

FULL-LENGTH PRACTICE TESTS

Practice Test 9 — 100 Questions - Comprehensive Coverage Across All Domains

1. A therapist treating a client with anger issues learns the client punched a wall at home last night. The therapist should:

- A. Report to law enforcement
- B. Hospitalize the client
- C. Terminate for violent behavior
- D. Address it clinically as relevant to treatment goals

2. An LMFT receives a call from a prospective client who mentions they are currently seeing another therapist. The LMFT should:

- A. Refuse to speak with them
- B. Discuss the situation and encourage clarification of the other therapeutic relationship
- C. Schedule an appointment immediately
- D. Report the other therapist to the BBS

3. Under California law, a therapist who suspects elder abuse must file a report within:

- A. 24 hours
- B. 36 hours
- C. Two working days

D. One week

4. A client reveals they work as a corrections officer and have been using excessive force on inmates. The therapist should:

- A. Address it clinically while maintaining confidentiality
- B. Report to the prison administration
- C. Report to law enforcement
- D. Terminate for violent behavior

5. A therapist notices their supervisor has been making inappropriate comments about supervisees' personal lives. The therapist should:

- A. Ignore it as supervisory style
- B. Laugh along to maintain the relationship
- C. Report to law enforcement
- D. Address the concern directly with the supervisor or through appropriate channels

6. An AMFT's client asks about the supervisory relationship. The AMFT should:

- A. Refuse to discuss supervision
- B. Explain the supervisory arrangement as part of informed consent
- C. Lie about being fully licensed
- D. Minimize the supervisor's involvement

7. A client mentions that their therapist friend said confidentiality is absolute with no exceptions. The therapist should:

- A. Agree to build rapport
- B. Ignore the misinformation
- C. Provide accurate information about confidentiality limits
- D. Refer the client to read HIPAA regulations

8. Under California law, which is TRUE about the 72-hour hold (5150)?

- A. It is for evaluation and treatment of persons who are a danger to self, others, or gravely disabled
- B. It can only be initiated by psychiatrists
- C. It requires family consent
- D. It applies only to clients already in treatment

9. A therapist treating a couple learns during an individual session that one partner has a serious gambling addiction they've hidden. If the therapist has a "no secrets" policy, they should:

- A. Tell the other partner immediately
- B. Ignore it since it's a personal issue
- C. Terminate couples therapy without explanation
- D. Work with the client toward disclosure as required by the policy

10. A client gives the therapist a lottery ticket as a holiday gift. The therapist should:

- A. Refuse all gifts without exception
- B. Consider the gesture and make an appropriate clinical decision
- C. Accept only if the ticket is worth less than \$5

D. Report to the BBS

11. An LMFT learns that a client's child has been truant from school for several weeks. The therapist should:

- A. Report to law enforcement immediately
- B. Report to CPS for educational neglect
- C. Assess the situation clinically and determine if neglect reporting is warranted
- D. Contact the school directly

12. A therapist who provides expert testimony in court should:

- A. Base opinions on professional expertise and objective assessment
- B. Advocate for the party that retained them
- C. Provide opinions on anyone mentioned in the case
- D. Share complete treatment records publicly

13. A client asks if the therapist has experience treating their specific presenting problem. The therapist should:

- A. Lie to secure the client
- B. Refuse to answer
- C. Deflect the question
- D. Answer honestly about their experience and competence

14. Under HIPAA, a covered entity must provide an accounting of disclosures:

- A. Only to insurance companies
- B. Upon client request for disclosures made in the past six years
- C. Never
- D. Only for court-ordered disclosures

15. A therapist's client mentions they found the therapist's dating profile online and feels it's inappropriate. The therapist should:

- A. Delete all dating profiles immediately
- B. Ignore the client's concerns
- C. Explore the client's reaction and address any therapeutic implications
- D. Report the client for stalking

16. A client who is a police officer describes falsifying a police report. The therapist should:

- A. Address it clinically while maintaining confidentiality
- B. Report to the police department
- C. Report to the district attorney
- D. Terminate therapy

17. An LMFT providing group therapy learns that one member has been sharing confidential group information on social media. The therapist should:

- A. Remove the member secretly
- B. Ignore online behavior
- C. Report to law enforcement

D. Address the breach in the group and with the individual

18. A therapist receives a request from a client's parole officer for treatment records. The therapist should:

A. Provide complete records to support the client

B. Verify authorization exists before providing any information

C. Refuse all parole officer requests

D. Provide records without authorization since it's a legal matter

19. Under California law, which is NOT included in the LMFT scope of practice?

A. Diagnosing mental disorders

B. Providing psychotherapy

C. Prescribing psychotropic medications

D. Treating couples and families

20. A client brings their young child to sessions because they cannot afford childcare. The therapist should:

A. Discuss the impact on treatment and explore alternatives

B. Allow the child to attend all sessions without discussion

C. Refuse to see the client until they arrange childcare

D. Provide therapy to the child as well

21. A therapist discovers a former client has written a positive review about them online, identifying themselves by name. The therapist should:

- A. Thank the client publicly in response
- B. Ask the client to write more reviews
- C. Share the review on their professional website
- D. Consider privacy implications and potentially reach out to the former client privately

22. An LMFT treating a client with depression learns the client has been self-medicating with alcohol daily. The therapist should:

- A. Report to law enforcement
- B. Incorporate substance use assessment and treatment into the care plan
- C. Terminate until the client stops drinking
- D. Ignore it and focus only on depression

23. A client asks to change their appointment time because their spouse has become suspicious about their weekly absences. The therapist should:

- A. Refuse schedule changes
- B. Contact the spouse to explain
- C. Accommodate if possible and explore the situation clinically
- D. Terminate if the client cannot maintain their original time

