

Recommendations to psychologists in face of the current pandemic situation caused by the virus COVID-19.

Announcement of the Comprehensive System International Rorschach Association (CSIRA/ARISI).

In the fight against the spreading of the virus, many governments in the world have recommended or decreed social distancing and/or confinement of their populations. This situation impacts many professions of service to the person, including psychologists.

Although many psychological missions can be temporarily switched to long-distance, digital relationships, psychological assessment requires the actual presence of the person to be assessed and entails manipulation of test materials.

Therefore, so as to protect their clients, themselves and the society, psychologists should abstain from any contact with clients and postpone all psychological assessment. Psychological assessment is not a vital necessity and there is no ethical reason to disregard health recommendations.

When cancelling an appointment, psychologists should talk to their clients by phone, explaining the situation and whenever relevant offering the client the possibility to maintain a digital/electronic/phone contact with them.

The CSIRA/ARISI society reminds psychologists that any change in test material (for instance presenting the Rorschach cards on computer) or test administration (for instance sitting behind the client) will invalidate the results. Any disservice to clients amounts to unethical behaviour.

The Executive Board

Paris, March 24, 2020