

Confidentiality

In general, the law protects the confidentiality of all communications between a client and a mental health provider. You may request that information about your therapy be released to others outside of Sam Beckmann Mental Health by completing a written Release of Information (ROI)/ Authorization, these can be revoked at any time.

Under the HIPAA Privacy Practices, what is discussed in sessions is confidential; however, there are a few exceptions including:

- There is a risk of imminent danger to yourself or another person, the clinician is ethically bound to take necessary steps to prevent such danger.
- There is confirmation or a reasonable suspicion that a child, dependent and/or elderly person is being abused, the clinician is legally required to take steps to protect the individual, and to inform the proper authorities.
- A valid court order is issued for medical records, the clinician and the agency are bound by law to comply with such requests. If this clinician needs to appear in court on behalf of the client, this clinician reserves the right to charge the client.

Confidentiality in Public Settings

Depending on the area you reside in, it is possible to see each other in other public settings. In order to protect your confidentiality, I will not acknowledge you first. You are welcome to acknowledge me and introduce me in the way that is most comfortable to you and I will respond.