24. The ethical principle of beneficence requires therapists to:

- A. Act in ways that benefit clients
- B. Avoid harming clients
- C. Be truthful with clients
- D. Treat all clients equally

25. A therapist notices that a supervisee seems to be developing romantic feelings for a client. The supervisor should:

- A. Wait to see if it affects treatment
- B. Ignore it as personal
- C. Report to the BBS immediately
- D. Address the concern directly and require appropriate action

26. A client who is a pharmacist describes occasionally taking medications from the pharmacy for personal use. The therapist should:

- A. Report to the pharmacy board
- B. Address it clinically as a treatment issue
- C. Terminate for theft
- D. Report to law enforcement

27. Under California law, an LMFT may refuse to treat a client:

- A. Based solely on the client's race
- B. Based solely on the client's religion
- C. When treatment is outside the therapist's competence

D. Based solely on the client's sexual orientation

28. A therapist receives a subpoena for records in a case involving their client. The first step should be to:

A. Notify the client and assert privilege

B. Comply immediately

C. Destroy sensitive records

D. Ignore the subpoena

29. A client mentions they are considering not vaccinating their children. The therapist should:

A. Report to CPS for medical neglect

B. Refuse to treat the client

C. Lecture the client about vaccination

D. Explore the client's concerns without imposing personal views

30. An LMFT treating an adolescent learns the teen has created a fake social media account to catfish classmates. The therapist should:

A. Report to school administration

B. Address it clinically and explore underlying issues

C. Report to law enforcement

D. Tell the parents immediately regardless of confidentiality

31. A therapist realizes mid-treatment that a client's issues are beyond their competence. The therapist should:

- A. Continue and learn as they go
- B. Terminate abruptly
- C. Consult, seek additional training, or refer appropriately
- D. Pretend competence to avoid embarrassment

32. Under California law, the statute of limitations for a client to file a civil malpractice lawsuit is generally:

- A. Three years from the date of injury or one year from discovery
- B. One year from termination
- C. Five years from the incident
- D. There is no time limit

33. A client asks the therapist to store a sealed envelope to be opened only if something happens to them. The therapist should:

- A. Accept to build trust
- B. Accept only if the contents are disclosed
- C. Store it in the client's chart
- D. Decline and explore the meaning of the request

34. A therapist providing couples therapy suspects one partner may have an undiagnosed personality disorder. The therapist should:

- A. Diagnose the partner in the session
- B. Consider how this affects treatment and proceed appropriately within competence
- C. Tell the other partner about the suspected diagnosis
- D. Terminate couples therapy immediately

35. An LMFT's client reveals they have been spreading rumors about a coworker to get them fired. The therapist should:

- A. Report to the coworker's employer
- B. Advise the client to stop and apologize
- C. Address it clinically as relevant to the client's interpersonal patterns
- D. Terminate for unethical behavior

36. Under HIPAA, psychotherapy notes:

- A. Have additional protections beyond standard medical records
- B. Must be provided to insurance upon request
- C. Cannot be maintained separately
- D. Must be shared with the client automatically

37. A client reveals they cheated on their professional licensing exam years ago and are now licensed. The therapist should:

- A. Report to the licensing board
- B. Require the client to self-report

- C. Terminate for dishonesty
- D. Address it clinically while maintaining confidentiality

38. A therapist treating a client for social anxiety learns the client has been avoiding a serious medical condition. The therapist should:

- A. Focus only on social anxiety as contracted
- B. Encourage medical attention and explore the avoidance
- C. Report to the client's physician
- D. Terminate until medically cleared

39. A client's attorney sends a letter demanding the therapist testify favorably for the client. The therapist should:

- A. Comply with attorney demands
- B. Refuse any court involvement
- C. Explain that testimony must be objective regardless of who requests it
- D. Agree if the client also requests it

40. An LMFT providing family therapy learns that the family's religious practices include occasional fasting for the children. The therapist should:

- A. Respect cultural and religious practices while assessing for any harm
- B. Report to CPS immediately
- C. Refuse to treat religious families
- D. Convince the family to stop fasting

41. A therapist learns their client has been secretly recording sessions without consent. Under California law:

- A. This is legal if one party consents
- B. Only the therapist can record
- C. Recording requires court approval
- D. Recording without all-party consent is illegal

42. A client who completed therapy two years ago calls asking for a letter of recommendation for a job. The therapist should:

- A. Refuse all such requests from former clients
- B. Consider the request and respond appropriately based on the nature of the relationship
- C. Provide a glowing recommendation automatically
- D. Charge a fee for the letter

43. Under California law, which statement about minor consent is TRUE?

- A. Parents must always consent for minors under 18
- B. Minors can never refuse treatment
- C. Minors 12 and older may consent to mental health treatment under certain conditions
- D. Only courts can authorize minor treatment

44. A therapist's client mentions their elderly mother has been giving large sums of money to a new caregiver. The therapist should:

- A. Assess for potential elder financial exploitation and report if warranted
- B. Ignore family financial matters

- C. Contact the caregiver directly
- D. Report to law enforcement immediately without assessment

45. A therapist providing telehealth notices the client appears to be driving during the session. The therapist should:

- A. Continue without comment
- B. Ignore it if the client seems safe
- C. Document but take no action
- D. Address the safety concern and ask the client to pull over or reschedule

46. An AMFT realizes they made a clinical error that may have harmed a client. The AMFT should:

- A. Cover up the error
- B. Discuss with their supervisor and address appropriately
- C. Wait to see if the client notices
- D. Blame the supervisor

47. A client reports that their previous therapist initiated a sexual relationship with them. The current therapist should:

- A. Encourage the client to forget about it
- B. Defend the other therapist
- C. Provide the "Therapy Never Includes Sexual Behavior" brochure and support the client
- D. Report immediately without informing the client

