

# CONFIDENTIALITY

All information is confidential **with the following exceptions**. This is not an exhaustive list of instances in which confidentiality may not be honored.

- If there is evidence that a person is gravely disabled or poses an imminent threat to self or others, the therapist can legally take measures to ensure the safety of the individual and others.
- The Colorado Children's Code mandates a therapist must report any suspected or known child abuse (includes emotional, sexual or physical abuse).
- Clients who are minors (under 18 years of age) have limited rights of confidentiality. Professional judgment regarding what is disclosed to the client's parents will be exercised. Typically, the minor will be involved in the decision regarding the sharing of information with the parents or informed of the rationale for sharing information against her/his wishes.
- A client may be asked to sign an authorization permitting the therapist to communicate with another party. The purpose of such communication will be discussed before the release is requested. The highest degree of professionalism is maintained in such communications. The client has the right to refuse to authorize any release of information and to specify what information may be released.
- Insurance companies require a clinical diagnosis and sometimes other clinical information in order to process payment of claims.
- The use of fax, email, cellular phones and other electronic media pose special risks to the confidentiality of communication. All sent and received emails will be printed and filed in the client's file. Upon specific request a specified type of electronic media will not be used for communication of confidential information.
- Non-response to repeated requests for payment of service may be given to an agency for collection purposes.

**I have read and I understand the above statements regarding the exceptions to confidentiality. I agree to the confidentiality exceptions.**

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Client (or parent of minor)

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Date