



Informed Consent for Telehealth Services

DEFINITION OF TELEHEALTH

Telehealth involves the use of electronic communications to enable Beacon of Hope's mental health professionals to connect with individuals using interactive video and audio communications. Telehealth includes the practice of psychological health care delivery, diagnosis, consultation, treatment, referral to resources, education, and the transfer of medical and clinical data.

TIME LIMITED OPTION

Beacon of Hope is offering telehealth options due to the unprecedented nature of the COVID-19 virus. Our intent is to offer telehealth in a time-limited fashion, until it is safe and appropriate for in-person, in-office counseling sessions to resume. Clients have the right to withdraw consent to the use of telehealth in the course of care at any time, without affecting their right to future care or treatment. Clients may benefit from telehealth, but the results cannot be guaranteed or assured.

CONFIDENTIALITY

The laws that protect the confidentiality of medical information also apply to telehealth. As such, the information disclosed during the course of therapy is generally confidential. However, there are both mandatory and permissive exceptions to confidentiality, including, but not limited to reporting child, elder, and dependent adult abuse; and threats of violence towards self or an ascertainable victim.

CLIENT RESPONSIBILITY

Clients who consent to telehealth services understand there is a risk of being overheard by anyone nearby if not in a private room while participating in telehealth services. Clients are responsible for (1) providing the necessary computer, telecommunications equipment and internet access for my telehealth sessions, and (2) arranging a location with sufficient lighting and privacy that is free from distractions or intrusions.

RISKS OF TECHNOLOGY USE

Beacon of Hope telehealth services will be provided solely through the secure, HIPAA compliant web platform Doxy.me. There are risks and consequences from telehealth, including, but not limited to, the possibility, despite reasonable efforts on the part of my counselor, that: the transmission of medical information could be disrupted or distorted by technical failures; the transmission of medical information could be interrupted by unauthorized persons; and/or the electronic storage of medical information could be accessed by unauthorized persons.

EMERGENCY PLAN

Beacon of Hope does not provide emergency services. In the case of a technological issue resulting in the disruption of a video telehealth session, the counselor will reach out via telephone to the client. In case of an emergency, the client should call 911.

Client, Parent or Guardian

Date