

Position Statement on Abuse and Misuse of Psychiatry

Approved by the Board of Trustees, July 2019

Approved by the Assembly, May 2019

“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*

Position:

The American Psychiatric Association supports the use of psychiatric knowledge, practice, and institutions only for purposes consistent with ethical evaluation and treatment, research consultation, and education.

Abuse and misuse of psychiatry occur when psychiatric knowledge, assessment, or practice is used to further organizational, social, personal, or political objectives without regards to individuals’ needs and outcomes.

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