

Carol Twitchell, Psy.D.

INFORMED CONSENT FOR ONLINE COUNSELING

In addition to the Psychotherapists-Client Service Agreement, we will need to agree to the following prior to starting telepsychology services:

There are potential benefits and risks of telepsychology that differ from in-person sessions. Benefits include being able to continue treatment when obstacles prevent in-person sessions. Risks include limits to client confidentiality as someone may be able to overhear our conversation if you are not in a private place. I plan to work from home as the internet connection is more secure. I will use ear buds to limit anyone from hearing our conversation.

Confidentiality still applies for telehealth services, and nobody will record the session. It is important to be in a quiet, private space that is free of distractions (including pets, children, cell phones or other devices) during the session and using a secure internet connection. You are responsible for protecting your own privacy at home.

We agree to use the online platform I have selected for our virtual sessions, and I will explain how to use it. You need to use a webcam on a laptop or desk top computer during the session for best communication. If you want to use a smartphone, you will need to make a special request.

It is important to use a secure internet connection rather than public/free wifi. If we have technical difficulty, I will call you at the telephone number on your intake form. If there is significant difficulty connecting, I will not charge for the session.

I have a Florida license and have obtained the Authority to Practice Interjurisdictional Telepsychology (APIT) granted by the PSYPACT Commission. This means that I am able to practice in multiple states. I can work with you as long as you are located in Florida or one of the participating states. For a map of participating states: psypact.org/mpage/psypactmap. If you are located in a state that is not participating in PSYPACT, you need to let me know.

I typically accept credit card payments at the time of the session. If paying by check, please make arrangements with me.

By consenting to telepsychology services with Dr. Carol Twitchell, you understand that any of the points mentioned above can be discussed and may be open to change by either of us at any time.