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#### **INFORMED CONSENT FORM: PSYCHOLOGICAL TESTING**

Welcome to Family Legacy Counseling. This document contains important information about the process of psychological assessment. Please read it carefully and write down any questions you might have so that we can discuss them. When you sign this document, it will represent an agreement between us.

#### **PSYCHOLOGICAL TESTING SERVICES**

There are varied purposes for psychological testing that include diagnostic clarification, educational planning, preparation for independent living, treatment recommendation, and risk assessment in preparation for surgery/adoption/custody, among others. Common features of psychological evaluations include:

Review of relevant records by gathering background data to enable the evaluator to have a historical context that benefits the testing situation. Testing clients may voluntarily wish to provide their own records to facilitate their case or the evaluator can seek these out with a release of information.

Clinical Interview - A structured clinical interview between the psychologist and client to obtain background information (e.g., family history, physical health, family dynamics, prior abuse history), mental health concerns (e.g., symptoms of distress, psychotropic medications, substance abuse difficulties), educational/work history, employment, social functioning (peer interactions, legal history), and a mental status exam (behavioral observations, assessment of daily living skills). Collateral contact may be obtained from family members or others to provide additional information to facilitate the testing process.

Mental Health Assessment Inventories. These inventories typically include self or other report surveys that assess varied mental health symptom and personality traits. The psychologist will provide the instructions for completion of these inventories.

Cognitive/Neuropsychological Assessment Tools. These exercises may include tests of cognitive ability, academic achievement, visual-motor coordination, attention span, neurological functioning, memory, and processing speed.

After the test results are obtained, the psychologist typically interprets test data into a psychological report. The psychological report contains detailed analysis of the mental health and cognitive test results, summarizes the data, and lists DSM-V diagnostic impressions. Additionally, recommendations are typically listed at the conclusion of the psychological report for further direction.

#### **CONFIDENTIALITY/LIMITS OF CONFIDENTIALITY**

Private Testing: an individual that is self-referred and is paying on his or her own accord, with or without the assistance of private health insurance. Clients are assured of confidentiality at all times. Information will only be released verbally, or in writing, to those whom you authorize by written release of information in my office. Legal exceptions to confidentiality include:

Your evaluator must notify others if it is suspected that a client intends to harm another individual or him/herself.

Your evaluator must also report any suspected child or dependent adult molestation, neglect, or abuse to protect those involved as mandated by law; In legal cases, a Judge can order testimony or records.

Please be aware that if you want us to file your insurance, insurance companies require your name, social security number, diagnoses, and service dates before they provide coverage for your visit. In most cases, insurance companies will require more data about your case that may include symptoms, diagnosis, and treatment methods. This does become a permanent part of your medical record.

**REVIEW OF WRITTEN REPORT**

A feedback session is typically scheduled upon completion of the psychological report. During this session, I will review the test results and explain the recommendations with you. Your feedback is important, please share impressions you have of the results and whether or not it "fits" with your lived experience. After going over the test results and answering any questions, you will receive the test report. However, no completed report will be given without a feedback session. Finally, the examiner does not provide raw data to test clients.

**FEES**

The charge for the first hour for psychological testing evaluation services is \$250, which includes time for report writing, interpretation of data, clinical decision making, and treatment planning. The charge per additional hour is \$175. The fee for the administration and scoring of the psychological tests is billed on the half hour at \$175.

When billing insurance companies, the client is typically billed for an initial diagnostic interview, testing hours, report writing, and the final feedback session when the test results are reviewed. If there is a co-pay, you must pay the entire fee at the time of the initial visit. It is against regulations from the insurance company for us to see a client without collecting their co-payment. Payment is expected at the end of each session. We reserve the right to turn over any uncollected debt (over 60 days) to a collection agency and/or magistrate court.

**ESTIMATES FOR EVALUATIONS**

Comprehensive ADHD Assessment	\$600-1400	Learning/Academic Assessment	\$1200-1800
Personality Assessment	\$500-700	Memory Assessment	\$700
Intelligence Assessment	\$300	Brief Personality Screen	\$150

**INSURANCE REIMBURSEMENT**

For clients that have a health insurance policy, it will usually, BUT NOT ALWAYS, provide coverage for mental health services. Your evaluator can help you with assistance necessary in helping you receive the benefits to which you are entitled; however, you (not your insurance company) are responsible for full payment of our fees regardless of insurance nonpayment. It is very important that you find out exactly what mental health services your insurance policy covers as they may not cover psychological testing services.

You should carefully read the section in your insurance coverage booklet that describes mental health services. If you have questions about the coverage, call your plan administrator. If it is necessary to clear confusion, this office will be willing to call the company on your behalf. Sometimes your evaluator has to provide additional clinical information such as a copy of the psychological report (in rare cases). This information will become part of the insurance company files and will probably be stored in a computer. Though all insurance companies claim to keep such information confidential, your evaluator has no control over what they do with it once it is in their hands.

I have read and understood the above information. I also give consent for psychological testing by Ann Latham, PsyD. of Family Legacy Counseling.

Please initial all that apply: *(For insurance billing, you must initial all spaces except the final one)*

- I authorize release of this form and information to all my insurance companies.
  - I authorize the provider to act as my agent to obtain payment from my Insurance companies.
  - I understand that I am responsible for my bill if insurance does not provide payment.
- OR
- I choose not to file Insurance and am responsible for 100% of the fee at time of service.

**SIGNATURE**

**DATE**

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