

INNOVATIVE COUNSELING SERVICES

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Telepsychology Services Consent Form

Definition of Services: Telepsychology services (also known as, **Teletherapy**) is a form of psychological service provided via secure internet technology. It has the same purpose or intention as psychotherapy or psychological treatment sessions that are conducted face-to-face at the offices of Innovative Counseling Services, Inc.

Due to the nature of the technology used, Telepsychology services may be experienced somewhat differently than face-to-face treatment sessions. Telepsychology involves arranging an appointment time with the client at their computer and the psychological service provider (therapist) interfacing from their computer via the internet.

Client Requirements: You, the client, need to be a resident of Pennsylvania. Most of the Telepsychology sessions need to be conducted in Pennsylvania. If you are vacationing or visiting outside of Pennsylvania, you can use Telepsychology services to have a session or two with your therapist. For example, if you winter in Florida but see your therapist at other times of the year, you can have sessions during your stay in Florida.

Please be aware that your provider may request that you attend 1-2 sessions in person prior to proceeding with Telepsychology sessions; this is decided on an individual basis by the Psychologist or Psychological Associate.

Clients who are actively at risk of harm to self or others are not suitable for Telepsychology services. If this is the case or becomes the case in future, speak to your treatment provider and more appropriate services will be provided or recommended.

Technology Requirements: You will need a computer with internet access and webcam ability. You will also need access to a regular phone in the same room.

Our Telepsychology Service Provider and Efforts at Quality and Security:

We are using VSee as the securest providers of this technology that we could find. We have reviewed their services and our privacy and confidentiality standards and have chosen the most secure vehicle we could. Please feel free to ask us further questions if you have concerns.

Risks and Rights in using Telepsychology:

1. You have the right to withdraw consent at any time. It will not affect your right to further treatment.
2. The therapist (or, psychological service provider) has the right, at any time, to determine if Telepsychology sessions are not appropriate for your case. Should this be determined, they are obliged to continue with face-to-face services or provide referral information to other services.
3. The laws and professional standards that apply to regular psychological services apply to Telepsychology services.
4. There are exceptions to client confidentiality policies that exist for regular therapy; these also apply to Telepsychology services. If you need more information on such exceptions, please consult the Client Confidentiality Form provided by your therapist, or speak to them directly. This form is also available on our website at [\(link\)](#).
5. Despite best efforts to ensure high encryption and secure technology, there is always a risk that the transmission be breached and accessed by unauthorized persons.
6. There is a risk that services could be disrupted or distorted by unforeseen technical problems.
7. There is a risk of being overheard by anyone near you if you do not place yourself in a private room. You, the client, are responsible for creating a comfortable safe environment on your end of the transmission. It is the responsibility of the psychological treatment provider to do the same on their end.
8. Due to the nature of the interaction, there may be quality differences that are experienced when compared to face-to-face services. You may provide feedback to your therapist should you find the quality insufficient for your needs.

Date:

Your Signature:

Print Name:

Psychological Treatment Provider: _____

If signing remotely, please fax this form to 866-470-6121