

# Counseling Connections

## Acknowledgement of Clinical Practice Information

I acknowledge the receipt of Counseling Connections Informed Consent Policy, Social Media Policy, Office Policy and Agreement for Psychotherapy Services. I agree to the terms of these policies and agree to comply with these policies. All policies will be available on the Counseling Connection website and I may request a copy at any time.

I understand the licenses held by the providers of Counseling Connections. In particular, Omega J. Galliano, M.S., is a Licensed Alcohol and Drug Counselor (619-L) and Marriage and Family Therapist (0551) in the State of Nevada and in the State of Iowa (086515) as well as a Licensed Psychologist (LP0146) in the State of Minnesota.

I attest to the receipt of the HIPAA Notice of Privacy Practices for my review. I understand that the HIPAA form will be available on the Counseling Connection website and I may request a copy at any time.

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Signature (Client 1)

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Date

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Signature (Client 2)

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Date

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Signature (Client 3)

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Date

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Signature (Client 4)

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Date

*Counseling Connections*

*Patient Information*

**Please fill out the following information form completely and sign.**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Patient:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date of Birth:** \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ **Sex:** M  F  **Ethnicity:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Home Telephone:**(\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ **Work Telephone:**(\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

**SS#** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Employer/School:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Marital Status:** Married  Single  Divorced  Widowed  Partner

**Emergency Contact** \_\_\_\_\_ **Telephone:** \_\_\_\_\_

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**Health Insurance Information**

**Primary Insurance:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name of Insurance Holder:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Insurance ID Number:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Group Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Present insurance card so copy can be made for file.**

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### Clinical Information

**Relevant Medical Conditions (history, current condition, changes in condition):**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Medications (dosage, dates of initial prescription, name of prescriber):**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Allergies/adverse reactions to treatment:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Primary Care Physician:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_ **City:** \_\_\_\_\_

**State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Telephone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_**

**Reasons for seeking counseling today (include prior history of counseling for mental health, alcohol or other drug problems):**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### Consent Statement

I hereby authorize Counseling Connections to release to my insurance company, or its representatives, any information including the diagnosis and the records of any treatment provided to me during the course of treatment.

I authorize and request that my insurance company pay directly to Counseling Connections the amount due for services. I agree that I will be responsible for all co-pays, deductibles, and non-covered services. I further accept responsibility for verifying my insurance coverage. I understand and agree to a charge of the standard hourly rate should I miss an appointment or fail to cancel prior to 24 hours of the appointment time.

I understand that, in the event of non-payment, for any reason on my part, that counseling Connections may turn the balance over to a collection agency.

**Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Clinician's Name & Degree:** *Omega J. Galliano, MS*

**Clinician's Signature** *Omega J. Galliano* **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

## Payment Expectations

### In-Office Sessions:

All payment or co-payment is due at the time of the session unless other arrangements have been made. Private pay, insurance, or employee assistance programs are common payment options. We will file your insurance claim if we are a contracted provider, but you are responsible for contacting your insurance company for pre-authorization prior to your first session.

Further, you are responsible for deductibles, co-insurance, and co-payments and to familiarize yourself with your insurance benefits. If your account has not been paid for more than 60 days and arrangements for payment have not been agreed upon, we have the option of using legal means to secure the payment. This may involve hiring a collection agency or going through small claims court which will require me to disclose otherwise confidential information. In most collection situations, the only information we release regarding a patient's treatment is his/her name, the nature of services provided and the amount due. (If such legal action is necessary, its costs will be included in the claim.)

### Telemental Health Sessions:

Payments via credit or debit card can be processed through **Square** and are due prior to beginning treatment. At this time, many insurance companies do not cover Telemental health, however more are doing so. Please contact your insurance company or employee assistance program for information regarding your particular policy.

By signing this, I agree to, and understand, the payment terms as described above:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Client Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Counseling Connections  
Release of Information Authorization**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_  
(Print Name) (Social Security Number)

Hereby give permission to: \_\_\_\_\_ to disclose the

Following information to: \_\_\_\_\_ in connection with my case.

- Diagnostic Assessment
- Treatment Plan
- Progress Notes
- Substance Abuse Evaluation
- Treatment Recommendations
- Expected length of treatment
- Entire Record
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

The purpose for such disclosure is:

- To provide continuity of care
- To permit processing of a benefit claim
- To enable my employer to make an employment status determination
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

I may revoke this consent at any time except to the extent that action has been taken in reliance on it. If I do not revoke it, this consent will expire one year after the case is closed.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of parent/guardian)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Witness)

I understand that my records are protected under State confidentiality statutes and may be protected under Federal regulations (42 CFR, Part II) and cannot be disclosed without my written consent unless otherwise provided for in the regulations. This authorization may be withdrawn at any time in writing except to the extent that the program or person which is to make this disclosure has acted in reliance on it. Authorization will remain in effect as agreed to above. Upon revocation of consent, further release of information shall cease immediately. File copy is equivalent to the original.

