

Woburn Pediatric Psychological Services

7 Alfred Street | 2nd Floor | Woburn, MA 01801

781-569-6022

CONFIDENTIALITY AGREEMENT

Professional ethics and legal standards require the mental health provider/client communications to be kept confidential. It is very important that you be aware, however, that Massachusetts General Laws specify certain limitations to this confidentiality of communications. Woburn Pediatric Psychological Services is legally obligated to inform you of those limitations. Please understand that they are presented to you in compliance with Massachusetts General Laws. Whenever you wish to give expressed written consent, Woburn Pediatric Psychological Services can share information about you with another entity, but the following points out areas in which disclosure can be made **without your consent:**

1. In certain legal proceedings, a court officer may require the release of confidential information about you or your child's treatment.
 - a. In the case of a court order, HIPAA requires the practice to take the additional steps of either:
 1. notifying the patient prior to disclosure and obtaining reasonable assurance that the patient was so notified; **or**
 2. obtaining a protective order regarding the information.
 - b. Without these steps, Woburn Pediatric Psychological Services cannot disclose your information unless we have your authorization.
2. Woburn Pediatric Psychological Services is required to disclose information to protect others if:
 - You or your child presents a danger to you and refuses to accept appropriate treatment.
 - You or your child tells a provider of an actual threat to harm another person.
 - You or your child has a history of violent acts and a provider believes that there is danger to yourself or another person.
3. Woburn Pediatric Psychological Services providers are allowed to release appropriate information to protect themselves in a court action.
4. At times, your health insurer may require information about your condition to justify their continued payments for you or your child's treatment.
5. Woburn Pediatric Psychological Services providers may, at times, consult with their colleagues within the practice regarding your or your child's treatment to ensure that the care provided is of the highest quality.