

RENÉE BIBEAULT, M.D.  
PSYCHIATRY FOR WOMEN

## INFORMED CONSENT FOR TELEMEDICINE

### WHAT IS TELEMEDICINE?

“Telemedicine” is the provision of medical and psychiatric services when the physician and the patient are in separate locations, and the services are provided over electronic media. These services rely on several electronic, often internet-based, technology tools, which can include videoconferencing software, email, text messaging, telephone calls, virtual environments, and specialized apps.

I will be providing telemedicine services via cellular telephone unless special arrangement is made to use a videoconferencing app (Doxy or Zoom.)

You will need:

- A mobile or landline telephone
- A phone number exclusive to you (no family lines)
- A payment app, either Zelle, Venmo or PayPal
- If using videoconferencing software, access to a desktop or laptop computer that has the app installed

### BENEFITS AND RISKS

Benefits can include:

- Receiving services at times when or in places where services may be otherwise unavailable
- Receiving services in a fashion that may be more convenient and, at times, required by incapacity or vulnerability to illness
- Receiving services when you are unable to travel to the provider’s office

Risks can include:

- Access to cellular networks or to software that could cease working or become too unstable to use
- Malicious actors (hackers) may have the ability to access your PHI as it is transmitted in the process of the telemedicine delivery
- Hardware can have sudden failures or run out of power mid-session or local services can be interrupted at significant moments and I may be unable to reach you to reconnect
- Lack of in-person contact or presence in the distance between us may pose a difficulty which may be challenging to impossible to remedy remotely. These challenges can be processed with me as it is deemed important by either one or both of us.

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### YOUR OWN ENVIRONMENT AND CONFIDENTIALITY

You will be responsible for creating a safe and confidential space during your telemedicine sessions. It's important you consider spaces that are free of other people or of the possibility of being overheard or observed in any other way. Please ask me if you need assistance with managing your privacy during your telemedicine sessions.

You also agree that while receiving medical services by phone or videoconference, you will be fully engaged in the interaction and will not multi-task.

### YOUR SECURITY AND PRIVACY

Cellular technology is not encrypted and is not guaranteed to protect your PHI. Videoconferencing software I use for this purpose conforms to HIPAA protocols for protecting PHI.

It is agreed that no recordings of your session – by you or by me – will take place. Recordings can quickly and easily be repeated and distributed in ways that compromise your privacy.

### OUR COMMUNICATION PLAN

Please be sure I have your current phone number if we've agreed to phone appointments. If using a videoconferencing platform, please make sure you have the software installed, and know how to join a meeting (Zoom) or "enter the waiting room" (Doxy). I will initiate the call or the meeting at the designated time. If you don't respond to the call or have not joined the meeting within 3 attempts, the appointment is considered a no-show. If technical or service issues interfere with a call already under way, we can discuss, by alternate means such as text or email if necessary, how we want to proceed. In all cases of no-shows or interruptions, the appointment fee still applies; in the case of interruptions a mutually workable alternative can be proposed.

Sessions will be the standard 20 minutes for medication management visits and 45 minutes for psychotherapy visits.

### INSURANCE AND PAYMENTS

I am out-of-network with all insurance providers, and insurers differ widely in whether and how they reimburse for telemedicine services. It is your responsibility to know the details of any out-of-network insurance coverage.

**IMPORTANT:** All telemedicine visits must be pre-paid, no later than 2 hours prior to the start of the session. If pre-payment is not made by that time, the appointment will not go forward, and will be billed as a no-show. Most patients find it easiest to issue payment the day before the appointment. Payment can be made using one of the following methods, using the payee IDs indicated.

Zelle: use payee ID 206-459-7195

Venmo: use payee ID @Renee-Bibeault


PayPal: use payee ID dr@psychiatryforwomen.com

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**AGREEMENT AND SIGNATURES**

My signature indicates that I have read, understand and agree to the terms of this Consent for Telemedicine, including the pre-payment policy:

Patient's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Physician's Signature 

Date 5/16/20