48. Under California law, which is TRUE about telehealth?

- A. Specific informed consent addressing telehealth is required
- B. Standard consent is sufficient
- C. Telehealth requires physician supervision
- D. Only certain diagnoses can be treated via telehealth

49. A therapist learns their client has been embezzling from their employer over several years. The therapist should:

- A. Report to the employer
- B. Report to law enforcement
- C. Advise the client to return the money
- D. Address it clinically while maintaining confidentiality

50. A client asks the therapist about their theoretical orientation. The therapist should:

- A. Refuse to discuss their approach
- B. Provide a clear explanation of their therapeutic approach
- C. Use technical jargon to impress the client
- D. Say whatever the client wants to hear

51. An LMFT working with a couple realizes both partners have confided serious secrets during individual sessions. Under a confidentiality policy that keeps individual disclosures confidential, the therapist should:

- A. Reveal both secrets to level the playing field
- B. Terminate couples therapy immediately

- C. Continue to maintain confidentiality per the established policy
- D. Choose which secret to reveal

52. A therapist's client asks to switch to text-based therapy exclusively. The therapist should:

- A. Assess appropriateness, discuss limitations, and make a clinically informed decision
- B. Refuse all text-based services
- C. Agree without discussion
- D. Report the request to the BBS

53. Under California law, after completing mandated continuing education, LMFTs must:

- A. Submit certificates to the BBS immediately
- B. Post certificates in their office
- C. Share certificates with all clients
- D. Retain documentation and attest to completion during license renewal

54. A client mentions they have fantasies about harming their partner but have no plan or intent. The therapist should:

- A. Report to law enforcement
- B. Assess risk thoroughly while treating the fantasies as clinical material
- C. Hospitalize the client
- D. Warn the partner immediately

55. A therapist notices that a client frequently brings expensive gifts. The therapist should:

- A. Accept the gifts to avoid hurting the client
- B. Report the client for bribery
- C. Explore the meaning of the gift-giving pattern
- D. Refuse all gifts and terminate

56. An LMFT learns that a colleague has been practicing outside their area of competence. The therapist should:

- A. Address the concern with the colleague and consider further action if not resolved
- B. Ignore it as the colleague's business
- C. Report to law enforcement
- D. Take over the colleague's clients

57. A client who is a teacher describes having a romantic relationship with an 18-year-old former student who graduated six months ago. The therapist should:

- A. Report to law enforcement
- B. Report to the school administration
- C. Report to CPS
- D. Address it clinically while assessing any ethical or legal implications

58. Under California law, a therapist who learns of past child abuse with a living perpetrator:

- A. Has no reporting obligation if the abuse is historical
- B. Must report if there is reasonable suspicion the perpetrator has access to children
- C. Must report regardless of current circumstances

D. Should only report if the client requests it

59. A therapist's client asks if therapy notes could be used against them in court. The therapist should:

A. Guarantee confidentiality in all circumstances

B. Refuse to discuss legal matters

C. Provide accurate information about how records might be subpoenaed and the role of privilege

D. Advise the client not to disclose anything important

60. A client presents with symptoms suggesting a possible neurological condition. The therapist should:

A. Refer for medical evaluation while continuing appropriate support

B. Diagnose the neurological condition

C. Treat only the psychological symptoms

D. Terminate until medically evaluated

61. An LMFT providing supervision notices a supervisee consistently avoids discussing certain types of cases. The supervisor should:

A. Ignore the avoidance

B. Assign more of those cases as punishment

C. Report to the BBS

D. Address the pattern and explore underlying reasons

62. A client mentions their child's soccer coach seems "overly friendly" with the children. The therapist should:

- A. Report to law enforcement immediately
- B. Explore the concern and assess if there is reasonable suspicion to report
- C. Ignore secondhand observations
- D. Tell the client to report it themselves

63. Under California law, what is the primary purpose of LMFT licensure?

- A. To generate revenue for the state
- B. To limit competition
- C. To protect the public from unqualified practitioners
- D. To increase therapist income

64. A therapist treating an adult client learns the client was sexually abused as a child by a perpetrator who is now deceased. The therapist:

- A. Has no mandated reporting obligation
- B. Must report to CPS
- C. Must report to law enforcement
- D. Should report to the perpetrator's family

65. A client asks for extra sessions during a crisis, but the therapist's schedule is completely full. The therapist should:

- A. Turn the client away without alternatives
- B. Cancel other clients to accommodate

C. Ignore the crisis

D. Discuss options including referrals for immediate support and schedule adjustments

66. An LMFT learns that a client has been lying to their immigration attorney about their mental health history. The therapist should:

A. Report to immigration authorities

B. Address it clinically as a treatment issue

C. Contact the immigration attorney

D. Terminate for dishonesty

67. A therapist receives a gift from a client that appears to be stolen property. The therapist should:

A. Accept and say nothing

B. Report to law enforcement immediately

C. Decline the gift and address the clinical implications

D. Accept and return it secretly

68. Under the ethical principle of nonmaleficence, therapists must:

A. Avoid causing harm to clients

B. Promote client well-being

C. Be truthful with clients

D. Treat all clients equally

69. A client describes having road rage incidents where they've followed other drivers. The therapist should:

- A. Report to law enforcement
- B. Report to the DMV
- C. Terminate for dangerous behavior
- D. Address it clinically as relevant to anger management

70. A therapist working in a community mental health center is pressured by administration to see more clients than they feel is clinically appropriate. The therapist should:

- A. Comply without question
- B. Advocate for appropriate caseloads while documenting concerns
- C. Quit immediately
- D. See clients less frequently without telling them

71. A client asks if they can bring their partner to observe a session. The therapist should:

- A. Agree without discussion
- B. Refuse under all circumstances
- C. Discuss the request, implications, and make a clinically informed decision
- D. Only agree if the partner signs a confidentiality form

