

Teletherapy Informed Consent Form

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This document is intended to show that prior to receiving services via teletherapy I was advised of the risks, benefits and alternatives to teletherapy so that I can make an informed decision about receiving these services.

Is teletherapy confidential?

Teletherapy is subject to the same confidentiality protections as other medical treatment information. Doxy.com is the technology service we will use to conduct telehealth videoconferencing appointments. Doxy is HIPPA compliant, end to end encrypted and specifically designed for doctors and patients. Electronic systems used will incorporate network and software security protocols to protect the confidentiality of patient identification and will include measures to safeguard data and to ensure its integrity against intentional or unintentional corruption. However, no guarantee can be made that security protocols cannot be breached causing an unintended disclosure of medical information.

Expected benefits of teletherapy

Protection from in person transmission of illness, as may be possible when therapy is in person

Improved convenience or access to appointments due to the patient being able to attend a session from any location

Improved comfort for the patient due to being in an familiar and safe feeling environment

More efficient Psychiatric evaluation and management

The ability to obtain the consultation of a distant specialist

The alternatives to Teletherapy are In-Person Treatment face to face, however this practice is not offering this type of service at this time.

Possible risks

Risks include but may not be limited to:

Poor transmission resulting in the physician being unable to assess.

Delays due to equipment failure or transmission

In rare circumstances, security protocols could fail, causing a breach of medical or personal information.

Patient rights and responsibilities regarding teletherapy

Videoconferencing technology used by the physician is encrypted to help prevent unauthorized access to personal and medical information

Patients may withdraw their consent to teletherapy at any time, however it is requested that they do so with at least 7 days prior notice so as to allow time to facilitate transfer to another type of treatment

All rules and regulations which apply to the practice of medicine in the state of NY also apply to Teletherapy

Patients may not record any of the session nor may the clinician record the session without first obtaining written consent to do so.

Patients must inform the physician if anyone else is in the room or within earshot of the session before the session commences. Likewise, the clinician must inform the client prior to the session if anyone can see or overhear the session. The presumption is that the session is private and no other parties will be able to see or overhear the session.

Patients are responsible for the configuration of any electronic equipment used on their computers or smartphones which are used for telepsychiatry and will ensure proper functioning of all electronic equipment prior to the start of the session.

In the event of an equipment failure, part or all of the session may be conducted by telephone.

The patient must keep an up to date email and telephone number on file with the clinician throughout the duration of treatment by teletherapy and give the physician permission to contact them by email.

The final decision about whether telepsychiatry is an appropriate modality for treatment for any patient lies at the discretion of the physician.

I have read and understood the above information provided about Teletherapy, have discussed it with my physician and all my questions have been answered to my satisfaction. I hereby give my informed consent for the use of telepsychiatry in my care and authorize my physician Alicia Salzer MD to use teletherapy in the course of my assessment, diagnosis and treatment.

signed _____

date _____