

Michelle D. Schwab, Ph.D.

Clinical and Consulting Psychology

178 Middle Street, #300

Portland, ME 04101

(207) 294-1771

Consent for Treatment and Limits of Liability

Limits of Services and Assumption of Risks:

Therapy sessions carry both benefits and risks. Therapy sessions can significantly reduce the amount of distress someone is feeling, improve relationships, and/or resolve other specific issues. However, these improvements and any "cures" cannot be guaranteed for any condition due to the many variables that affect these therapy sessions. Experiencing uncomfortable feelings, discussing unpleasant situations and/or aspects of your life are considered risks of therapy sessions.

Limits of Confidentiality:

What you discuss during your therapy session is kept confidential. No contents of the therapy sessions, whether verbal or written may be shared with another party without your written consent. The following is a list of exceptions:

Duty to Warn and Protect

If you disclose a plan or threat to harm yourself, the therapist must attempt to notify your family and notify legal authorities. In addition, if you disclose a threat or plan to harm another person, the therapist is required to warn the possible victim and notify legal authorities.

Abuse of Children and Vulnerable Adults

If you disclose, or it is suspected, that there is abuse or harmful neglect of children or vulnerable adults (i.e. the elderly, disabled/incompetent), the therapist must report this information to the appropriate state agency and/or legal authorities.

Insurance Providers

Insurance companies and other third-party payers are given information that they request regarding services to their clients.

Subpoena

I must release records upon receipt of an official subpoena by a judge.

The type of information that may be requested includes: types of service, dates/times of service, diagnosis, treatment plan, description of impairment, progress of therapy, case notes, summaries, etc.

By signing below, I agree to the above assumption of risk and limits of confidentiality and understand their meanings and ramifications.

Client Signature

Date

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Cancellation Policy

If you are unable to attend an appointment, I request that you provide at least 24 hours advanced notice to my office. Since I am unable to use this time for another client, please note that you will be billed for the entire cost of your scheduled appointment if it is not timely cancelled, unless such cancellation is due to illness or an emergency.

For cancellations made with less than 24-hour notice (unless due to illness or an emergency) or a scheduled appointment that is completely missed, you will be mailed a bill directly for the full session fee. Note that insurance will not reimburse you for these charges.

I appreciate your help in keeping my office schedule running timely and efficiently.

Client Signature

Date