



CONSENT FOR TREATMENT AND OFFICE POLICY

This consent is to certify that you (client) give permission to the clinical staff at the Center for Healthy Sex to provide psychotherapy treatment. This includes the following clinicians: Alexandra Katehakis, MFT, CSAT, CST; Jenner Bishop, MFT, CSAT; Aaron Alan, MFT, CSAT; Christopher Donaghue, MSW, and Meredith Levy, MA. You have a right to terminate the therapeutic relationship at any time without fault.

CHS ORGANIZATION

The clinical staff at CHS works as a treatment team and consults regarding cases, and you authorize the exchange of information between clinicians in order to provide the most effective treatment.

CONFIDENTIALITY

Under most circumstances, all communication between you and your therapist is confidential, unless permission is given by you to convey information to a third party outside of CHS.

There are certain exceptions to this:

- When there is a reasonable suspicion of child abuse, dependent-adult, or elder abuse.
- When a client threatens violence to an identifiable victim.

The law also allows the therapist to break confidence:

- When a client presents a danger of violence to others.
- When a client is likely to harm him/herself unless protective measures are taken.

Disclosure may also be required in certain legal proceedings. *If you have concerns about the content of our sessions and any legal proceedings in which you are involved or expect to be involved (e.g., child custody cases), please let your therapist know.*

Before such disclosure is made, every reasonable effort will be made to appropriately resolve these issues or to notify the client.

CONTACTING THERAPISTS

You may leave a telephone message for your therapist at any time. Please be aware that therapists may not retrieve messages until their regular office hours. **If you have a life-threatening emergency, dial 911.**

APPOINTMENTS

Sessions are 50 minutes in length and begin at the scheduled appointment time. If you arrive late, your session will be shorter; if your therapist arrives late, your session will be extended to make up the time. If you must cancel a session, please let your therapist know at least 24 hours in advance. **You will be responsible for the full fee of any session canceled with less than 24 hours notice.** Appointments must be canceled via voice mail, as email is not checked regularly. For psychotherapy to be most effective, clients must not be under the influence of intoxicating substances. If your therapist feels it necessary, you may be asked to reschedule your appointment for another time; this will be considered a late cancellation.

FEES, BILLING & PAYMENTS

All services are billed at the standard rate. Sliding-scale fees may be established based on ability to pay. Clients pay for services at the beginning of each session, unless other arrangements have been made. Please notify your therapist if any problems arise that affect your ability to make timely payments.

Clinicians at CHS operate as separate business entities. Payment for services is made to individual clinicians. If services are provided by an intern, payment is made to the licensed therapist under whose license the intern is practicing.

If document preparation is required (e.g. legal proceedings, insurance appeals), clinicians reserve the right to bill for services at 50% of full fee.

In order to prevent any misunderstandings about payment for services, please be advised of the following:

- (1) All services provided are billed directly to the client unless other arrangements have been made;
- (2) Clients are personally responsible for payment at time of service via cash, check or money order;
- (3) Statements can be provided for you to submit for insurance reimbursement;
- (4) You are responsible for submitting all claims to your insurance provider;
- (5) If payment is not received when services are rendered, payment plus a 5% fee may be applied to the credit/debit card on file if no other payment arrangements have been made.
- (6) If your credit/debit card is invalid and you have made no other payment arrangements, your past due balance may be sent to an agency for collection.

If you commit to group therapy, the weekly fee for group sessions is due even if you do not attend.

Payment Guarantee: You are individually responsible for all incurred charges, even if you direct us to bill another person. If you direct charges to be billed to another person, you represent that you are authorized to give you such direction. If you have directed charges to be billed to another person who fails to make payment, you will promptly pay on demand.

REGISTERED MFT INTERNS

If your therapist is an intern, s/he is an unlicensed counselor who will be consulting regularly regarding your case with their supervisor, the licensed Marriage and Family Therapist under whose license your intern is practicing.

MINOR CLIENTS

In the event that client is a minor (under age 18), signature of parent/guardian indicates permission to treat.

I have read, understand and agree to the information, guidelines and office policies stated in this Consent for Treatment.

Signature

Date

Printed Name