72. Under California law, which is TRUE about AMFT supervision requirements?

- A. Supervision must include both individual and group components with specific hour requirements
- B. Only group supervision is required
- C. Supervisors need not be licensed

D. Supervision can be provided by any licensed professional

73. A therapist's client reveals they have a serious contagious disease but refuse to inform sexual partners. The therapist should:

A. Immediately inform the partners

B. Report to the health department

C. Terminate therapy

D. Assess the situation and consult on ethical and legal options

74. A client complains that their previous therapist often ran late for sessions. The current therapist should:

A. Criticize the previous therapist

B. Acknowledge the frustration and maintain appropriate boundaries in their own practice

C. Contact the previous therapist to complain

D. Ignore comments about other therapists

75. An LMFT providing couples therapy finds themselves consistently siding with one partner. The therapist should:

A. Continue without addressing the bias

B. Tell the favored partner they prefer them

C. Seek consultation to address the countertransference and consider whether to continue

D. Blame the other partner for being difficult

76. A client asks the therapist to call their employer and verify they have a medical appointment. The therapist should:

- A. Comply to help the client keep their job
- B. Refuse without discussion
- C. Provide detailed treatment information
- D. Discuss concerns about the request and appropriate alternatives

77. Under California law, therapists must report suspected abuse of which populations?

- A. Only children under 12
- B. Only elders over 70
- C. Spouse abuse regardless of circumstances
- D. Children, elders 65 and older, and dependent adults

78. A therapist learns their client has been shoplifting regularly for years. The therapist should:

- A. Report to law enforcement
- B. Assess for kleptomania or other clinical issues and address therapeutically
- C. Terminate for criminal behavior
- D. Accompany the client to return stolen items

79. A client gives the therapist detailed instructions about how to notify their family if they die. The therapist should:

- A. Accept the instructions without assessment
- B. Refuse to discuss death-related topics
- C. Explore the meaning of the request and assess for suicidal ideation

D. Follow the instructions exactly as given

80. An LMFT receives notification that a complaint has been filed against them with the BBS. The therapist should:

A. Seek legal consultation and respond appropriately to the investigation

B. Contact the complainant to resolve it

C. Destroy relevant records

D. Ignore it until formally summoned

81. A therapist's client discloses they have been having an affair with their boss. The therapist should:

A. Contact the client's spouse

B. Report to the employer

C. Advise the client to end the affair

D. Explore the relationship as clinically relevant material

82. Under California law, which documentation is required for all therapy sessions?

A. Video recording

B. Appropriate clinical documentation

C. Audio recording

D. Verbatim transcripts

83. A client asks the therapist for advice on investing their savings. The therapist should:

- A. Provide detailed financial advice
- B. Recommend specific investments
- C. Clarify role boundaries and refer to appropriate financial professionals
- D. Ignore the request

84. A therapist treating a minor learns the child has been sexting with a same-age peer. The therapist should:

- A. Address the behavior clinically including safety and legal implications appropriate to ages
- B. Report to law enforcement immediately
- C. Tell the parents immediately regardless of confidentiality
- D. Ignore teen behavior

85. An LMFT's client mentions their neighbor seems depressed and asks if the therapist could help. The therapist should:

- A. Offer to see the neighbor for free
- B. Provide the client with resources to share if appropriate
- C. Contact the neighbor
- D. Diagnose the neighbor based on the client's description

86. A client brings a legal document and asks the therapist to serve as a witness to their signature. The therapist should:

- A. Agree to help the client
- B. Consider the request, potential implications, and respond appropriately

- C. Refuse without explanation
- D. Charge a fee for witnessing

87. Under California law, a therapist's duty to protect third parties under Tarasoff applies when:

- A. A client has any history of violence
- B. A client expresses anger at someone
- C. A client makes a serious threat of violence against an identifiable victim
- D. A client owns weapons

88. A therapist notices their client has significant body odor that affects the therapy room. The therapist should:

- A. Address it sensitively as it may have clinical significance
- B. Ignore it to avoid embarrassment
- C. Spray air freshener during sessions
- D. Terminate the client

89. A client who works as a day trader describes using insider information for personal trades. The therapist should:

- A. Report to the SEC
- B. Advise the client to stop
- C. Terminate for illegal activity
- D. Address it clinically while maintaining confidentiality

90. An LMFT working with a family notices that communication patterns seem culturally-based rather than dysfunctional. The therapist should:

- A. Impose Western communication standards
- B. Demonstrate cultural humility and adapt treatment accordingly
- C. Refer to a therapist of the same cultural background
- D. Ignore cultural factors

91. A client asks to reschedule their standing appointment permanently to a time that conflicts with the therapist's personal commitment. The therapist should:

- A. Cancel personal commitments to accommodate clients
- B. Terminate the client for inflexibility
- C. Discuss options and negotiate a mutually workable solution
- D. Agree and resent the client

92. Under California law, which action by a therapist could result in license revocation?

- A. Sexual contact with a current client
- B. Being late to a session
- C. Having a waiting room that's too small
- D. Using a theoretical approach the BBS doesn't prefer

93. A therapist's client mentions they've been "borrowing" money from petty cash at work. The therapist should:

- A. Report to the employer
- B. Report to law enforcement

- C. Advise immediate repayment and confession
- D. Address it clinically as a treatment issue

94. A client asks the therapist to attend their child's graduation ceremony. The therapist should:

- A. Agree to strengthen the therapeutic relationship
- B. Consider the request thoughtfully regarding boundaries and therapeutic implications
- C. Agree only if other clients won't be there
- D. Report the request to the BBS

95. An LMFT providing group therapy learns that a group member has died by suicide. The therapist should:

- A. Avoid discussing it in the group
- B. Immediately terminate the group
- C. Address the loss with remaining group members and provide appropriate support
- D. Contact the deceased member's family for details to share

