



## CIRCULAR NO. (12 /2022)

<b>From</b>	Department of Healthcare Professions/ Ministry of Public Health
<b>To</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• All licensed Healthcare Practitioners in the State of Qatar (Governmental/Private)</li><li>• All licensed healthcare facilities / focal points in the State of Qatar</li></ul>
<b>Subject</b>	Approval of the Art Therapist within the Allied Health Practitioner scopes list
<b>Date</b>	9 August 2022

### **Greetings from Ministry of Public Health,**

In the Department of Healthcare Professions' pursuit (DHP) to cope up with the best regional and international practices in the field of the registration/licensing, and in order to ensure that beneficiaries of health services benefit from new approaches of mental health promotion , and while responding to some incoming requests to regulate new scopes, The Art Therapist scope has been added to the list of Allied Health professions approved by the Department, specifying the scope of practice and registration/licensing requirements.

For all information regarding the registration/licensing requirements and the scope of practice, please check the attachments

**Thank you for your cooperation,  
Department of Healthcare Professions /Ministry of Public Health**

For inquiries, please contact the following emails:  
dhpregistration@moph.gov.qa



## Criteria for National Registration Requirements – Art Therapist

Criteria	Art Therapist
<b>Definition</b>	<p>Art therapy is an integrative mental health and human services profession that enriches the lives of individuals, families, and communities through active art-making, creative process, applied psychological theory, and human experience within a psychotherapeutic relationship<sup>1</sup>.</p> <p>Art Therapist is master-level clinicians who work with people of all ages across a broad spectrum of practice. Guided by ethical standards and scope of practice. Their education and supervised training prepare them for culturally proficient work with diverse population in a variety of settings. Honoring individuals' values and beliefs, art therapist works with people who are challenged with medical and mental health problems, as well as individuals seeking emotional, creative and spiritual growth<sup>2</sup>.</p>
<b>Practice Settings</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mental Health and Psychiatric entities</li> <li>• Rehabilitation facilities and addiction centers</li> <li>• Social and community centers</li> <li>• Medical Facilities (Hospitals, Clinics, Wellness Centers)</li> <li>• Schools, Universities and Special Needs Centers</li> <li>• Prisons/ Forensic Institutions</li> <li>• Independent practice / Self-employed Arts therapist<sup>3</sup></li> </ul>
<b>Education</b>	<p>Master degree in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Art Therapy OR Music therapy OR Drama Therapy OR Expressive Arts Therapy</li> <li>• Arts with integrated credited courses in psychology, sociology, counseling and human behavior for children, young and adults.</li> <li>• Psychology with integrated credited courses in Arts and art practice.</li> <li>• Counselling</li> </ul>
<b>Scope of Practice</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Expressive Arts Therapy Process Group</b> using multimodal approach, combining psychology and the creative process to promote personal growth and healing.</li> <li>• <b>Expressive Arts Psychotherapy Theme Group</b></li> <li>• <b>Narrative Expressive Arts Therapy</b> (Journaling / storytelling) through telling and retelling of stories within a therapeutic setting, allows a person to make sense of and/or give meaning to their life by reframing and/or re-authoring their lived experiences.</li> <li>• <b>Family based expressive art therapy group</b></li> <li>• <b>Cognitive Behavioral Therapy group (DBT, CBT, CBT I)</b> through using of behavioral, cognitive, relational, and group procedures to enhance the coping skills of the participants, and ameliorate relational and intrapersonal problems that patients may be experiencing.</li> <li>• <b>Trauma Informed Expressive Arts Psychotherapy group</b> for addressing traumatic stress.</li> <li>• <b>Gesture and movement Expressive Art therapy.</b></li> <li>• <b>Aesthetically Oriented /Open Studio</b> to emphasize artistic creation and provide the venue and conditions for this process, enable profound engagement and sufficient time for the creative process to evolve</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> American Art Therapy Association (Definition)

<sup>2</sup> American Art Therapy Association (About Art Therapist)

<sup>3</sup> American Art Therapy Association (Practice Settings)



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Sensory Integration Art Therapy</b> by helping children with sensory-processing problems (including possibly those with ASDs) cope with the difficulties they have processing sensory input</li> <li>• <b>Digital Expressive Arts Psychotherapy</b></li> </ul> <p><b>NB. The scope of practice may incorporate individual therapy as well as group therapy.</b></p>
<b>Experience</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Overseas candidates:</b> A minimum of 2 years' full time of Art therapy practice in clinical, social, education or rehabilitation centers.</li> <li>• For <b>Qatari Nationals, Qatar Universities graduates, offspring of Qatari women or offspring of residents</b>, please refer to the DHP Circular No.24/2020.</li> </ul>
<b>Licensure</b>	Candidates should have a valid license/registration certificate accompanying the required years of experience (if applicable)
<b>Competency validation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Competency will be validated through the verification of education (degree), registration, and relevant experience</li> </ul>
<b>Other Requirement for Evaluation &amp; Registration</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• (Refer to DHP requirements for license Registration/Evaluation) <a href="https://dhp.moph.gov.qa/en/Pages/HowToRegisterToPracticeInQatar.aspx">https://dhp.moph.gov.qa/en/Pages/HowToRegisterToPracticeInQatar.aspx</a></li> </ul>
<b>Requirements for License renewal</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• (Refer to DHP requirements for license Registration/Evaluation) <a href="https://dhp.moph.gov.qa/en/Pages/HowToRegisterToPracticeInQatar.aspx">https://dhp.moph.gov.qa/en/Pages/HowToRegisterToPracticeInQatar.aspx</a></li> </ul>
<p>Note: Applicant with break from practice please see the DHP "Break from Practice Policy" at the following link: <a href="https://dhp.moph.gov.qa/en/Documents/Break%20in%20Practice%20Policy%20-%20Eng.pdf">https://dhp.moph.gov.qa/en/Documents/Break%20in%20Practice%20Policy%20-%20Eng.pdf</a></p>	
<b>Note</b>	<p>The DHP has no objection that the healthcare facility could grant the title "Senior Art Therapist" to its practitioners for the purpose of promotion if they fulfill the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Obtaining PhD degree in Art Therapy.</li> <li>• Completion of 4 years of experience.</li> <li>• Recognized contribution in developing the field of Art Therapy.</li> </ul>