

LIMITS OF CONFIDENTIALITY

The contents of an assessment session or psychological evaluation are considered to be confidential. Neither verbal information nor written records about a client can be shared with another party without the written consent of the client or the client's legal guardian. It is the policy of this clinic not to relate any information about a client without a signed release of information. Noted exceptions are as follows:

Duty to Warn and Protect: When a client discloses intentions or a plan to harm another person, the health care professional is required to warn the intended victim and report this information to legal authorities. In cases in which the client discloses or implies a plan for suicide, the health care professional is required to notify legal authorities and make reasonable attempts to notify the family of the client.

Abuse of Children and Vulnerable Adults: If a client states or suggests that he or she is abusing a child (or vulnerable adult) or has recently abused a child (or vulnerable adult), or a child (or vulnerable adult) is in danger of abuse, the health care professional is required to report this information to the appropriate social service and/or legal authorities.

Court Orders: Health care professionals are required to release records of clients when a court order has been placed.

School/Family Court Requests for Evaluation: Information collected in psychological evaluations can be released to the school/Family Court. Information that can be released can include any testing material, impressions, and written reports.

For evaluations that are referred and paid for by the school, we prefer to schedule an evaluation review with the parent before sending the report to the school. We will make every effort to schedule this follow-up appointment with the parent in a reasonable amount of time following the evaluation. If the parent does not schedule the follow-up appointment and does not respond to our contact, the evaluation will be sent to the school without that appointment.

Minors/Guardianship: Parents or legal guardians of non-emancipated minor clients have the right to access the client's records.

When fees for service are not paid in timely manner, collection agencies may be utilized in collecting unpaid debts. The specific content of the services (e.g., diagnosis, treatment plan, case notes, testing) is not disclosed. If a debt remains unpaid it may be reported to credit agencies, and the client's credit report may state the amount owed, time frame, and name of the clinic.

Insurance companies and other third-party payers are given information that they request regarding services to clients. Information that may be requested includes type of services, dates/times of services, diagnosis, treatment plan, description of impairment, progress of therapy, case notes, and summaries.

Information about clients may be disclosed in consultations with other professionals in order to provide the best possible treatment. In such cases the name of the client, or any identifying information, is not disclosed. Clinical information about the client is discussed.

I agree to the above limits of confidentiality and understand their meanings and ramifications.

Client's name (please print): _____

Client's (or guardian's) signature: _____ Date: _____

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