

THE PSYCHOLOGY CLINIC, Inc.

CLIENT EMAIL AND/OR TEXTING INFORMED CONSENT

Risks of Using Email and/or Texting:

The transmission of client information by email and/or texting has a number of risks that clients should consider prior to the use of email and/or texting. These include, but are not limited to, the following risks:

1. Email and texts can be circulated, forwarded, stored electronically and on paper and broadcast to unintended recipients.
2. Email and text senders can easily misaddress an email or text and send the information to an undesired recipient.
3. Backup copies of emails and texts may exist even after the sender and/or the recipient has deleted his or her copy.
4. Employers and on-line services have the right to inspect emails sent through their company systems.
5. Emails and texts can be intercepted, altered, forwarded or used without authorization or detection.
6. Emails and texts can be used as evidence in court.
7. Emails and texts may not be secure and therefore, it is possible that the confidentiality of such communications may be breached by a third party.

Conditions for the Use of Email and/or Texting:

Therapists cannot guarantee, but will use reasonable means to maintain security and confidentiality of email and text information sent and received. Therapists are not liable for improper disclosure of confidential information that is not caused by the therapists' intentional misconduct.

Clients/parents/legal guardians must acknowledge and consent to the following conditions:

1. Email and texting are not appropriate for urgent or emergency situations. Providers cannot guarantee that any particular email and/or text will be read and responded to within any particular period of time.
2. Email and texts should be concise. Clients/parents/legal guardians should call and/or schedule an appointment to discuss complex and/or sensitive situations.
3. Email will usually be printed and filed into the client's medical records. Texts may be printed and filed as well.
4. Providers will not forward client/parent/legal guardian identifiable emails and/or texts without the client's/parent's/legal guardian's written consent, except as authorized by law.
5. Clients/parents/legal guardians should not use email or texts for communication of sensitive medical information.
6. Providers are not liable for breaches of confidentiality caused by the client or any third party.
7. It is the responsibility of the client/parent/legal guardian to follow up and/or schedule appointments, if warranted.

Client Acknowledgement and Agreement:

I acknowledge that I have read and fully understand this consent form. I understand the risks associated with the communication of email and/or texts between my therapist and me. I consent to the conditions and instructions outlined in this document. I also consent for use of my email for reminder messages about upcoming appointments.

Client Name (Please Print)

Client/Legal Representative Email Address

Client/Legal Representative signature

Date

Provider Representative signature

Date