

GLOSSARY (CONT)

Social Work Diagnosis - A social work diagnosis, also known as a biopsychosocial assessment, is a series of judgments based on social work knowledge and skills that considers the historical and systemic factors impacting clients and client systems. It is conducted through a trauma, anti-oppressive and culturally informed lens. This process

- a) identifies the underlying causes of a client's situation and offers an in-depth assessment and analysis;
- b) supports the development of a treatment/intervention plan for which the social worker has assumed professional responsibility; and
- c) is based on the Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice.

Subpoena - A legal document requiring a person to attend before a court or a tribunal, or at an out-of-court examination, to be examined as a witness in a legal proceeding.*

Supervision - An administrative and educational process through which supervisees develop and refine their social work/social service work knowledge and skills, engage in critical self-reflection, improve their resilience, and ensure that they are able to provide quality care and services to their clients. Supervisors may assign cases, discuss assessment and intervention plans, and review ongoing contact with clients. Supervision may also assist the supervisee in gaining a better understanding of social work and/or social service work philosophies, agency policies, and community resources. Less experienced College registrants typically require more frequent and formal supervision, whereas those who are more experienced may seek supervision less frequently, engaging instead in case consultations, peer group interactions, or other professional development. Educational supervision is oriented toward professional concerns and specific cases whereas administrative supervision focuses on agency policy and public accountability. Supervisors are providing direct social work/social work services and it is an act of professional misconduct to fail to provide adequate supervision. **†

* Black's Law Dictionary, Fifth Edition, Henry Campbell Black et al, 1979

** The Social Work Dictionary, 6th Edition, Robert L. Barker, 2014

*** Client Rights in Psychotherapy and Counselling, A Handbook of Client Rights and Therapist Responsibility, Susan Beamish, Nancy Melanson and Marilyn Oladimeji, 1998

**** Ontario Association of Social Workers, Guidelines for Social Work Record-Keeping, 1999

***** The Strengths Perspective in Social Work, Dennis Saleebey, 1992

***** Oxford English Dictionary, December 2022

† Definition has been adapted from the original source.