

# **Confidentiality Addendum for Minors and Parents**



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Patients under 14 years of age who are not emancipated and their parents should be aware that the law allows parents to examine their child's treatment records unless the psychotherapist decides that such access would injure the child, or we agree otherwise. Children between 14 and 18 years of age may independently consent to and receive up to 6 sessions of psychotherapy (provided within a 30 day period) and no information about those sessions can be disclosed to anyone without the child's agreement. While privacy in psychotherapy is often crucial to successful progress, particularly with teenagers, parental involvement is also essential to successful treatment.

For children 14 and over, it is our policy to request an agreement between the patient and his/her parents allowing the therapist to share general information about the progress of their child's treatment and his/her attendance at scheduled sessions. The therapist may also provide parents with a summary of their child's treatment when it is complete. Any other communication will require the child's Authorization, unless the therapist feels that the child is in danger or is a danger to someone else, in which case, they will notify the parents of any concern. Before giving parents any information, the therapist will discuss the matter with the child, if possible, and do what is best to handle any objections that might occur.

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Parent signature

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Date