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INFORMED CONSENT FOR IN-PERSON SERVICES DURING COVID-19 PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS

This document contains important information about our decision (yours and mine) to conduct in-person services considering the COVID-19 public health crisis. Please read this carefully and let me know if you have any questions. When you sign this document, it will be an official agreement between us.

Decision to Meet Face-to-Face

We have agreed to meet in person for some or all future sessions. If there is a resurgence of the pandemic or if other health concerns arise, however, I may require that we meet via telepsychology. If you have concerns about meeting through telepsychology, we will talk about it first and try to address these concerns. You understand that, if I believe it is necessary, I may determine that we meet via telepsychology for everyone's well-being. If you decide at any time that you would feel safer with telepsychology services, I will respect that decision, if it is feasible and clinically appropriate.

Risks of Opting for In-Person Services

You understand that by coming to the office, you are assuming the risk of exposure to the coronavirus (or other public health risk). This risk may increase if you travel by public transportation, cab, or ridesharing service.

Your Responsibility to Minimize Your Exposure

To obtain services in person, you agree to take certain precautions which will help keep everyone (you, me, our families, and other patients) safer from exposure, sickness, and possible death. If you do not adhere to these safeguards, it may result in our starting / returning to a telepsychology arrangement. Please initial each to indicate that you understand and agree to these actions:

- You will only keep your in-person appointment if you are symptom free.
- You will take your temperature before coming to each appointment. If it is elevated (above 100 degrees Fahrenheit or more), or if you have other symptoms of the coronavirus, you agree to cancel the appointment or proceed using telehealth. If you wish to cancel for this reason, I will not charge you.
- You will wait in your car, outside the building or in the waiting area, until no earlier than 5 minutes before our appointment time.
- You will wash your hands or use alcohol-based (70% or greater) hand sanitizer when you enter the building.
- You will adhere to the safe distancing precautions we have set up in the waiting room and therapy room. For example, you will not move chairs or sit where we have signs asking you not to sit.
- You will wear a mask in all areas of the office (I will too).
- You will keep a distance of 6 feet and there will be no physical contact (e.g. no shaking hands) with me.

- You will try not to touch your face or eyes with your hands. If you do, you will immediately wash or sanitize your hands. _____
- If you are bringing your child, you will make sure that your child follows all these sanitation and distancing protocols. _____
- You will take steps between appointments to minimize your exposure to COVID. _____
- If you have a job that exposes you to other people who are infected, you will immediately let me know. _____
- If your commute or if other responsibilities or activities put you in close contact with others (beyond your family), you will inform me. _____
- If a resident of your home tests positive for the coronavirus, you will immediately let me know and we will then conduct treatment via telepsychology. _____

I may change the above precautions if additional local, state or federal orders or guidelines are published. If that happens, we will talk about any necessary adjustments.

My Commitment to Minimize Exposure

My practice has taken steps to reduce the risk of spreading the coronavirus within the office and we have posted our efforts on our website and in the office. Please let me know if you have questions about these efforts.

If You or I Are Sick

You understand that I am committed to keeping you, me, and our families safe from the spread of this virus. If you arrive for an appointment and I believe that you have a fever or other symptoms, or believe you have been exposed, I will have to require you to leave the office immediately. We can follow up with services by telepsychology as appropriate. If I test positive for the coronavirus, I will immediately notify you so that you can take appropriate precautions.

Your Confidentiality in the Case of Infection

If you have tested positive for the coronavirus, I may be required to notify local health authorities that you have been in the office. If I must report this, I will only provide the minimum information necessary for their data collection and will not go into any details about the reason(s) for our visits. By signing this form, you are agreeing that I may do so without an additional signed release.

Informed Consent

This agreement supplements the Outpatient Services Contract that we agreed to at the start of our work together.

Your signature below indicates that you agree to these terms and conditions.

Patient

Date

Barry Slone, Ph.D.

Date

Barry Slone, Ph.D.

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Office Safety Precautions in Effect During the Pandemic

My office is taking the following precautions to protect our patients and help slow the spread of the coronavirus.

- Office seating in the waiting and therapy rooms have been arranged for appropriate physical distancing.
- My staff and I wear masks.
- My staff maintains safe physical distancing.
- Restroom soap dispensers are maintained, and everyone is encouraged to wash their hands.
- Hand sanitizer that contains at least 70% alcohol is available in the waiting and therapy rooms.
- We schedule appointments at specific intervals to minimize the number of people in the waiting room.
- We ask all patients to wait in their cars or outside the building until no earlier than 5 minutes before their appointment times.
- Credit card pads, pens and other areas that are commonly touched are thoroughly sanitized after each use.
- Physical contact is not permitted.
- Tissues and trash bins are easily accessed. Trash is disposed of on a frequent basis.
- Common areas are thoroughly disinfected at the end of each day.