



*Behavioral
Psychology
Associates*

AUTHORIZATION FOR TELEHEALTH AND/OR IN-PERSON SESSIONS

This authorization for TELEHEALTH and/or in-person sessions contains important information. Please read this carefully, and let us know if you have any questions. When you sign this document, it will represent an agreement between you and BPA.

TELEHEALTH

Benefits and Risks of TELEHEALTH

TELEHEALTH refers to providing behavioral healthcare treatment services remotely using telecommunications technologies, such as video conferencing or telephone. One of the benefits of TELEHEALTH is that the client and clinician can engage in services without being in the same physical location. This can be helpful in ensuring continuity of care.

TELEHEALTH, however, requires technical competence to be helpful. Although there are benefits of TELEHEALTH, there are some differences between in-person behavioral healthcare treatment and TELEHEALTH as well as some risks. For example: Risks to confidentiality. Because TELEHEALTH sessions take place outside of the clinicians private office, there is potential for other people to overhear sessions if you are not in a private place during the session. It is important for you to make sure you find a private place for the session where your privacy and the session will not be interrupted. It is also important for you to protect the privacy of the session on your cell phone or other device. You should participate in therapy or other meetings only while in a room or area where other people are not present and cannot overhear the conversation. (The extent of confidentiality and the exceptions to confidentiality reviewed in other documents apply to TELEHEALTH.)

Issues related to technology

There are many ways that technology issues might impact TELEHEALTH. For example, technology may stop working during a session, other people might be able to get access to private conversation, or stored data could be accessed by unauthorized people or companies. Should the technology not work properly, the session will occur by phone.

Efficacy

Research shows that TELEHEALTH can be an effective alternative to in-person treatment. However, some clinicians believe something is lost by not conducting sessions in person.

Electronic Communications

You may have to have certain computer or cell phone systems to use TELEHEALTH services. You are solely responsible for any cost to you to obtain any necessary equipment, accessories, or software to take part in TELEHEALTH.

Fees

The same fee rates will apply for TELEHEALTH as apply for in-person therapy or consultation. However, insurance or other managed care providers may not cover sessions that are conducted via telecommunication. You would be responsible for payment if your insurance company does not cover TELEHEALTH.

Recording

The TELEHEALTH sessions shall not be recorded in any way.

Records

A record of the session would be documented in the same way records of in-person sessions are documented.

IN-PERSON SESSIONS

- Please arrive 5 minutes before your scheduled appointment unless otherwise directed.
- You must be fever free for 24 hours prior to your appointment.
- Please do not come in for an in-person session if you believe you have symptoms of an illness. Consider transferring the appointment to telehealth.
- We are committed to keeping you, our staff, and all of our families safe from the spread of illness. If you show up for an appointment and we believe that you have a fever or other symptoms, we would ask you to leave the office. If appropriate, services via Telehealth would be offered as an option.

Informed Consent

This agreement is intended as a supplement to the other authorizations agreed to over the course of your clinical work and does not amend any of the terms of those agreements.

Print patient name	Date	Print parent/guardian name	Date

Patient signature (if 12 or older)	Parent/Guardian signature (if patient a minor)

Print clinician name	Signature	Date