

CONNECTICUT CENTER FOR NATURAL HEALTH

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CONSENT FOR TELEMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

This form is to be used in conjunction with, but does not replace the signed Service Agreement and Consent for Treatment that is required for all clients receiving services from Sean Macauley.

WHAT IS TELEMENTAL HEALTHCARE?

Telemental health is a subset of telehealth services that uses online, interactive videoconference software to provide mental health services from a distance. Telemental health includes terms such as telepsychology, telebehavioral health, online counseling, and distance counseling. Private insurance companies in CT, NY and many other states are required by law to cover telemental health services. Telehealth does not include the use of fax, audio-only telephone, e-mail, texting or videotelephony products such as FaceTime and Skype.

SOME POTENTIAL RISKS OF TELEMENTAL HEALTH

- Technological failures such as unclear video, loss of sound, poor internet connection or loss of internet connection.
- Nonverbal cues might be more difficult to observe and interpret during therapist and client interactions.
- Must electronically share and sign practice consent forms and accept risks that come with transmitting information and documents over the internet.

BENEFITS OF TELEMENTAL HEALTH

- Less limited by geographical location and transportation concerns
- Decrease in travel time and ability to meet virtually during inclement weather conditions.
- Ability to participate in treatment from your own home or other environment where you feel safe, secure and comfortable.

ELIGIBILITY

Connecticut Center for Natural Health is only able to provide telemental health services to clients located in Connecticut, where Sean Macauley holds a valid license as a Marital and Family Therapist. Clients must present a valid ID during the initial consultation and provide a copy for their medical file. Telemental health may not be the most effective form of treatment for certain individuals. If it is believed the client would benefit better from another form of service (e.g. face-to-face sessions) or another provider, an appropriate recommendation will be made.

PRIVACY AND CONFIDENTIALITY

The current laws that protect privacy and confidentiality also apply to telemental health services. Exceptions to confidentiality are described in the Notice of Privacy Practices. All existing laws regarding client access to mental health information and copies of mental health records apply. Telemental health services are provided through the HIPAA compliant, secure software via Doxy.me. No permanent video or voice recordings are kept from telemental health sessions. Clients may not record or store video from sessions.

CLIENT EXPECTATIONS DURING TELEMENTAL HEALTH SESSIONS

- Mac/PC/Chromebook, smart phone or tablet with camera, microphone and speakers.
- Internet connection with at least 750Kb/s download and upload speeds.
- Access to Google Chrome or Mozilla Firefox (latest release versions) web browsers.
- Proper lighting and seating to ensure a clear image of each party's face.
- Dress and environment appropriate to an in-office visit.
- Engage in sessions in a private location where you cannot be heard by others.
- Only agreed upon participants will be present; the presence of individuals unapproved by both parties will be cause for termination of the session.
- Client must disclose the physical address of their location at the start of the session; unknown locations will be cause for termination of the session

- Client shall provide a phone number where they can be reached in the event of service disruption.

EMERGENCY PROTOCOL

Client is to provide the name and contact information for a local emergency contact. In the case of a mental health emergency during a telemental health session where a client is at imminent risk of harming themselves or someone else, Sean Macauley will contact the client's local emergency services. The contact information for the client's nearest emergency room will also be on record. Release of Information forms will be completed for necessary entities unless confidentiality must be breached to protect the safety of the client or another identified individual.

PAYMENT PROCEDURES

Client must pay for telemental health services using a credit card. The credit card information will be taken verbally before the end of the session. If Client has participating insurance coverage and co-pay details for these specific services, this information must be called into this office prior to the first session and placed on file to be used with each session. It is the client's responsibility to keep this office supplied with current, up to date Insurance details so sessions can be billed accordingly, otherwise credit card information will be requested before the end of the session.

CONSENT FOR TELEMENTAL HEALTH TREATMENT

I hereby consent to engage in telemental health services with Sean Macauley. I understand that telemental health includes mental health care delivery, diagnosis, consultation, treatment, transfer of medical data and education using interactive audio, video and/or data communications. I understand that telemedicine also involves the communication of my medical and mental health information. I have the right to withhold or withdraw consent at any time without affecting my right to future care or treatment

Client Signature/Guardian of Client

Date

Printed Name of Client/Guardian of Client