



BOC Communique: Supervision Requirements from 1 April 2023

The [HGSA Supervision Policy for Genetic Counsellors](#) came into effect on 1 April 2022, clarifying the supervision requirements for all genetic counsellors on the HGSA Register of Genetic Counsellors (Active, Provisional, and Registered).

Regardless of the role or workplace, supervision is foundational to reflective practice, which is an essential component of genetic counselling practice.

A 12 month grace period was put in place to allow practicing genetic counsellors to put supervision arrangements in place, and for more supervisors to participate in training. Availability for Genetic Counselling Supervision is a searchable field on the HGSA Register of Genetic Counsellors.

The grace period is now ending, and the following apply from 1 April 2023:

- Supervision is required for all genetic counsellors on the HGSA Register of Genetic Counsellors (Active, Provisional, or Registered)
- Supervision is required for genetic counsellors working in any area of practice including clinical, research, laboratory, education, policy and any other area that meets the NASRHP definition of practice.
- **1 hour per month of genetic counselling supervision is the minimum standard for all actively practicing genetic counsellors, and is not pro-rata.** This is equated to 10 hours per year to account for leave and public holidays.
- Additional requirements apply to Provisionally Registered genetic counsellors, which are pro-rata based on hours of genetic counselling practice. If pro-rata hours would be less than 1 hour per month, the 1 hour minimum still applies.
- If an FHGSA or MHGSA genetic counsellor is on extended leave (greater than 4 weeks) they are not required to participate in supervision during this time.
- Any genetic counsellor on the Register may have their supervision arrangements audited from 1 April 2024 (for the membership year prior). All Genetic Counselling Supervisors are expected to have undertaken formal training in supervision, and evidence may be required in the event of an audit. Supervisors can also upload their evidence of training to the Registered Genetic Counsellor details in their HGSA Member Account.

For more detailed information about supervision and supervisor requirements, please see the current [HGSA Supervision Policy for Genetic Counsellors](#).