



Rules for Use of VPA Listserv

We are pleased to announce that as a benefit of membership in VPA, members may now subscribe to the VPA's members-only listserv. The listserv is a convenient way for members throughout the state to engage in dialogue and share information on topics, research and news relevant to the mental health field. Thanks to the APA Practice Organization's (APAPO) generosity in providing the resources for this listserv, we now have the convenience of automatically communicating with several colleagues at once by sending just one message to just one e-mail address: **vpa@lists.apapractice.org**.

VPA encourages diversity in views and opinions and would like all members to feel welcome and respected on the listserv.

If you are a newcomer to listserv communication, it won't take you long to discover how useful this service can be or to understand why these guidelines contribute to a climate of efficiency and effectiveness. If you haven't already, please give the listserv a try! If you are new member, try sending a message to introduce yourself. We will be glad to have you join in on the discussion. Please don't hesitate to give the office a call for assistance or if you have any questions.

By utilizing this service, you are agreeing to adhere to the following rules and guidelines:

1. *Illegal or Unlawful Purposes:* You may not use this forum for illegal or unlawful purposes, including but not limited to defamation, violation of intellectual property laws, violation of antitrust or unfair competition laws, violation of criminal laws, and sexual or other protected class harassment.

With regard to copyrighted material in particular, referring to an article or news item with typical reference citations, providing a brief quote, or offering a link to legitimate online published content is permissible; listserv subscribers should not post a full-text version of published material to the listserv.

2. *Disruptions to Service:* Members of the listserv may not intentionally interfere with or disrupt other forum members, network services, or network equipment. This includes distribution of unsolicited advertisement or chain letters, any commercial use (including advertising for other organizations' events or products), propagation of computer worms and viruses, and use of the network to make unauthorized entry to any other machine accessible via the forum.
3. *Commercial Purposes:* You may not use the forum for commercial purposes. "Commercial" (for purposes of evaluating listserv messages) means communications whose primary purpose is to advance the business or financial interests of any person or entity, or otherwise to promote a financial transaction for the benefit of the author directly or indirectly. Examples of prohibited communications include advertisements for products, conferences, services, or other items; notices regarding rental of office space; or direct solicitations of listserv members to purchase products or services. *(This guideline is required in order for VPA to maintain its non-profit status.)*

4. Please keep your messages constructive, courteous, and brief. Use the subject line to accurately identify the content of the message, which will help other members screen out messages on topics in which they have no interest.
5. The VPA listserv is not HIPAA-compliant; subscribers should not share individually identifiable health information (as defined by HIPAA) in their communications through the listserv.
6. Users/subscribers should not have any expectation of privacy or confidentiality in emails they send through the VPA listserv.
7. Please include your name and email address at the end of each of your messages.
8. Discussions of fee setting, boycotts, and/or non-compete agreements are prohibited on this listserv. Discussion of generally-published rates may occur, provided that the discussion does not include commentary on what rates should be, that others should not accept the rate, or that others should not do business with the payor in question. *(This guideline is intended to avoid any violations of anti-trust laws.)*
9. Please note that replying to a listserv email will send a reply to only the sender of the message to which you are replying. If you wish to send a reply that the entire listserv can read, please select "reply all" in your email service.
10. Please do not add attachments to your emails unless requested or unless necessary for the information you are sharing. The attachment of any materials should comply with copyright laws and the requirements of items 1 and 2, above.
11. Please limit your editorial comments when sharing any news, research or other content that may be politically-charged or carry political overtones. Please treat your listserv posts in the same way you would handle a face-to-face conversation with a colleague with differing views or phrase things in a manner you would use when participating in a conference's panel discussion. We all want to see professional courtesy and civility maintained, with each member taking personal responsibility for this.

At the discretion of the executive director, any member may be unsubscribed for violation any of the above rules.

If at any time you wish to unsubscribe from the listserv, please e-mail VPA directly at vpaid@vermontpsych.org or call VPA at (802) 229-5447.

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