

INFORMED CONSENT FOR VIRTUAL BIBLICAL COUNSELING SERVICES

DEFINITION OF VIRTUAL BIBLICAL COUNSELING

Virtual Biblical counseling involves the use of online and virtual infrastructure to enable N(y)oo Mind Biblical Counseling, LLC contracted Biblical counselor to advise, inform, guide, and instruct counselees using interactive video and audio communications.

Virtual Biblical counseling includes the practice of advising, consultation, interventions, referral to resources, education, and the transfer of counseling data.

I understand that I have the rights with respect to virtual Biblical Counseling:

1. The laws that protect the confidentiality of my personal information also apply to virtual Biblical counseling. As such, I understand that the information disclosed by me during the course of my sessions is generally confidential. However, there are both mandatory and permissive exceptions to confidentiality, including, but not limited to, reporting child, elder, and dependent adult abuse; expressed threats of violence toward an ascertainable victim; and where I make my mental or emotional state an issue in a legal proceeding. I also understand that the dissemination of any personally identifiable images or information from the online therapy interaction to other entities shall not occur without my written consent.
2. I understand that I have the right to withhold or withdraw my consent to the use of Virtual Biblical counseling in the course of my care at any time, without affecting my right to future care or treatment.
3. I understand that there are risks and consequences from Virtual Biblical counseling, including, but not limited to, the possibility, despite reasonable efforts on the part of the counselor, that: the transmission of my personal information could be disrupted or distorted by technical failures, the transmission of my personal information could be interrupted by unauthorized persons, and/or the electronic storage of my personal information could be unintentionally lost or accessed by unauthorized persons. N(y)oo Mind Biblical Counseling, LLC utilizes secure, encrypted audio/video transmission software to deliver Virtual Biblical counseling.
4. I understand that if my counselor believes I would be better served by another form of intervention (e.g., face-to-face services), I will be referred to another counselor or mental health professional that can provide such services in my area. Finally, I understand that there are potential risks and benefits associated with any form of counseling and that despite my efforts and the efforts of my counselor, my condition may not improve, and in some cases may even get worse.
5. I understand the alternatives to counseling through Virtual Biblical counseling as they have been explained to me, and in choosing to participate I am agreeing to participate using video conferencing technology. I also understand that at my request or at the direction of my counselor, I may be directed to “face-to-face” psychotherapy.

6. I understand that I may expect the anticipated benefits such as improved access to care and more efficient evaluation and management from the use of online therapy in my care, but that no results can be guaranteed or assured.

7. I understand that my counseling information may be shared with other individuals for scheduling and billing purposes. Others may also be present during the consultation other than my counselor in order to operate the video equipment. The above-mentioned people will all maintain the confidentiality of the information obtained. I further understand that I will be informed of their presence in the consultation and thus will have the right to request the following: (1) omit specific details of my medical history that are personally sensitive to me, (2) ask non-clinical personnel to leave the online therapy room, and/or (3) terminate the Biblical counseling at any time.

8. I understand that my express consent is required to forward my personally identifiable information to a third party.

9. I understand that I have a right to access my medical information and copies of my medical records in accordance with the laws pertaining to the state of my legal residence.

10. By signing this document, I agree that certain situations, including emergencies and crises, are inappropriate for audio-/video-/computer-based Biblical counseling services. If I am in crisis or in an emergency, I should immediately call 9-1-1 or seek help from a hospital or crisis-oriented health care facility in my immediate area.

PAYMENT FOR ONLINE THERAPY SERVICES

Payment for online therapy services is due at the time of service and must be paid by credit card. Credit cards will be stored in a file at the N(y)oo Mind Biblical Counseling office stored under lock and key. The card will automatically be charged at the time of appointment for payments due.

PATIENT CONSENT TO THE USE OF VIRTUAL BIBLICAL COUNSELING I have read and understand the information provided above regarding online therapy, have discussed it with my counselor, and all of my questions have been answered to my satisfaction. I have read this document carefully understand the risks and benefits related to the use of online therapy services and have had my questions regarding the procedure explained. I hereby give my informed consent to participate in the use of online therapy services for treatment under the terms described herein. By my signature below, I hereby state that I have read, understood, and agree to the terms of this document.

1. Print Your Name

2. Counselee Signature and Date

3. Biblical Counselor Signature and Date

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