

Jeffrey M. Brandler, EdS CAS
Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist
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NOTICE OF PRIVACY PRACTICES – BRIEF VERSION

THIS NOTICE DESCRIBES HOW MEDICAL INFORMATION ABOUT YOU MAY BE USED AND DISCLOSED AND HOW YOU CAN GET ACCESS TO THIS INFORMATION. PLEASE REVIEW IT CAREFULLY.

Our commitment to your privacy

Our practice is dedicated to maintaining the privacy of your personal health information as part of providing professional care. We also are required by law to keep your information private. These laws are complicated, but we must give you this important information. This pamphlet is a shorter version of the full, legally required NPP which you received along with this so refer to it for more information. However, we can't cover all possible situations so please talk to me about any questions or problems.

We will use the information about your health which we get from you or from others mainly to provide you with **treatment**, to arrange **payment** for our services, and for some other business activities which are called, in the law, health care **operations**. After you have read this NPP we will ask you to sign a **Consent Form** to let us use and share your information. If you do not consent and sign this form, we cannot treat you.

If we or you want to use or disclose (send, share, release) your information for any other purposes we will discuss this with you and ask you to sign an Authorization form to allow this.

Of course we will keep your health information private but there are some times when the laws require us to use or share it. For example:

1. When there is a serious threat to your health and safety or the health and safety of another individual or the public. We will only share information with a person or organization who is able to help prevent or reduce the threat.
2. Some lawsuits and legal or court proceedings.
3. If a law enforcement official requires to do so.
4. For Workers Compensation and similar benefit programs.

There are some other situations like these but which don't happen very often. They are

described in the longer version of the NPP.

Your rights regarding your health information

1. You can ask us to communicate with you about your health and related issues in a particular way or at a certain place which is more private for you. For example, you can ask us to call you at home, and not at work to schedule or cancel an appointment. We will try our best to do as you ask.
2. You have the right to ask us to limit what we tell people involved in your care or the payment for your care, such as family members and friends. While we don't have to agree to your request, if we do agree, we will keep our agreement except if it is against the law, or in an emergency, or when the information is necessary to treat you.
3. You have the right to look at the health information we have about you such as your medical and billing records. You can even get a copy of these records but we may charge you.
4. If you believe the information in your records is incorrect or missing important information, you can ask us to make some kinds of changes (called amending) to your health information. You have to make this request in writing to me. You must tell us the reasons you want to make the changes.
5. You have the right to a copy of this notice. If we change this NPP we will post the new version in our waiting area and you can always get a copy of the NPP at www.changeispossible.org.
6. You have the right to file a complaint if you believe your privacy rights have been violated. You can file a complaint with our Privacy Officer and with the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services. All complaints must be in writing. Filing a complaint will not change the health care we provide to you in any way.

The effective date of this notice is April 14, 2003

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Consent to use and disclose your health information

This form is an agreement between you, _____ and Jeffrey M. Brandler, EdS CAS.

When we examine, diagnose, treat, or refer you we will be collecting what the law calls Protected Health Information (PHI) about you. We need to use this information here to decide on what treatment is best for you and to provide treatment to you. We may also share this information with others who provide treatment to you or need it to arrange payment for your treatment or for other business or government functions.

By signing this form you are agreeing to let us use your information here and send to others. The Notice of Privacy Practices explains in more detail your rights and how we can use and share your information. Please read this before you sign this Consent form.

If you do not sign this consent form agreeing to what is in our Notice of Privacy Practices we cannot treat you.

In the future we may change how we use and share your information and so may change our Notice of Privacy Practices. If we do change it, you can get a copy from our Web Site, www.changeispossible.org

If you are concerned about some of your information, you have the right to ask us to not use or share some of your information for treatment, payment or administrative purposes. You will have to tell us what you want in writing. Although we will try to respect your wishes, we are not required to agree to these limitations. However, if we do agree, we promise to comply with your wish.

After you have signed this consent, you have the right to revoke it (by writing a letter telling us you no longer consent) and we will comply with your wishes about using or sharing your information from that time on but we may already have used or shared some of your information and cannot change that.

Signature of client or his or her personal representative Date

Printed name of client or personal representative Relationship to the client

Date of NPP _____ Copy give to the client/parent/personal representative

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CONSENT TO TREATMENT

I do hereby seek and consent to take part in the treatment by the therapist named above. I understand that developing a treatment plan with this therapist and regularly reviewing our work toward meeting the treatment goals are in my best interest. I agree to play an active role in this process.

I understand that no promises have been made to me as to the results of treatment or of any procedures provided by this therapist. I am aware that I may stop my treatment with this therapist at any time. The only thing I will still be responsible for is paying for the services I have already received. I understand that I may lose other services or may have to deal with other problems if I stop treatment. (For example, if my treatment has been court-ordered, I will have to answer to the court.)

I know that I must call to cancel an appointment at least 24 hours before the time of the appointment. If I do not cancel or do not show up, I will be charged *in full* for that appointment.

I understand that if payment for the services I receive here is not made, the therapist may stop my treatment.

My signature below shows that I understand and agree with all of these statements.

Signature of client (or person acting for client)

Date

Printed name

I, the therapist, have discussed the issues above with the client (and/or his or her parent, guardian, or other representative). My observations of this person's behavior and responses give me no reason to believe that this person is not fully competent to give informed and willing consent.

Signature of therapist

Date

This is a strictly confidential patient medical record. Rediscovery or transfer is expressly prohibited by law.

