



Consent for Treatment Via Telehealth

Patient Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____ Medical Record# _____

Location of Patient: _____ Clinician Name: _____ Location: _____

Telehealth involves the use of interactive 2-way video and audio communication (also known as Telemedicine) to conduct a “virtual office visit,” as well as transmission of still images. The information provided over telemedicine may be used for diagnosis, therapy, follow-up, and education.

Electronic systems used for Telehealth incorporate reasonable network and software security protocols and encryption to protect the confidentiality of Protected Health Information and include measures to safeguard the data and to ensure the integrity against intentional or unintentional corruption consistent with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA).

Potential Benefits:

- Improved access to convenient medical care.
- More efficient medical evaluation and management.
- Obtaining the expertise of a distant specialist.
- Continuous continuity of care.

Possible Risks:

- As with any medical procedure, there are potential risks associated with the use of Telehealth. These risks include, but may not be limited to:
- In rare cases, information transmitted may not be enough (e.g. poor resolution of images) to allow for appropriate medical decision making by the physician and consultant(s).
- Delays in medical evaluation and treatment could occur due to deficiencies or failure of the equipment.
- In very rare instances, security protocols could fail, causing a breach of privacy or personal medical information.
- In rare cases, a local loss of access to complete medical records may result in adverse drug interactions or allergic reactions or other judgment errors.

Special Risks Associated with Home Computers:

Plymouth Psych Group cannot control the security of the computer you choose to use for Telehealth communications or the location where you choose to use it. Even though a platform is secured over the internet, viruses, malware, spyware, and other programs can be installed on the computer itself without a user’s knowledge and could be used to record the audio and video of a Telehealth session without your knowledge. Unencrypted or poorly encrypted wireless networks could also allow someone to intercept the audio and video being transmitted over the network. Plymouth Psych Group therefore recommends that you only use a privately owned personal computer with up to date antivirus software in a room of your own home that is conversationally private. You assume all risks of your telemedicine session being recorded, seen and/or heard by unauthorized persons.

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