## Telemental Health Informed Consent

As a client receiving behavioral services through telehealth methods, I understand:

Telemental health is the delivery of behavioral health services using interactive technologies (audio, video or other electronic communications) between a provider and a client that are not in the same physical location. The interactive technologies used in Telemental health incorporate network and software security protocols to protect the confidentiality of patient information transmitted via any electronic channel. These protocols include measures to safeguard the data and to aid in protecting against intentional or unintentional corruption. Electronic systems used will incorporate network and software security protocols to protect the privacy and security of health information and imaging data, and will include measures to safeguard the data to ensure its integrity against intentional or unintentional corruption.

1. This service is provided by technology (included but not limited to video, phone, text and email) and may involve direct face to face communication. There are benefits and limitations to this service. I will need access to, and familiarity with, the appropriate technology in order to participate in the service provided. The exchange of information will not be direct and any paperwork exchanged will likely be provided through electronic means or through postal delivery. During your virtual care consultation, details of your medical history and personal health information may be discussed with you or your behavioral health care professionals through the use of interactive video, audio or other telecommunications technology.
2. If a need for direct, face to face services arises, it is my responsibility to contact practitioners in my area such as \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, or \_\_\_\_\_ or to contact my behavioral health practitioner's office for a face to face appointment or my primary care provider if my behavioral health practitioner is unavailable. I understand that an opening may not be immediately available in either office.
3. I may decline any telehealth services at any time without jeopardizing my access to future care, services or benefits.
4. These services rely on technology, which allows for greater convenience in service delivery. There are risks in transmitting information over technology that include, but are not limited to, breaches of confidentiality, theft of personal information, and disruption of service due to technical difficulties. My practitioner and I will regularly reassess the appropriateness of continuing to deliver services to me through the use of the technologies we have agreed upon today, and modify our plan as needed.
5. In emergencies, in the event of disruption of services, or for routine or administrative reasons, it may be necessary to communicate by other means:
  - a. In emergency situations: \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. Service disruption: \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. For other communication: \_\_\_\_\_

Counseling Connections

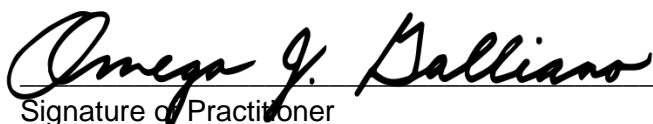
6. My practitioner may utilize alternative means of communication in the following circumstances: video connections fail or phone line access is disrupted.
7. My practitioner will respond to communications and routine messages within 48 hours on business days or on the next business day following weekends, holidays, or vacations.
8. It is my responsibility to maintain privacy on the client end of communication. Insurance companies, those authorized by the client, and those permitted by law may also have access to records or communications.
9. I will take the following precautions to ensure that my communications are directed only to my behavioral health practitioner or other designated individuals: Double check email addresses; double check phone numbers; double check to whom email is sent (reply vs reply all).
10. My communication with my behavioral health practitioner will be stored in the following manner: In compliance with HIPAA regulations in secured file cabinets and/or secured electronic medical record files.
11. The laws and professional standards that apply to in-person behavioral services also apply to telehealth services. This document does not replace other agreements, contracts, or documentation of informed consent.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Client Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Client or Legal Guardian

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Omega J. Galliano, MFT, LADC, LP  
Practitioner Printed Name

  
Signature of Practitioner

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Addendum A

Client Name: \_\_\_\_\_

I, the undersigned, a citizen of \_\_\_\_\_ or my designee(s) \_\_\_\_\_ on my behalf, agree to participate in technology-based consultation and other health-care related information exchanges with Omega J. Galliano, a behavioral healthcare practitioner (“practitioner”). This means that I authorize information related to my medical and behavioral health to be electronically transmitted in the form of images and data through an interactive video connection to and from the above-named practitioner, other persons involved in my health care, and the staff operating the consultation equipment. It may also mean that my private health information may be transmitted from my practitioner’s mobile device to my own or from my device to that of my practitioner via an ‘application’ (abbreviated as “app”).

You understand that a variety of alternative methods of mental health care may be available to you, and that you may choose one or more of these at any time. Your mental health care provider has explained the alternative to your satisfaction.

I represent that I am using my own equipment to communicate and not equipment owned by another, and specifically not using my employer’s computer or network. I am aware that any information I enter into an employer’s computer can be considered by the courts to belong to my employer and my privacy may thus be compromised.

