

Position Statement on Cultural Psychiatry as a Specific Field of Study Relevant to the Assessment and Care of All Patients

Approved by the Board of Trustees, July 2013

Approved by the Assembly, May 2013

"Policy documents are approved by the APA Assembly and Board of Trustees...These are...position statements that define APA official policy on specific subjects..." – *APA Operations Manual*.

The American Psychiatric Association supports Cultural Psychiatry as a specific field of study relevant to the assessment and care of all patients. It seeks to understand both the preferences and values of patients, which is important in the implementation of evidence-based medicine and patient-centered care, and the unconscious assumptions and biases of clinicians which leads to mental health disparities. It has three elements: research in cultural psychiatry, cultural competence training, and culturally appropriate services.

This statement updates and revises the *Position Statement on the Delineation of Transcultural Psychiatry as a Specialized Field of Study* (1969) and the *Position Statement on the Training of Minority Psychiatrists* (1975).

See the related resource document [HERE](#).