

Excerpt from TAP (The American Psychoanalyst)

A Guide for the Perplexed Reader

As TAP's circulation grows, an increasing number of our readers are not members of the APsaA, but rather individuals who have significant interests in psychoanalysis. TAP's editorial board decided that it would be helpful to include a glossary of acronyms and abbreviations of the many groups frequently mentioned in TAP's pages. We hope the following is useful:

Affiliate Council. A part of the APsaA that represents candidates from the institutes and new training facilities. Its officers are president, president-elect, secretary and treasurer.

APsaA. The American Psychoanalytic Association. A national psychoanalytic organization of more than 3,300 analyst members, founded in 1911. Its component organizations are forty-two psychoanalytic societies, three study groups, and twenty-nine psychoanalytic training institutes.

BOPS, the Board, the Board on Professional Standards. The part of the APsaA that establishes and monitors its educational functions, including accrediting institutes and certifying members. It consists of two fellows of the Board representing each of the twenty-nine institutes, the chair and secretary of BOPS, the president, the president-elect, the secretary, and the treasurer. It meets twice yearly at the national meetings.

Central office, CO. The APsaA national headquarters in New York, City whose staff conducts the administrative work of the organization.

CGRI, the Committee on Government Relations and Insurance. A committee of the Council which deals with political issues on both national and local levels and analytic malpractice insurance.

Committees. Council committees are created by and report to the Executive Council. Board committees are created by and report to the Board. In addition, there are joint committees of Board and Council. These committees are created by and report to both Board and Council to deal with overlapping responsibilities of the two bodies. Ad Hoc committees serve at the pleasure of the president, chair of the Board, or both.

CORST, the Committee on Research and Special Training. A committee of the Board whose major function is to evaluate requests from APsaA institutes to train candidate with non-mental-health, academic degrees.

Executive Committee. The leadership of the APsaA that oversees the many activities of the organization as specified by the by-laws. The committee comprises the president, the president-elect, the secretary, the treasurer, the chair of the Board, and the secretary of the Board (non-voting member).

The Council, the Executive Council. The governing body of the APsaA. It consists of a councilor and an alternate councilor representing each of the societies and study groups, eight nationally elected councilors-at-large, the current officers, the last three past-presidents, and the past secretary. It meets twice yearly at the national meetings.

JAPA, the Journal, Journal of the American Psychoanalytic Association. The official scientific journal of the APsaA, published quarterly.

Other organizations –

AAP, American Academy of Psychoanalysis. A national organization of 650 medical psychoanalysts and dynamic psychiatrists, founded in 1965.

APA, either the American Psychiatric Association or the American Psychological Association. These are major national organizations of psychiatrists and psychologists, respectively.

CHEA, the Council on Higher Education Accreditation. Formerly the Commission of Recognition of Postsecondary Accreditation (CORPA), a non-governmental agency that recognizes agencies that accredit education institutes.

CPR, the Coalition for Patient Rights. A political advocacy group allied with the APsaA to preserve and improve conditions necessary for the practice of psychoanalysis.

Credentialing, accrediting, certifying. The two types of credentialing are accreditation of psychoanalytic institutes and certification of graduates of psychoanalytic institutes.

Division 39, Section 1. The Division of Psychoanalysis (39) is a component of the American Psychological Association. It consists of more than 3,000 members who have an interest in psychoanalysis. Section 1 is a component of Division 39 whose members have had training in psychoanalysis.

DOE, Department of Education. A federal agency that accredits educational institutions that desire governmental funding such as subsidized student loans.

ERISA, Employee Retirement Income Security Act. A complex federal law passed in 1974 that has been interpreted by the Supreme Court to limit the appeals of employees against their private insurance plan's coverage decisions to only the actual cost incurred and not to lost wages, pain and suffering, and/or punitive damages. This limitation makes it difficult for an aggrieved plan participant to find legal representation and in turn provides incentive for insurers to deny coverage.

HCFA, Health Care Financing Administration. A part of the federal Department of Health and Human Services that oversees Medicare and Medicaid.

IPA, International Psychoanalytical Association, the International. A worldwide psychoanalytic organization founded by Freud in 1910. The APsA is the only regional association of the IPA.

IPS, the Confederation of Independent Psychoanalytic Societies. An organization of four U.S. psychoanalytic institutes that are component societies of the IPA: the New York Freudian Society, the Institute for Psychoanalytic Training and Research (IPTAR), the Los Angeles Institute and Society for Psychoanalytic Studies (LAISPS), and the Psychoanalytic Center of California.

NMCOP, The National Membership Committee on Psychoanalysis in Clinical Social Work. A national organization representing 500 clinical social workers who are psychoanalysts or psychoanalytic psychotherapists.

PPSV, Powers, Pyles, Sutter & Verville. The Washington-based health care law firm working for the APsA in government relations.

The Consortium, the Psychoanalytic Consortium. An organization comprising the American Psychoanalytic Association, the Division of Psychoanalysis (39) of the American Psychological Association, the National Membership Committee on Psychoanalysis in Clinical Social Work, and the American Academy of Psychoanalysis. The Consortium was formed in 1991 and works on political and ethical issues and creating an external accrediting body.

WAW, William Alanson White Psychoanalytic Institute. An independent New York psychoanalytic training institute founded in 1943 and comprising 325 members.