

Circular No. 113, Issued 27/11/2017

Related to the mandatory licensing for the practice of the profession of Psychologist (clinical and educational)

Based on decree number 8377 dated 30/12/1961 (Regulation of the Ministry of Public Health),

Based on law number 8 dated 10/2/2017 governing the regulation of the profession of Psychologist in Lebanon,

Based on decision number 1/1320 issued by the Minister of Public Health on 19-7-2017 and disseminated in the National Gazette Issue 33 on 27-7-2017 regarding the documentation required to obtain a license to practice as a clinical or educational Psychologist,

As mental health is one of the priorities of the Ministry of Public Health as indicated in its 2016-2020 Strategy, which aims at building an equitable health system that promotes the highest attainable mental and physical health status,

As it is within the mandate of the Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) to supervise the proper implementation of procedures related to mental health, and particularly to ensure the fulfilment of all requirements and conditions stipulated in laws related to relevant procedures, including Law 8/2017,

Therefore,

The Ministry of Public Health emphasizes that: law 8/2017 mandates all practicing psychologists to obtain a license to practice the profession of Psychologist from the MoPH and prohibits the provision of any service related to the practice of Psychology without a license. Non-compliance with the latter will result in prosecution as stipulated in the law. These conditions apply to all those wanting to practice the profession of clinical Psychologist or the profession of educational Psychologist.

In line with the above, the MoPH urges all Psychologists that obtain a license to practice the profession of clinical or educational Psychologist to visibly showcase their license in their respective workplace.

The MoPH also emphasizes, on this occasion, the obligation of all professionals practicing the profession of Psychologist (Educational or Clinical) to abstain from prescribing medication in the context of the practice of their profession as the prescription of medication is an exclusive right for Physicians licensed by the MoPH and affiliated to the Order of Physicians in Lebanon.

Director General of the Ministry of Public Health

Dr. Walid Ammar