

**Psychology 5508A: Evidence Based Psychotherapy
Midterm Ethics Question and Scoring Rubric**

Learning Objective 5: Apply an ethics decision making process to an ethical dilemma and compare this decision to the APA code of ethics

You are a partner in private community psychotherapy practice that has recently been established. To increase your referrals and case loads, you and your two colleagues decide to advertise your services in a local news magazine. Your colleagues have different training backgrounds than you, and despite *your* adherence to evidence based psychotherapy practices, your colleagues are very interested in offering energy-based treatments. They have been collecting some anecdotal evidence to support their use of Reiki as a therapy for panic disorder, but have not yet conducted any controlled evaluations (e.g., single subject intervention research with their clients). They want to state in the advertisement that they have a 100% success rate in curing panic when using this treatment.

Use a deontological approach (rights, justice or duty—and tell me which one) to arrive at a course of action. Use the handout provided in class as a guide, and your answer should describe each step in the process. Then, compare your course of action based on the deontological approach to the APA code. If there is a discrepancy, tell me what you would do.

Grade/points	Criterion
A/18-20 points	Answer clearly describes each step in the deontological approach and the issue (rights, duty, justice) is clearly identified; Code section 5 is selected and compared to the answer; course of action is ethical according to code
B/16-17 points	Answer is missing 1-2 steps in the deontological approach and the issue (rights, duty, justice) is not clearly identified; Code section 5 is selected and compared to the answer; course of action is ethical according to code
C/14-15 points	Answer is missing 3 or more steps in the

	deontological approach and the issue (rights, duty, justice) is not clearly identified; Code section 5 is selected and compared to the answer; course of action is ethical according to code
D/F 0-13 points	Answer is missing 3 or more steps in the deontological approach and the issue (rights, duty, justice) is not clearly identified; Code section 5 is not selected and compared to the answer; course of action is unethical according to code