



## Genetic Nurse and Counsellor Professional Branch Board

### Form G. Additional case study information

#### Case studies

Applicant must write two case studies. These can be written in his own language and translated into English to a professional standard. Applicant must submit copies in both languages.

The word count for each case study is 2000-2500 words. Applicant should put the word count on the front page of the case study.

Applicant must reference all significant statements with current and appropriate references and provide a reference list at the end of the case study. Applicant must use the Harvard system of referencing, providing author names and year of publication in the text. The title and reference list are not included in the word count.

Applicant may include a family tree if he wishes to, but this is not necessary.

Applicant must include a clear statement at the beginning of the case that he have used pseudonyms to protect the patient's confidentiality.

**Case Study 1** should focus on a psychosocial family issue and the way in which it was addressed by the counsellor or nurse.

**Case Study 2** should focus on an ethical issue, and should demonstrate the applicant's awareness of the ethical issues surrounding genetic counselling, and the principles that underpin practice. The case should include the way in which the counsellor or nurse dealt with the ethical issue.

#### Suggested structure

A good case study should include:

- A brief introduction to the clinical setting (without name the institution)
- A description of the case (with pseudonyms to protect confidentiality of all individuals),
- Discussion of the issues in this case, integrated with theory and research evidence related to the case,
- Analysis of the applicant's role as a counsellor or nurse in the case and reflection on what he did well and what he feels he could have done differently,
- Conclusion to the case.

For guidance, the assessment of the case study is based on the following questions.

1. Is the setting for the case described?
2. Is the case described sufficiently?
3. Is the patient's confidentiality assured, e.g. by use of pseudonyms?
4. Are the psychological and counselling aspects of the case discussed appropriately?
5. Does the applicant's response to the psychological issue appear appropriate?
6. Are any relevant ethical aspects of the case discussed appropriately?
7. Does the applicant show an ability to reflect on his or her own practice?
8. Are key statements of fact referenced appropriately?
9. Is the work within the required word count?

## **Plagiarism**

When writing case studies, essay or letter for submission, it is very important that you do not commit plagiarism. This is a type of academic dishonesty and a breach of ethical practice. The EBMG takes this very seriously and if you have committed plagiarism applicant may be refused registration, or his registration may be deferred.

Applicant may be committing plagiarism if he:

- Copies text from any other source and do not make it clear it is a quotation
- Include information in the text in his own words that he does not reference.

As a general rule, applicant can avoid plagiarism by using his own words to explain concepts and by adding references to all key statements in the text. For registration level work, we would not expect applicant to use direct quotes, but if he does then the quotation should be in inverted commas and he must reference the source with author(s), year and page number of the quote after it in the text.

There is more information about what plagiarism is and how to avoid it at: <http://www.plagiarism.org/plagiarism-101/overview/>