

Informed Consent
Patty Emberley, MA, LMFT
Patty Emberley Online Counseling
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Even with highly skilled therapists, changes are not made unless individuals are able to incorporate the therapeutic tools provided by his/her therapist to make changes. If you or your family reaches success through the counseling process, congratulate yourself! Patty Emberley hopes you gain insights, strengths and greater understanding of yourself, your interactions and relationships with others.

If your insurance carrier requires confidential information, Patty Emberley must release information if you want your insurance to pay for sessions. If you don't want information released to an insurance company, please talk with Patty Emberley about this.

If you request information be shared with outside sources (physicians, attorneys, schools, etc.), Patty Emberley will require that a medical release form be filled out indicating specifically the information and who it's being released to.

Under subpoena from a judge, in criminal or federal matters, a therapist may be required to disclose confidential client-therapist information.

Clients participating in couples counseling understand that the counselor views *The Couple* as the client, not the individuals. Clients further accept that traditional confidentiality agreements do not apply to them separately. Therefore, the counselor will not keep secrets, of either partner, from the other and will not become the messenger for the couple's communication.

If a guardian seeks counseling for a dependent, verification of guardianship must be provided. If an ex-spouse contacts us regarding records they will be released with proper authorization. If the courts mandate that the ex-spouse has rights to the records, they must sign a medical release form to receive copies of any requested records.

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If an appointment needs to be rescheduled or cancelled, please let Patty Emberley know no later than 24 hours prior. There is a \$50 fee for appointments that are cancelled or rescheduled less than 24 hours prior or if you fail to show for an appointment. The full appointment fee will be charged after the third time this occurs.

Legally therapists are required to report the following to appropriate authorities: intent to harm self or others, abuse or neglect of a child, elderly or handicapped person (physical, emotional or sexual).

When doing internet counseling through the use of VSee, SKYPE or FaceTime, Patty Emberley will ensure privacy and confidentiality is maintained from within her office location. However, she cannot control the confidentiality from within your location. Patty Emberley is not to be held responsible for any breach of confidentiality due to the location you choose to be when you engage in the internet counseling. The use of VSee, SKYPE or FaceTime are believed to be secure sources of private live internet video communication. Due to risks with anything being potentially compromised when using the internet, you the client agrees to **NOT** hold Patty Emberley responsible for any compromise that may occur due to the use of the internet.

While doing internet counseling you, the client, must be located in Michigan, California, Oregon or Texas due to Patty Emberley being licensed in these states.

Client Signature:

_____ Date: _____

_____ Date: _____