



Client – Counselor Services Agreement HIPAA Notice of Privacy Practices

Effective Date: 08/2019

This notice describes how medical information about you may be used and disclosed and how you can get access to it. Please review carefully. **“Use and disclosure of protected health information for the purposes of providing services.** Providing treatment services, collecting payment and conducting healthcare operations are necessary activities for quality care. State and federal laws allow us to use and disclose your health information for these purposes.”

1. Your medical records are used to provide treatment, bill and receive payments, and conduct healthcare operations. Examples of these activities include but not limited to review of treatment records to ensure appropriate care, electronic or mail delivery of billing for treatment to you or other authorized payers, appointment reminder telephone calls, and records review to ensure completeness and quality of care. Use and disclosure of medical records is limited to the internal use outlined above except required by law or authorized by the client.
2. Federal and State laws require abuse, neglect, domestic violence and threats to be reported to social services or other protective agencies. If such reports are made, they will be disclosed to you or your legal representative unless disclosure increases risk of further
3. Disclosed information will be limited to the minimum necessary. You may request an account for any uses or disclosures other than those described in Sections 1 and Sections 2.
4. You, or your legal representative, may request your records to be disclosed to yourself or any other entity. Your request must be made in writing, clearly identify the person authorized to request the release, specify the information you want disclosed, the name and address of the entity you want the information released to, purpose and the expiration date of the authorization. Any authorization provided may be revoked in writing at any time. Psychotherapy notes are part of your medical records. We have 30 days to respond to a disclosure request and 60 days if the records are stored off site.
5. You may request corrections to your records.
6. A request for disclosure may be denied under the following circumstances: disclosure would likely endanger the life or physical safety of you or another person, requested information references other persons, except another healthcare provider, or if released to a legal representative would likely result in harm.
7. If a request for disclosure is denied for reasons outlined in Section 6, you or your legal representative may request review of the denial. A review will be conducted by another licensed healthcare

provider appointed by the original reviewer, who was not involved in the original decision to deny access. A review will be concluded within 30 days.

8. You may request that we restrict uses and disclosures outlined in Section 1. However, we are not required to agree to the restrictions. If an agreement is made to restrict use or disclosure, we will be bound by such restriction until revoked by you or your legal representative orally or in writing except when disclosure is required by law or in an emergency. We may also revoke such restrictions but information gathered while required by law or in an emergency. We may also revoke such restrictions but information gathered while the restriction was in place will remain restricted by such an agreement.
9. If you wish to complain about privacy or related issues with counselor, you may contact:
 - Complaints Management and Investigation Section
P.O. Box 141369
Austin, Texas 78714-1369
1-800-942-5540
 - In any case there will not be any retaliation against you or your legal representative for filing a complaint.
10. This agreement may be modified or amended as required by law or in the course of health care operations.

Receipt of HIPAA Notice of Privacy Practices

I acknowledge I have read and understand this privacy notice and my rights concerning use and disclosure of protected health care information

Individual or Legal Representative Printed Name Date

Individual or Legal Representative Signature Date