

*North Carolina Psychology Board  
January 2014*

#### Policy Statement on use of DSM, ICD and Other Classification Manuals

Psychologists who use these various classification manuals are advised to begin using the most current and up-to-date versions within one year from the date of publication to learn and begin to utilize the updated manuals for purposes of diagnosis, treatment planning, and professional documentation, consistent with the APA's Ethical Principles of Psychologists and Code of Conduct and the North Carolina Psychology Practice Act. Psychologists should make every effort to familiarize and use manuals based on sound scientific practice. Psychologists should also use judgment and caution when there is controversy or contradictory evidence documented as it pertains to various diagnoses and classifications in the respective manuals utilized by psychology practitioners.