96. A therapist realizes they've been treating a client whose cousin is the therapist's close friend. The therapist should:

- A. Assess the situation and determine if the dual relationship affects treatment
- B. Continue without acknowledgment
- C. Terminate immediately without explanation
- D. Tell the friend about the client's treatment

97. Under California law, how long must records for minor clients be retained?

- A. Until age 18
- B. Five years after termination
- C. Same as adult clients (seven years)
- D. Seven years after termination or until the client reaches 25, whichever is longer

98. A client reveals they have been having sexual fantasies about the therapist. The therapist should:

- A. Terminate immediately
- B. Address it as transference and explore therapeutically
- C. Reciprocate by sharing their feelings
- D. Report to the BBS

99. A therapist notices their own performance declining due to personal stress. The therapist should:

- A. Continue without acknowledgment
- B. See more clients to distract from stress
- C. Address the impairment through appropriate self-care, consultation, or reduced caseload
- D. Blame clients for the stress

100. An LMFT providing telehealth services to a client learns the client has moved to another state. The therapist should:

- A. Address jurisdictional requirements and determine if continued treatment is legally permissible
- B. Continue without concern
- C. Terminate immediately
- D. Report to the BBS

PRACTICE TEST 9 — ANSWER KEY AND EXPLANATIONS

- 1. D. Address it clinically as relevant to treatment goals** Punching a wall, while concerning, is not a mandated reporting situation and doesn't meet Tarasoff criteria since there's no threat to an identifiable person. The therapist should address this as clinically relevant material, exploring triggers, coping skills, and anger management strategies.
- 2. B. Discuss the situation and encourage clarification of the other therapeutic relationship** When prospective clients are currently in therapy elsewhere, the therapist should discuss the situation openly. This includes exploring reasons for seeking a new therapist and encouraging proper termination or clarification with the current provider to avoid fragmented care.
- 3. C. Two working days** Under California law, suspected elder abuse must be reported by phone immediately or as soon as practically possible, followed by a written report within two working days. This timeframe differs from child abuse reporting, which requires a 36-hour written follow-up.
- 4. A. Address it clinically while maintaining confidentiality** Excessive force by a corrections officer, while concerning, is not a mandated reporting situation. The therapist should address it clinically, exploring underlying issues, potential consequences, and working toward behavior change while maintaining confidentiality.
- 5. D. Address the concern directly with the supervisor or through appropriate channels** Inappropriate comments by a supervisor should be addressed professionally. The therapist may speak directly with the supervisor or use appropriate channels such as agency administration or the BBS if the behavior continues or is egregious.
- 6. B. Explain the supervisory arrangement as part of informed consent** Clients have a right to know about the supervisory relationship as part of informed consent. AMFTs should explain their pre-licensed status, that they work under supervision, and that their supervisor may have access to case information.
- 7. C. Provide accurate information about confidentiality limits** Confidentiality is not absolute—there are legal exceptions including mandated reporting, Tarasoff duty, and court orders. The therapist should correct this misinformation as part of proper informed consent.
- 8. A. It is for evaluation and treatment of persons who are a danger to self, others, or gravely disabled** The 5150 hold allows 72-hour detention for evaluation and treatment of individuals who, due to a mental disorder, are a danger to themselves, others, or are gravely disabled. It can be initiated by designated personnel, not only psychiatrists.

9. D. Work with the client toward disclosure as required by the policy Under a "no secrets" policy, significant hidden information must be addressed. The therapist should work with the client toward disclosure within sessions. If the client refuses, the therapist may need to evaluate whether couples therapy can continue effectively.

10. B. Consider the gesture and make an appropriate clinical decision A lottery ticket is a small, token gift. The therapist should consider the gesture's meaning and context. Small holiday gifts are often appropriate to accept graciously, though the therapist should be alert to patterns or gifts of significant value.

11. C. Assess the situation clinically and determine if neglect reporting is warranted Truancy alone doesn't automatically constitute reportable neglect. The therapist should assess the reasons for truancy, parental response, and whether it indicates educational neglect that endangers the child's welfare before determining if a report is warranted.

12. A. Base opinions on professional expertise and objective assessment Expert witnesses must provide objective, unbiased opinions based on professional expertise and thorough assessment. They should not advocate for either party but assist the court with specialized knowledge.

13. D. Answer honestly about their experience and competence Clients have a right to information about their therapist's qualifications. The therapist should answer honestly about their experience and competence, allowing the client to make an informed decision about treatment.

14. B. Upon client request for disclosures made in the past six years Under HIPAA, clients may request an accounting of disclosures of their PHI made in the past six years. Certain disclosures, such as those for treatment, payment, and healthcare operations, are typically excluded from this accounting.

15. C. Explore the client's reaction and address any therapeutic implications The client's discovery of personal information warrants clinical exploration. The therapist should explore the client's reaction, what it means for the therapeutic relationship, and address any boundary implications without being defensive.

16. A. Address it clinically while maintaining confidentiality Falsifying police reports is serious misconduct but not a mandated reporting situation for therapists. The therapist should address it clinically, exploring motivations and implications while maintaining confidentiality.

17. D. Address the breach in the group and with the individual Sharing confidential group information violates group agreements and harms trust. The therapist should address this breach both individually with the member and within the group context, exploring implications for group safety and dynamics.

18. B. Verify authorization exists before providing any information Parole officers do not have automatic access to treatment records. The therapist must verify that proper authorization exists, typically through the client's conditions of parole or a signed release, before providing any information.

19. C. Prescribing psychotropic medications LMFTs do not have prescriptive authority. Prescribing medications is outside the LMFT scope of practice. LMFTs may diagnose, provide psychotherapy, and treat couples and families, but medication prescription requires a different license.

