

**INFORMED CONSENT FOR TELEPHONE,
ELECTRONIC, AND MAIL CONTACT**

This office makes every effort to ensure the confidentiality of its patients. All therapy records are kept in locked files and/or voice mailboxes accessible only to Deborah Wagner, Ph.D. Records pertaining to medical billing are also accessible to billing personnel. However, when insurance claims are filed, this office cannot ensure confidentiality once claims have left the office.

Privacy precautions such as pin codes, voicemail boxes, locked faxes, mail and computers are by no means foolproof, so that *your confidentiality may be compromised* when communicating by electronic devices or mail. Your use of such means of communication with Deborah Wagner, Ph.D. constitutes implied consent for reciprocal use of electronic and mail communication as well.

It is the consensus of mental health professionals that reliable and valid psychotherapy be conducted in a face-to-face setting. However, there may be times or circumstances under which telephone, e-mail, postal, or other kinds of communication may have limited value, such as:

1. Brief, between-session contact calls, e-mail, or mail messages.
2. Long distance communication when either party is out of town or otherwise unavailable.
3. Long distance communication when therapy seems near its natural termination and either party relocates, making regular standard sessions impossible. Electronic communication is always incomplete without standard, agreed-upon, and periodic face-to-face contact.
4. Extenuating circumstances which prohibit the patient from having a face-to-face office session.

I am aware of the limited validity and reliability of telephone and other kinds of electronic and mail communication as suggested above. I am further aware that I am not guaranteed confidentiality when I contact or receive such contacts from Deborah Wagner, Ph.D. I understand that the purposes for engaging in telephone, electronic, or mail communication must be limited in scope and time.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Client