I understand that I will be informed of the identities of all parties present during the consultation or who have access to my personal health information and of the purpose for such individuals to have such access.

My health care practitioner has explained how the telehealth consultation(s) is performed and how it will be used for my treatment. My health care practitioner has also explained how the consultation(s) will differ from in-person services, including but not limited to, emotional reactions that may be generated by the technology.

You understand that it is your duty to inform your physician of electronic interactions regarding your care that you may have with other health care providers.

In brief, I understand that my practitioner will not be physically in my presence. Instead, we will see and hear each other electronically, or that other information such as information I enter into an “app” will be transmitted electronically to and from my practitioner and I. Regardless of the sophistication of today’s technology, some information my practitioner would ordinarily get in in-person consultation may not be available in teleconsultation. I understand that such missing information could in some situations make it more difficult for my practitioner to understand my problems and to help me get better. My practitioner will be unable to physically touch me or to render any emergency assistance if I experience a crisis.



I understand that telehealth consultation(s) are a new form of treatment, in an area not yet fully validated by research, and that they have potential risks, possibly including some that are not yet recognized. Among the risks that are presently recognized is the possibility that the technology will fail before or during the consultation, that the transmitted information in any form will be unclear or inadequate for proper use in the consultation(s), and that the information will be intercepted by an unauthorized person or persons.

In rare instances, security protocols could fail, causing a breach of privacy of personal health information. I understand that a physical examination may be performed by individuals at my location at the request of the consulting practitioner.

I authorize the release of any information pertaining to me determined by my practitioner, my other health care practitioners or by my insurance carrier to be relevant to the consultation(s) or processing of insurance claims, including but limited to my name, Social Security number, birth date, diagnosis, treatment plan and other clinical or medical record information.

I understand that at any time, the consultation(s) can be discontinued either by me or by my designee or by my health care practitioners. I further understand that I do not have to answer any question I feel is inappropriate or whose answer I do not wish persons present to hear; that any refusal to participate in the consultation(s) or use of technology will not affect my continued treatment and that no action will be taken against me. I acknowledge, however, that diagnosis depends on information, and treatment depends on diagnosis, so if I withhold information, I assume the risk that a diagnosis might not be made or might be made incorrectly. Were that to happen, my telehealth-based treatment might be less successful than it otherwise would be, or it could fail entirely.

I also understand that, under the law and regardless of what form of communication I use in working with my practitioner, my practitioner may be required to report to the authorities information suggesting that I have engaged in behaviors that endanger others.

The alternatives to the consultation(s) have been explained to me, including their risks and benefits, as well as the risks and benefits of doing without treatment. I understand that I can still pursue in-person consultations. I understand that telehealth consultation(s) does not necessarily eliminate my need to see a specialist in person, and I have received no guarantee as to the telehealth consultation's effectiveness.

I understand that my telehealth consultation(s) may be recorded and stored electronically as part of my medical records. The practitioner will inform me if this is to occur and the reasons for this being necessary. I understand that consultations, test results, and disclosures will be held in confidence subject to state and/or federal law. I understand that I am ordinarily guaranteed access to my medical records and that copies of records of consultation(s) are available to me on my written request. I also understand, however, that if my practitioner, in the exercise of professional judgment, concludes that providing my records to me could threaten the safety of a human being, myself or another person, he/she may rightfully decline to provide them. If such a

request is made and honored, I understand that I retain sole responsibility for the confidentiality of the records released to me and that I may have to pay a reasonable fee to get a copy. Additionally, I understand that my records may be used for telehealth program evaluation, education, and research and that I will not be personally identified if such a use occurs. I hereby authorize these disclosures to take place without prior written consent.

I understand that I am not entitled to royalties or to other forms of compensation for participation in any telehealth consultation(s) or information exchange.

I have received a copy of my practitioner's contact information, including his/her name, telephone number, business address, mailing address, and email address (if applicable). I have also been provided with a list of local support services in case of an emergency. I am aware that my practitioner may contact the proper authorities and/or my designated local contact person in case of an emergency.

I acknowledge, however, that I am facing or if I think I may be facing an emergency situation that could result in harm to me or to another person; I am not to seek a telehealth consultation. Instead I agree to seek care immediately through my own local health care practitioner or at the nearest hospital emergency department or by calling 911.

These are the names and telephone numbers of my local emergency contacts (including local physician; crisis hotline; trusted family, friend or adviser).

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Name – Relationship –Telephone number

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Name – Relationship –Telephone number

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Name – Relationship –Telephone number

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Name – Relationship –Telephone number

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Name – Relationship –Telephone number