20. A. Discuss the impact on treatment and explore alternatives A child's presence can significantly impact adult therapy. The therapist should discuss this with the client, exploring how it affects treatment and identifying alternatives such as different scheduling, childcare options, or brief childcare during sessions.

21. D. Consider privacy implications and potentially reach out to the former client privately A positive review that identifies the client raises privacy concerns, even if well-intentioned. The therapist should consider reaching out privately to discuss potential implications of self-identification rather than publicly responding.

22. B. Incorporate substance use assessment and treatment into the care plan Daily alcohol use to self-medicate depression is clinically significant. The therapist should assess for substance use disorder and integrate both depression and substance use into the treatment plan, recognizing their interaction.

23. C. Accommodate if possible and explore the situation clinically Schedule changes for practical reasons are reasonable to accommodate. The therapist should also explore the clinical aspects—the spouse's suspicion and what it means for the client's relationships and therapy.

24. A. Act in ways that benefit clients Beneficence is the ethical principle requiring therapists to act in ways that benefit clients. This includes promoting client welfare, working toward positive outcomes, and actively contributing to client well-being.

25. D. Address the concern directly and require appropriate action Developing romantic feelings for a client is a serious boundary issue requiring immediate attention. The supervisor should address this directly, require the supervisee to take appropriate action (such as personal therapy and possibly transferring the client), and monitor closely.

26. B. Address it clinically as a treatment issue Taking medications from work is concerning but not a mandated reporting situation. The therapist should address it clinically, exploring underlying issues such as financial stress, substance use, or health concerns

27. C. When treatment is outside the therapist's competence Therapists may ethically refuse clients when treatment falls outside their competence. Refusing based on race, religion, or sexual orientation would constitute illegal discrimination. Competence-based refusals protect client welfare.

28. A. Notify the client and assert privilege The first step upon receiving a subpoena is to notify the client and assert privilege on their behalf. The therapist should then seek legal guidance about proper response, which may include filing a motion to quash.

29. D. Explore the client's concerns without imposing personal views Vaccination decisions are not mandated reporting situations. The therapist should explore the client's concerns, values, and decision-making process without imposing personal views on this parenting choice.

30. B. Address it clinically and explore underlying issues Creating fake social media accounts to deceive classmates is problematic but not a reporting situation. The therapist should address it clinically, exploring underlying issues such as social difficulties, identity, or relationship problems.

31. C. Consult, seek additional training, or refer appropriately Practicing outside competence violates ethical standards. When a therapist recognizes competence limitations mid-treatment, they should consult, seek training, or refer rather than continuing without adequate expertise.

32. A. Three years from the date of injury or one year from discovery California's statute of limitations for malpractice is generally three years from the injury date or one year from when the client discovered (or should have discovered) the injury, whichever comes first.

33. D. Decline and explore the meaning of the request Storing sealed envelopes from clients creates potential complications and is outside the therapeutic role. The therapist should decline while exploring the meaning of the request, which may reveal concerns about safety, death, or trust.

34. B. Consider how this affects treatment and proceed appropriately within competence Suspected personality disorders in couples therapy affect treatment approach. The therapist should consider how this impacts the work, adjust treatment accordingly, and ensure they're practicing within competence. Diagnosis shouldn't be announced prematurely or shared inappropriately.

35. C. Address it clinically as relevant to the client's interpersonal patterns Spreading rumors to harm a coworker relates to the client's interpersonal functioning. The therapist should address it clinically, exploring motivations, patterns, and consequences, without moral lecturing.

36. A. Have additional protections beyond standard medical records Under HIPAA, psychotherapy notes (personal notes kept separate from the medical record) have additional protections. They generally require specific authorization for release, even when other records may be disclosed.

37. D. Address it clinically while maintaining confidentiality Past cheating on a licensing exam is not a current mandated reporting situation. The therapist should address it clinically, exploring its meaning, any guilt, and implications while maintaining confidentiality.

38. B. Encourage medical attention and explore the avoidance Medical avoidance can be dangerous and is clinically relevant. The therapist should encourage proper medical attention while exploring the avoidance as part of treatment, potentially connecting it to anxiety or other presenting issues.

39. C. Explain that testimony must be objective regardless of who requests it Therapists cannot provide testimony tailored to attorney demands. The therapist should explain that professional testimony must be objective and based on clinical findings, regardless of which party requests it.

40. A. Respect cultural and religious practices while assessing for any harm Religious fasting practices should be respected while assessing for potential harm to children. The therapist should balance cultural humility with child safety, intervening only if practices cause actual harm.

41. D. Recording without all-party consent is illegal California is a two-party consent state. Recording confidential communications without all parties' consent violates Penal Code Section 632. The therapist should address this legal violation and its implications for the therapeutic relationship.

42. B. Consider the request and respond appropriately based on the nature of the relationship Job recommendation letters from therapists raise role boundary questions. The therapist should consider whether they can appropriately speak to job-relevant qualities and respond thoughtfully based on the nature of their former relationship.

43. C. Minors 12 and older may consent to mental health treatment under certain conditions Under California Family Code Section 6924, minors 12 and older may consent to outpatient mental health treatment if the therapist determines they are mature enough to participate intelligently.

44. A. Assess for potential elder financial exploitation and report if warranted Large monetary gifts to a new caregiver may indicate elder financial exploitation. The therapist should assess the situation, including the mother's age and capacity, and file a mandated report if exploitation is suspected.

45. D. Address the safety concern and ask the client to pull over or reschedule Conducting therapy while driving creates serious safety concerns and compromises treatment quality. The therapist should address this immediately, asking the client to pull over to continue or reschedule the session.

46. B. Discuss with their supervisor and address appropriately AMFTs should immediately discuss clinical errors with their supervisor. The supervisor can help assess the situation, determine appropriate remedial action, and ensure client welfare is protected.

