



INFORMED CONSENT ADDENDUM FOR TELEMENTAL HEALTH

This is to be used in conjunction with, but does not replace, the Informed Consent document that is required of all clients prior to starting therapy services.

What is Telemental Healthcare?

Telemental healthcare includes the practice of diagnosis, treatment, education, goal setting, accountability, referral to resources, problem solving, skills training, and help with decision making through the use of internet-based videoconferencing. Telehealth psychotherapy may include psychological health care delivery, consultation, coaching, and/or counseling. Telehealth psychotherapy will occur primarily through interactive audio, video, and telephone communications.

Risks of Telemental Health

1. Technological failure, such as unclear video, loss of sound, poor connection, or loss of connection.
2. Nonverbal cues are less readily available to both the therapist and the client.

Limits and Expectation of Telemental Health

Telemental health delivery by Susan Marshall, LPC, may occur only with current residents of Georgia. The current laws that protect privacy and confidentiality also apply to telemental health.

No permanent video or voice recordings are kept from telemental health sessions. Clients may not record or store videoconference sessions or face-to-face sessions.

Expectations during each session

- Only agreed upon participants will be present. The presence of any individuals unapproved by both parties and

not part of the treatment plan will be cause for termination of the session.

- The client must disclose the physical address of their location at the start of the session. Unknown locations will

be cause for termination of the session.

- The client shall also provide a phone number where they can be reached in the event of service disruption.

Telemental health may not be the most effective form of treatment for certain individuals or presenting problems. If it is determined that tele mental services are not appropriate, other recommendations will be made. Due to unique restrictions that are a result of the COVID -19 pandemic, face-to-face sessions may not be possible.

Emergency protocol

Client is to provide the name and contact information for an additional person in case of emergency. In addition, in the event of a medical or mental crisis event, Susan Marshall, LPC will contact the client's local emergency services. The contact information for the client's nearest hospital will be on record in the event an admission is necessary to address a client emergency. The information provided will include the nature of the crisis and immediate needs of the client.

Response to technical difficulties

Should technical difficulties cause session disruption, Susan Marshall, LPC will contact the client via preferred telephone contact. If the technical difficulties can be resolved quickly, the session will resume and the client will not experience a shortened session length. If the technical issues cannot be resolved in a timely manner, the session will be rescheduled for a time when functionality is restored. The client will be contacted by telephone to develop a plan for continuation of the session.

Payment

Payment for services is to be made at the time of services via credit card or debit card.

Contact between sessions

Videoconference technology is reserved for scheduled therapy sessions only. All other forms of communication will occur in ways outlined in original informed consent.

Consent to Treatment

I, voluntarily, agree to receive Telemental Healthcare assessment, care, treatment, or services and authorize Susan Marshall, LPC to provide such care, treatment, or services as are considered necessary and advisable. By signing this Informed Consent, I, the undersigned client, acknowledge that I have both read and understood all the terms and information contained herein. Ample opportunity has been offered to me to ask questions and seek clarification of anything unclear to me.

Name of Client or Legal Guardian

Signature of Client or Legal Guardian

Date