PDPSA 4581.003  
Countertransference in Working with Trauma  
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Fall 2017

6 Fridays 12-2pm,  
Jan 27, Feb 3, 10, 17, 24, 3/3  
2373 Broadway  
Suite 1421

Course description:

Working with trauma in the consulting room presents a number of challenges for the analyst, not least being able to remain present to our patients in the face of the intense distress that occurs with narrating and re-experiencing traumatic events. This clinical case seminar will focus on the transference-countertransference engagements that occur in working with trauma particularly as the various states that may be experienced between therapist and patient become the re-enactment of the patient’s (and analyst’s) traumas

The 6 sessions of the class will begin with a discussion of countertransference in our work with traumatized patients through the instructor’s sharing her own work. Following the introductory session candidates will be asked to present their work with an eye toward how trauma themes emerge in the transference countertransference. Readings will be assigned as they are appropriate to the cases candidates present. To select the most relevant for candidates’ specific concerns I ask that candidates prepare a brief (no more than one page) precis of their work and the issues they want to address.

Week One: January 27, 2017

Reading:

Objectives:

1. Candidates will be able to identify the countertransference manifestations that are specific to the dyad they present.
2. Candidates will be able to describe the impact of the patient’s trauma history on the process of particular analytic sessions.