47. C. Provide the "Therapy Never Includes Sexual Behavior" brochure and support the client California law requires therapists to provide this brochure when clients report sexual exploitation by previous therapists. The therapist should support the client in understanding their options, including filing complaints.

48. A. Specific informed consent addressing telehealth is required California requires specific informed consent for telehealth that addresses its unique aspects, including technology requirements, privacy considerations, emergency protocols, and limitations of remote services.

49. D. Address it clinically while maintaining confidentiality Embezzlement is not a mandated reporting situation. The therapist should address it clinically, exploring underlying issues, ethical implications, and potential consequences while maintaining confidentiality.

50. B. Provide a clear explanation of their therapeutic approach Clients have a right to understand their therapist's approach as part of informed consent. The therapist should explain their theoretical orientation and methods in understandable terms.

51. C. Continue to maintain confidentiality per the established policy When the confidentiality policy keeps individual disclosures confidential, the therapist must honor that agreement. This situation illustrates why clear policies must be established before beginning couples therapy.

52. A. Assess appropriateness, discuss limitations, and make a clinically informed decision Text-based therapy has significant limitations. The therapist should assess whether it's appropriate for this client's needs, discuss limitations including crisis management, and make an informed clinical decision.

53. D. Retain documentation and attest to completion during license renewal LMFTs must retain CE documentation and attest to completion during license renewal. The BBS may audit for compliance, so maintaining records of completed education is essential.

54. B. Assess risk thoroughly while treating the fantasies as clinical material Fantasies of harm without plan or intent require thorough risk assessment. The therapist should evaluate risk factors while treating the fantasies as clinical material to be explored therapeutically.

55. C. Explore the meaning of the gift-giving pattern Frequent expensive gifts represent a pattern worth exploring clinically. The therapist should explore the meaning—whether it relates to boundaries, relationship patterns, attempts to create obligation, or other dynamics.

56. A. Address the concern with the colleague and consider further action if not resolved Practicing outside competence puts clients at risk. The therapist should address this directly with the colleague. If not resolved, further action such as reporting to the BBS may be necessary.

57. D. Address it clinically while assessing any ethical or legal implications A relationship with an 18-year-old former student may have ethical implications for the teacher's profession but isn't automatically illegal. The therapist should address it clinically while being aware of any mandatory reporting requirements related to position of authority.

58. B. Must report if there is reasonable suspicion the perpetrator has access to children Historical abuse must be reported if the perpetrator may currently have access to children. The focus is on protecting current potential victims, not punishing past behavior.

59. C. Provide accurate information about how records might be subpoenaed and the role of privilege Clients deserve accurate information about confidentiality limits. The therapist should explain how records can be subpoenaed, the role of privilege, and that while privilege provides protection, it's not absolute in all circumstances.

60. A. Refer for medical evaluation while continuing appropriate support Symptoms suggesting neurological conditions require medical evaluation. The therapist should refer for appropriate medical assessment while continuing to provide psychological support within their scope.

61. D. Address the pattern and explore underlying reasons Consistent avoidance of certain case types in supervision warrants attention. The supervisor should address this pattern and explore reasons, which might include competence gaps, personal discomfort, or countertransference issues.

62. B. Explore the concern and assess if there is reasonable suspicion to report Secondhand information about potential child abuse requires assessment. The therapist should explore what the client observed to determine if there's reasonable suspicion warranting a mandated report.

63. C. To protect the public from unqualified practitioners The primary purpose of professional licensure is public protection. Licensing ensures practitioners meet minimum competency standards, protecting consumers from unqualified or harmful providers.

64. A. Has no mandated reporting obligation When a perpetrator is deceased, there are no current children at risk from that individual. The therapist has no mandated reporting obligation for historical abuse with a deceased perpetrator.

65. D. Discuss options including referrals for immediate support and schedule adjustments When unable to accommodate crisis sessions, the therapist should discuss alternatives. This includes referrals to crisis services, possible schedule adjustments, and ensuring the client has support resources.

66. B. Address it clinically as a treatment issue Lying to an attorney about mental health history is clinical material, not a reporting situation. The therapist should explore the behavior and its potential consequences without reporting to immigration authorities.

67. C. Decline the gift and address the clinical implications Suspected stolen property should not be accepted. The therapist should decline and address the clinical implications, exploring the behavior and what it represents in treatment.

68. A. Avoid causing harm to clients Nonmaleficence is the principle of "do no harm." Therapists must avoid actions that could harm clients, including practicing outside competence, exploiting clients, or abandoning clients inappropriately.

69. D. Address it clinically as relevant to anger management Road rage incidents with following behavior indicate significant anger issues. This is clinical material directly relevant to treatment, not a reporting situation. The therapist should address it therapeutically.

70. B. Advocate for appropriate caseloads while documenting concerns Excessive caseloads can harm both clients and therapists. The therapist should advocate professionally for appropriate workloads, document concerns, and consider appropriate channels if concerns aren't addressed.

71. C. Discuss the request, implications, and make a clinically informed decision Having a partner observe raises boundary and confidentiality questions. The therapist should discuss the request, explore its purpose, consider implications, and make a clinically informed decision.

72. A. Supervision must include both individual and group components with specific hour requirements California requires AMFT supervision to include both individual (at least one hour per week) and group components, with specific requirements for supervisor qualifications and oversight responsibilities.

73. D. Assess the situation and consult on ethical and legal options Clients with contagious diseases who won't inform partners create complex ethical situations. The therapist should assess thoroughly and consult on legal requirements (California has specific laws regarding HIV disclosure) and ethical options.

74. B. Acknowledge the frustration and maintain appropriate boundaries in their own practice The therapist should acknowledge the client's frustration without criticizing the previous therapist. This validates the client's experience while maintaining professional boundaries and ensuring good practice.

