

# INFORMED CONSENT FOR IN-PERSON SERVICES DURING [COVID-19] PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS

This document contains important information about our decision (yours and Chrysalis's) to resume inperson services in light of the COVID-19 public health crisis. Please read this carefully and let your provider or administrative staff know if you have any questions. When you sign this document, it will be an official agreement between client and Chrysalis.

#### **Decision to Meet Face-to-Face**

We have agreed to meet in person for some or all future sessions. If there is a resurgence of the pandemic or if other health concerns arise, however, we may require that we meet via telehealth. If you have concerns about meeting through telehealth, we will talk about it first and try to address any issues. You understand that, if we believe it is necessary, we may determine that we return to telehealth for everyone's well-being.

If you decide at any time that you would feel safer staying with, or returning to, telehealth services, we will respect that decision, as long as it is feasible and clinically appropriate. Reimbursement for telehealth services, however, is also determined by the insurance companies and applicable law, so that is an issue we may also need to discuss with the administrative team.

## **Risks of Opting for In-Person Services**

You understand that by coming to the office, you are assuming the risk of exposure to the coronavirus (or other public health risk). This risk may increase if you travel by public transportation, cab, or ridesharing service.

### Your Responsibility to Minimize Your Exposure

To obtain services in person, you agree to take certain precautions which will help keep everyone (you, your providers, and our families, all staff and other clients) safer from exposure, sickness and possible death. If you do not adhere to these safeguards, it may result in our starting / returning to a telehealth arrangement. Initial each to indicate that you understand and agree to these actions:

	You will only keep your in-person appointment if you are symptom free
	You will take your temperature before coming to each appointment. If it is elevated (100
	Fahrenheit or more), or if you have other symptoms of the coronavirus, you agree to cancel the
	appointment or proceed using telehealth. If you wish to cancel for this reason, we won't charge
	you our normal cancellation fee
	You will wait in your car or outside until no earlier than 5 minutes before our appointment time.
	You will wash your hands or use alcohol-based hand sanitizer when you enter the building
	You will adhere to the safe distancing precautions we have set up in the waiting room and
	testing/therapy room. For example, you won't move chairs or sit where we have signs asking you
	not to sit
	You will keep a distance of 6 feet and there will be no physical contact (e.g. no shaking hands)
	with our staff
	You will try not to touch your face or eyes with your hands. If you do, you will immediately wash
	or sanitize your hands



	You will limit bringing anyone else to the office with you. In some circumstances, you may need
	to bring someone; we ask that you discuss this with the administrative staff and gain prior
	approval to bring other(s) with you. If you are bringing anyone with you, you will make sure that
	everyone follows all these sanitation and distancing protocols
	You will take steps between appointments to minimize your exposure to COVID
	If you have a job that exposes you to other people who are infected, you will immediately let our
	staff know
	If your commute or other responsibilities or activities put you in close contact with others
	(beyond your family), you will let our staff know
	If a resident of your home tests positive for the infection, you will immediately let our staff know
	and we will then resume treatment via telehealth
	We strongly suggest that you bring and wear a mask in all public areas of the office.

We may change the above precautions if additional local, state or federal orders or guidelines are published. If that happens, we will talk about any necessary changes.

### **Our Commitment to Minimize Exposure**

Our practice has taken steps to reduce the risk of spreading the coronavirus within the office and we have posted our efforts on our website and in the office. Please let us know if you have questions about these efforts.

#### If You or I Are Sick

You understand that we are committed to keeping you, our staff, and all of our families safe from the spread of this virus. If you show up for an appointment and our office staff believe that you have a fever or other symptoms, or believe you have been exposed, we will have to require you to leave the office immediately. We can follow up with services by telehealth as appropriate.

If your provider tests positive for the coronavirus, we will notify you so that you can take appropriate precautions.

### Your Confidentiality in the Case of Infection

If you have tested positive for the coronavirus, we may be required to notify local health authorities that you have been in the office. This notification is also covered by our Notice of Privacy Practices that you signed before your first appointment. If we have to report this, we will only provide the minimum information necessary for their data collection and will not go into any details about the reason(s) for our visits. By signing this form, you are acknowledging that we may do so without an additional signed release.

#### **Informed Consent**

This agreement supplements the Informed Consents, Client Rights & Responsibilities, Privacy Practices, and Financial Agreement(s) that we agreed to at your first appointment.

Your signature below shows that you agree to these terms and conditions.



Client/Representative Signature	Date
Chrysalis Staff Signature	Date



[Below is a sample notice to post in the office / on your website. Customize for your practice.]

## Office Safety Precautions in Effect During the Pandemic

Our office is taking the following precautions to protect our clients and help slow the spread of the coronavirus.

- Office seating in the waiting room and in therapy/testing rooms has been arranged for appropriate physical distancing.
- Our staff and I wear masks.
- Our staff maintains safe distancing.
- Restroom soap dispensers are maintained and everyone is encouraged to wash their hands.
- Hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol is available in the therapy/testing rooms, the waiting room and at the reception counter.
- We schedule appointments at specific intervals to minimize the number of people in the waiting room.
- We ask all clients to wait in their cars or outside until no earlier than 5 minutes before their appointment times.
- Credit card pads, pens and other areas that are commonly touched are thoroughly sanitized after each use.
- Physical contact is not permitted.
- Tissues and trash bins are easily accessed. Trash is disposed of on a frequent basis.
- Common areas are thoroughly disinfected at the end of each day.