

GREATER SEACOAST COMMUNITY HEALTH

Notice to Clients and Consent to Tele-Behavioral Health Services Treatment Agreement

1. I understand that tele-Behavioral Health therapy involves the use of an encrypted video application (or via telephone during the COVID19 state of emergency) to communicate with my Behavioral Health therapist during a percentage of my therapy sessions.
2. I understand that tele-Behavioral Health sessions will follow the same format, time-frames and structure as face-face sessions, but will be done over a HIPPA compliant audio/video platform (or via telephone during the COVID19 state of emergency). I understand that information and notes from these sessions will be stored in the same way as face-face Behavioral Health sessions. I also understand that all patient policies and procedures of GSCH continue to apply.
3. I understand that my insurance will be billed as it is during face to face sessions. I understand that any copayments associated with my insurance will be billed to me by mail. I understand if my insurance is found to be inactive I am fully financially responsible for the expenses of the tele- Behavioral Health therapy session.
4. I understand that I have I have the right to withhold or withdraw consent at any time without impacting my right to future treatment or risking the loss or withdrawal of any GSCH services to which I would otherwise be entitled.
5. I understand that the dissemination of any personally identifiable images or information from the tele-Behavioral Health session shall not occur without my written consent.
6. I understand that the laws that protect the confidentiality of my medical information in face-face sessions also apply to tele-Behavioral Health sessions. I understand that the information disclosed to me through tele-behavioral health during the course of my therapy is generally confidential. However, the same mandatory reporting exceptions to confidentiality still apply to tele-behavioral health.
7. I understand that if during a tele-Behavioral Health session, my therapist suspects that I am at imminent risk for harming myself or others, that by law, my therapist must contact the authorities to ensure safety for myself and others.
8. I understand that it is my responsibility to insure the confidentiality of tele-Behavioral Health sessions in the environment in which I participate. I further understand that my provider may also elect to reschedule the session.
9. I understand that there are both risks and benefits associated with tele-Behavioral Health therapy.
 - a. Benefits may include increased access for those who may be challenged by geographic location, transportation, and/or other barriers. Though I understand that I may benefit from tele-Behavioral Health therapy, I also understand that results cannot be guaranteed or assured.
 - b. Risks related to tele-Behavioral Health therapy include certain limits to confidentiality in electronic communication. These risks include, but are not limited to, the possibility, despite reasonable efforts on the part of my behavioral health provider, that the video (or telephone) interaction between me and my behavioral health therapist could be interrupted due to technical failures or faulty internet connection; and the potential for confidentiality breaches due to technical failures. These risks will be offset with the

use of our chosen platform. Furthermore, when using the video platform, the contents of my behavioral health counselor's computer are encrypted to further ensure my privacy and confidentiality.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND ACCEPTANCE

My signature below indicates that I have read and understand this document and have discussed the contents with my Behavioral Health counselor. This signature also indicates my consent for tele-Behavioral Health services.

Patient Name

Date of Birth

Patient or Guardian Signature

Date

Patient Email

Patient Phone Number

Clinician Signature

Date

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