75. C. Seek consultation to address the countertransference and consider whether to continue Consistently siding with one partner indicates countertransference that compromises treatment. The therapist should seek consultation to address this bias and determine whether they can provide effective treatment.

76. A. Comply to help the client keep their job Wait—this answer doesn't match. Let me reconsider.

76. A. Discuss concerns about the request and appropriate alternatives A request to verify a "medical appointment" that's actually therapy raises honesty concerns. The therapist should discuss this, explore why the deception feels necessary, and suggest more appropriate alternatives that don't involve misrepresentation.

77. D. Children, elders 65 and older, and dependent adults California mandated reporters must report suspected abuse of children (under 18), elders (65 and older), and dependent adults (18-64 with physical or mental limitations). These are the three protected populations.

78. B. Assess for kleptomania or other clinical issues and address therapeutically Chronic shoplifting may indicate kleptomania, impulse control disorder, or other clinical issues. The therapist should assess and address it therapeutically rather than reporting or terminating.

79. C. Explore the meaning of the request and assess for suicidal ideation Instructions about death notification warrant careful exploration. The therapist should assess for suicidal ideation while exploring what's prompting this request—whether practical planning or something more concerning.

80. A. Seek legal consultation and respond appropriately to the investigation BBS complaints require careful handling. The therapist should consult with an attorney, preserve all records, and respond appropriately. Contacting the complainant or destroying records would be inappropriate and potentially illegal.

81. D. Explore the relationship as clinically relevant material An affair with a boss is clinically significant material involving power dynamics, boundary issues, and potential consequences. The therapist should explore it therapeutically without judgment or breach of confidentiality.

82. B. Appropriate clinical documentation California law requires therapists to maintain appropriate clinical documentation of services provided. While specific format isn't mandated, documentation must adequately record treatment for continuity of care and legal purposes.

83. C. Clarify role boundaries and refer to appropriate financial professionals Financial advice is outside the therapy role and scope. The therapist should clarify boundaries and refer to qualified financial professionals while exploring what's underlying the request.

84. A. Address the behavior clinically including safety and legal implications appropriate to ages Sexting between same-age minors requires clinical attention. The therapist should address safety, legal implications (which vary by exact ages), and the behavior's meaning while navigating confidentiality with parents appropriately.

85. D. Provide the client with resources to share if appropriate The therapist cannot diagnose or treat the neighbor. If appropriate, they can provide the client with resources (such as mental health information or hotline numbers) that the client might share with their neighbor.

86. B. Consider the request, potential implications, and respond appropriately Witnessing signatures isn't inherently therapeutic but may be a reasonable accommodation. The therapist should consider implications—such as dual roles or future legal involvement—before deciding.

87. C. A client makes a serious threat of violence against an identifiable victim Tarasoff duty applies when there's a serious threat of physical violence against a reasonably identifiable victim. History of violence, anger, or weapon ownership alone don't trigger the duty without a specific serious threat.

88. A. Address it sensitively as it may have clinical significance Body odor can indicate depression, self-neglect, medical issues, or psychotic symptoms. The therapist should address it sensitively, recognizing it may have clinical significance rather than ignoring something that affects the therapeutic environment.

89. D. Address it clinically while maintaining confidentiality Insider trading is illegal but not a mandated reporting situation for therapists. The therapist should address it clinically, exploring motivations and implications, while maintaining confidentiality.

90. B. Demonstrate cultural humility and adapt treatment accordingly Communication patterns vary across cultures. The therapist should demonstrate cultural humility, distinguishing cultural differences from dysfunction, and adapt treatment to be culturally responsive.

91. C. Discuss options and negotiate a mutually workable solution Schedule conflicts require negotiation. The therapist should discuss options openly, seeking a solution that works for both parties rather than sacrificing personal needs or terminating the client.

92. A. Sexual contact with a current client Sexual contact with clients is one of the most serious violations, resulting in license revocation. California law also provides for criminal prosecution. The other options are not grounds for revocation.

93. D. Address it clinically as a treatment issue Taking petty cash is theft but not a reporting situation. The therapist should address it clinically, exploring underlying issues such as financial stress, entitlement, or impulse control problems.

94. B. Consider the request thoughtfully regarding boundaries and therapeutic implications Attending a client's family event raises boundary questions. The therapist should consider the request carefully, weighing potential boundary confusion against therapeutic benefit, and make a thoughtful decision.

95. C. Address the loss with remaining group members and provide appropriate support A group member's suicide profoundly affects the group. The therapist should address this loss directly, providing support for grieving members and processing the impact while maintaining appropriate confidentiality about the deceased.

96. A. Assess the situation and determine if the dual relationship affects treatment Discovering a connection to a client's family requires assessment. The therapist should evaluate whether this affects objectivity or creates conflicts, potentially discussing with the client and determining appropriate action.

97. D. Seven years after termination or until the client reaches 25, whichever is longer California requires minor client records to be retained for seven years after termination OR until the minor reaches age 25, whichever is longer. This extended period protects minors who may need records as adults.

98. B. Address it as transference and explore therapeutically Sexual feelings toward therapists are common transference phenomena. The therapist should address this professionally, exploring its meaning therapeutically while maintaining appropriate boundaries.

99. C. Address the impairment through appropriate self-care, consultation, or reduced caseload Declining performance due to personal stress indicates potential impairment. The therapist should take appropriate action such as self-care, consultation, personal therapy, or reduced caseload to prevent harm to clients.

100. A. Address jurisdictional requirements and determine if continued treatment is legally permissible When clients move to other states, jurisdictional issues arise. Most states require therapists to be licensed where the client is located. The therapist must verify requirements and determine if continued treatment is legally permitted.