



## No hierarchy, low bureaucracy

IPN makes no distinction between more or less qualified or 'registered' members, since we recognise that there are many routes to being a good practitioner. The structure is horizontal and multi-centred rather than vertical and pyramidal. Our aim is to provide intending clients with a context of basic security within which they can make their own decisions about which practitioner is valuable for them. Rather than using a central code of practice, each peer group creates and circulates its own.

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*IPN: a new model of  
accountability for counsellors,  
psychotherapists, educators,  
and growth and  
allied practitioners.*

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## Open definitions

The Network has no commitment to any particular form of practice, training or therapeutic relationship, since we specifically favour a richly pluralistic and multi-skilled ecology.

The basic unit of the Network is a member group of at least five and usually less than ten practitioners who are willing to stand by each other's work. At the moment some groups are full members, and many others are in a process of formation. You may already be in a potential group; or if you want to form or join one, you may find useful the

## How you can get involved in IPN

# Independent Practitioners Network

## Peer validation

The unit of membership is a group of at least five practitioners who know and stand by each other's work, and who take responsibility for supporting each other's good practice and the good practice of other groups in the network, and for addressing any problems or conflicts in their work. The group seeks to establish the quality of its members' work through face to face interaction. Each group is also required to form cross-links with other groups.

## The structure provides for:

- A powerfully effective means of supporting the interests of both client and practitioner.
- Self and peer assessment and accreditation through a continuing process of monitoring members' work.
- An exciting, stimulating and creative context for ongoing practitioner development.
- The opportunity to deal with difficulties and complaints in an atmosphere of openness and willingness to own mistakes.

## Freedom of practice

We are committed to defending freedom of practice and creating a culture of openness and challenge. The Network grows out of the belief that no organisation has the right or the ability to decide who should practise therapy, facilitation or equivalent skills.

lists we provide of interested individuals and groups open to new members.

Although only a group can become a member of IPN, anyone who attends a meeting is a participant, and all participants are on an equal footing. There are national, regional, and administrative meetings; everyone is welcome to all of them. To receive details...  
**contact one of the addresses overleaf**