerges will be professional and worth the effort to achieve.

The Certified Quantitative EEG Technologists (QEEGT, 1210 Bethlehem Pike, Suite 203, North Wales, PA 19454) are preparing for their first annual testing to be done in Denver, Colorado in June this year. For details see their advertisement in this copy of the Journal of Neurotherapy. Both the BCIA and QEEGT certification for neurotherapists are recommended to all serious health care professionals. One other organization offering registration is not recommended as it is neither accredited nor does it follow established guidelines for certification.

All of the above professional organiza-

tions have written or are writing Codes of Ethics for the emerging profession of Neurotherapy. I am happy to report that everything I've read so far is very encouraging. The codes adopted, and being adopted, by the above groups raise standards for entry into the profession and encourage professional growth as a requirement for continued membership. They are setting down standards of care which protect the public and assure the best neurotherapy health care available. The one thing I would add is that neurotherapists need to take a very good look at the concept of requiring a QEEG analysis prior to treating a person with EEG feedback for any purpose.

Last, but not least, it is my fervent prayer that the Journal of Neurotherapy will emerge as the professional Journal neurotherapists both require and deserve. I am very happy with the quality of the papers we are now reviewing. Already we have published several outstanding articles. I look forward to more and better papers in the future. I am happy with the improvement we have experienced under the management of Cindy Olson, and editorship of Drs. Joel Lubar, Gary Schwartz, David Velkoff, Marvin Sams, Karl Pribram and our wonderful peer reviewers. To all of you I say THANK YOU.

Correction

The Lexicor advertisement that appeared in Volume 1, Issue 2, page 79 of the Journal of Neurotherapy listed the price of the NRS-24 as \$9,995.00. The correct price is \$12,900. The Journal regrets this error and apologizes to anyone who might have been misled by it.