

Notice of Mental Health Bill of Rights (Mhp 502.2)

This mental health Bill of Rights is provided by law to persons receiving mental health services in the State of New Hampshire. Its purpose is to protect the rights and enhance the wellbeing of clients by informing them of key aspects of the clinical relationship. As a client of a New Hampshire Mental Health Practitioner, you have, without asking, the right:

1. To be treated in a professional, respectful, competent and ethical manner with all applicable state laws and the professional ethical standards of psychologists as specified by the American Psychological Association.
2. To receive full information about your treatment provider's knowledge, skills, experience and credentials.
3. To have the information you disclose to your mental health provider kept confidential within the limits of state and federal law. Communications between mental health providers and clients are typically confidential, unless the law, or your insurance company, requires their disclosure. Mental health providers will inform you of the legal exceptions to confidentiality, and should such an exception arise, will share only such information as required by law. Examples of such include, but are not limited to:
 - a. abuse of a child;
 - b. abuse of an incapacitated adult;
 - c. Health Information Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) regulation compliance;
 - d. certain rights you may have waived when contracting for third party financial coverage;
 - e. orders of the court;
 - f. significant threats to self, others or property.
4. To a safe setting and to know that the services provided are effective and of a quality consistent with the standard of care within each profession and to know that sexual relations between a mental health provider and a client or former client are a violation of the law (RSA 330-A:36).
5. To obtain information, as allowed by law, pertaining to the mental health provider's assessment procedures and mental health diagnoses (RSA 330-A2 VI).
6. To participate meaningfully in the planning, implementation and termination or referral of your treatment.
7. To documented informed consent: to be informed of the risks and benefits of the proposed treatment, the risks and benefits of alternative treatment, and the risks and benefits of no treatment. When obtaining informed consent for treatment for which safety and effectiveness have not been established, therapist will inform their clients of this and of the voluntary nature of their participation. In addition, clients have the right to be informed of their rights and responsibilities, and of the mental health providers practice policies regarding confidentiality, office hours, fees, missed appointments, billing policies, electronic communications, managed care issues, record management, and other relevant matters except as otherwise provided by law.
8. To obtain information regarding the provision for emergency coverage.
9. To receive a copy of your mental health record within 30 days upon written request (except as otherwise provided by law), by paying a nominal fee designed to defray the administrative costs of reproducing the record.
10. To know that your mental health provider is licensed by the State of New Hampshire to provide mental health services.
 - a. You have the right to obtain information about mental health practice in New Hampshire. You may contact the NH Board of Psychologists for a list of names, addresses, phone numbers and websites of state and national associations.
 - b. You have the right to discuss questions or concerns about the mental health services you receive with your provider.
 - c. You have the right to file a complaint with the NH Board of Psychologists.
 - d. A licensee shall post a copy of the above mental health bill of rights in a prominent location in the office of the mental health practitioner and provide a copy upon request.
 - e. A licensee shall provide a copy of the mental health bill of rights to the client and/or agency if the assessment, consultation or intervention is provided outside the office.