

Virginia A. Miller, LCSW-R

863 State Route 9H,

Ghent, NY 12075

(845) 238-4925

Telemental Health Informed Consent

I _____, (name of client) hereby consent to participate in telemental health with _____, (name of provider) as part of my psychotherapy. I understand that telemental health is the practice of delivering clinical healthcare services via technology assisted media or other electronic means between a practitioner and a client who are located in two different locations.

I understand the following with respect to telemental health:

- 1) I understand that I have the right to withdraw consent at any time without affecting my right to future care, services, or program benefits to which I would otherwise be entitled.
- 2) I understand that there are risks and consequences associated with telemental health, including but not limited to, disruption of transmission by technology failures, interruption and/or breaches of confidentiality by unauthorized persons, and/or limited ability to respond to emergencies.
- 3) I understand that there will be no recording of any of the online sessions by either party. All information disclosed within sessions and written records pertaining to those sessions are confidential and may not be disclosed to anyone without written authorization, except where the disclosure is permitted and/or required by law.
- 4) I understand that the privacy laws that protect the confidentiality of my protected health information (PHI) also apply to telemental health unless an exception to confidentiality applies (i.e. mandatory reporting of child, elder, or vulnerable adult abuse; danger to self or others; I raise mental/emotional health as an issue in a legal proceeding).
- 5) I understand that if I am having suicidal or homicidal thoughts, actively experiencing psychotic symptoms or experiencing a mental health crisis that cannot be resolved remotely, it may be determined that telemental health services are not appropriate and a higher level of care is required.
- 6) I understand that during a telemental health session, we could encounter technical difficulties resulting in service interruptions. If this occurs, end and restart the session. If we are unable to

reconnect within ten minutes, please call me at 845-238-4925 to discuss, since we may have to re-schedule.

7) I understand that my therapist may need to contact my emergency contact and/or appropriate authorities in case of an emergency.

Emergency Protocols

I need to know your location in case of an emergency. You agree to inform me of the address where you are at the beginning of each session. I also need a contact person who I may contact on your behalf in a life-threatening emergency only. This person will only be contacted to go to your location or take you to the hospital in the event of an emergency.

In case of an emergency, my location is: _____

My Emergency Contact Person's name, address and phone number are:

8). I understand that my therapist is responsible for maintaining my confidentiality from their location. However, my therapist has no control over my environment where I choose to be during session, and it is my own responsibility to find a comfortable and safe space to have my session and I am responsible for my confidentiality in my own location.

I have read the information provided above and discussed it with my therapist. I understand the information contained in this form and all of my questions have been answered to my satisfaction.

Signature of client

Signature of therapist Date