

Clients' Rights and Responsibilities

Clients generally have the right to:

1. You have the right to be treated with respect and recognition of dignity.
2. You have the right to decide not to enter therapy with me. If you wish, I will provide you with the names of other skilled therapists.
3. You have the right to end therapy at any time. You are responsible for any outstanding balance.
4. You have the right to ask any questions at any time. You have the right to refuse any test or evaluation.
5. You have the right to know all about my education and experience.
6. You have the right to know all about the terms of therapy, such as its cost, appointment times, privacy issues, and so on.
7. You have a right to read a copy of the NASW code of ethics.
8. If I wish to record a session, I will get your informed consent in writing. You have the right to prevent any such recording.
9. You have a right to participate in an informed way in the decision making process regarding your individualized treatment plan.
10. You have the right to privacy and confidentiality of information. Generally, no one will learn of our work together without your written permission. This excludes office staff. There are some situations in which I am required by law to reveal some of the things you tell me, even without your permission, and if I do reveal these things I am not required by law to tell you that I have done so. Here are some of these situations:
 - a. If you seriously threaten to harm another person, I must warn that person and the authorities.
 - b. If a court orders me to testify about you, I must do so.
 - c. If I am treating you under a court order, I must report my findings to the court.
 - d. If you threaten to harm yourself.
11. You have the right to request to view and obtain a copy of your Protected Health Information (PHI), to amend your PHI, to restrict the use of your PHI, and to receive an accounting of disclosures of PHI. North Carolina law allows me thirty days to act upon your written request; there is a charge for copies.

* In this list your rights are described in very brief terms, and NC state's laws or rules may give them somewhat differently.

Clients are responsible for:

- Providing (to the extent possible) to therapist and managed care company with information needed in order to receive appropriate care.
- Understanding their problems and participating, to the degree possible, in developing with therapist mutually agreed upon treatment goals.