

# Evolution Mental Health Counseling, PLLC

3306 East Main Street, Endwell NY 13760

607-766-5594

## HIPAA Notice of Privacy Practices

Your Information. Your Rights. Our Responsibilities.

This notice describes how medical information about you may be used and disclosed and how you can get access to this information. Please review it carefully.

“Protected Health Information“ (PHI) is information about you, including demographic information, that may identify you or be used to identify you, and that relates to your past, present or future physical or mental health or condition, the provision of health care services, or the past, present or future payment for the provision of health care.

### Your Rights Regarding Your PHI

You have the right to:

- Request confidential communication
- Ask us to limit the information we share
- Get a copy of this privacy notice
- Choose someone to act for you
- File a complaint if you believe your privacy rights have been violated

### Our Uses and Disclosures

We may use and share your information as we:

- Treat you
- Run our organization
- Bill for your services
- Help with public health and safety issues
- Comply with laws that may be in place now or in the future

### Your Rights

When it comes to your health information, you have certain rights. This section explains your rights and some of our responsibilities to help you.

#### Request confidential communications

- You can ask us to contact you in a specific way (for example, home or office phone) or to send mail to a different address.
- We will say “yes” to all reasonable requests.

#### Ask us to limit what we use or share

- You can ask us not to use or share certain health information for treatment, payment, or our operations. We are not required to agree to your request, and we may say “no” if it would affect your care.
- If you pay for a service or health care item out-of-pocket in full, you can ask us not to share that information for the purpose of payment or our operations with your health insurer. We will say “yes” unless a law requires us to share that information.

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Choose someone to act for you

- If you have given someone medical power of attorney or if someone is your legal guardian, that person can exercise your rights and make choices about your health information.
- We will make sure the person has this authority and can act for you before we take any action.

File a complaint if you feel your rights are violated

- You can complain if you feel we have violated your rights by contacting us at [ehcmanager@gmail.com](mailto:ehcmanager@gmail.com)

Get a copy of this privacy notice

- You may ask for a paper copy of this notice at any time.

## Your Choices

For certain health information, you can tell us your choices about what we share. If you have a clear preference for how we share your information in the situations described below, talk to us. Tell us what you want us to do, and we will follow your instructions. In these cases, you have both the right and choice to tell us to:

- Share information with your family, close friends, or others involved in your care. If you are not able to tell us your preference, for example if you are unconscious, we may go ahead and share your information if we believe it is in your best interest. We may also share your information when needed to lessen a serious and imminent threat to health or safety.

- In these cases we never share your information unless you give us written permission:  
Sharing of psychotherapy notes

Our Uses and Disclosures: IF you give us permission, how would we typically use or share your health information?

Treat you

- We can use your health information and share it with other professionals who are treating you. Run our organization
- We can use and share your health information to run our practice, improve your care, and contact you when necessary.

Bill for your services

- We can use and share your health information to bill and get payment from health plans or other entities.

## How else can we use or share your health information?

We are allowed or required to share your information in other ways - usually in ways that contribute to the public good, such as public health and research. We have to meet many conditions in the law before we can share your information for these purposes. For more information see:

[www.hhs.gov/ocr/privacy/hipaa/understanding/consumers/index.html](http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/privacy/hipaa/understanding/consumers/index.html).

Help with public health and safety issues

We can share health information about you for certain situations such as:

- Reporting suspected abuse, neglect, or domestic violence
- Preventing or reducing a serious threat to anyone's health or safety

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## Comply with the law

We will share information about you if state or federal laws require it, including with the Department of Health and Human Services if it wants to see that we're complying with federal privacy law.

We can use or share health information about you:

- For law enforcement purposes or with a law enforcement official
- With health oversight agencies for activities authorized by law

Respond to lawsuits and legal actions

- We can share health information about you in response to a court or administrative order from a Judge, at our discretion

## Our Responsibilities

- We are required by law to maintain the privacy and security of your protected health information.
- We will let you know promptly if a breach occurs that may have compromised the privacy or security of your information.
- We must follow the duties and privacy practices described in this notice and give you a copy of it.
- We will not use or share your information other than as described here unless you tell us we can in writing. If you tell us we can, you may change your mind at any time. Let us know in writing if you change your mind.

For more information, see: [www.hhs.gov/ocr/privacy/hipaa/understanding/consumers/noticepp.html](http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/privacy/hipaa/understanding/consumers/noticepp.html).

## Changes to the Terms of this Notice

We can change the terms of this notice, and the changes will apply to all information we have about you. The new notice will be available upon request, in our office, and on our website.

## Acknowledgement

Your signature below indicates that you have read this Notice of Privacy Practice and agree to their terms.

\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_  
(PRINT **CLIENT'S** NAME)

\_\_\_\_\_ (SIGNATURE OF CLIENT or REPRESENTATIVE) \_\_\_\_\_ (RELATION TO CLIENT)

----- **BELOW FOR OFFICE USE ONLY** -----

\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_  
(SIGNATURE OF WITNESS)