



Informed Consent for Electronic Communication and Teletherapy Services

Parent Name:	
Child Name:	
Child Date of Birth:	

I understand that teletherapy is the use of electronic information and communication technologies by a health care provider to deliver services to an individual when he/she is located at a different site than the provider; and hereby consent to Shannon Kushniruk R.SLP providing speech-language pathology services to me and/or my child _____ (First and Last Name) via teletherapy.

I understand that the laws that protect privacy and the confidentiality of personal health information also applies to teletherapy.

I understand that I have the right to withhold or withdraw my consent to the use of teletherapy at any time, without affecting my right to future care or treatment. I may revoke my consent orally or in writing at any time by contacting Shannon Kushniruk R.SLP at 403-990-2156 or shannon.readysetspeak@gmail.com. As long as this consent is in force (has not been revoked) Shannon Kushniruk R.SLP may provide speech-language pathology services to me and/or my child via teletherapy without the need for me to sign another consent form.

I understand that a parent or guardian must be present during all teletherapy sessions to support the use of technology and the child's participation in therapy sessions.

I understand that teletherapy sessions will not be recorded or shared at any time without prior consent.

I understand that the fees for service are the same (\$130.00 per hour) as for direct face-to-face therapy sessions, and that an invoice for services will be provided on a

monthly basis. I understand that should a session be cancelled due to problems with internet connection or other technical difficulties, the time will be utilized to provide phone consultation or to prepare and provide at home practice materials.

Risks of Using Electronic Communication

While the Service Provider will use reasonable means to protect the security and confidentiality of information sent and received using electronic communications, because of the risks outlined below, the Service Provider cannot guarantee the security and confidentiality of electronic communications:

- Use of electronic communications to discuss sensitive information can increase the risk of such information being disclosed to third parties.
- Despite reasonable efforts to protect the privacy and security of electronic communication, it is not possible to completely secure the information.
- Employers and online services may have a legal right to inspect and keep electronic communications that pass through their system.
- Electronic communications can introduce malware into a computer system, and potentially damage or disrupt the computer, networks, and security settings.
- Electronic communications are subject to disruptions beyond the control of the Service Provider that may prevent the Service Provider from being able to provide services.
- Electronic communications can be forwarded, intercepted, circulated, stored, or even changed without the knowledge or permission of the Service Provider or the client.
- Even after the sender and recipient have deleted copies of electronic communications, back-up copies may exist on a computer system.
- Electronic communications may be disclosed in accordance with a duty to report or a court order.
- Videoconferencing using no cost, publicly available services may be more open to interception than other forms of videoconferencing.
- There may be limitations in the services that can be provided through electronic communications, dependent on the means of electronic communications being utilized.
- Email, text messages, and instant messages can more easily be misdirected, resulting in increased risk of being received by unintended and unknown recipients.

- Email, text messages, and instant messages can be easier to falsify than handwritten or signed hard copies. It is not feasible to verify the true identity of the sender, or to ensure that only the recipient can read the message once it has been sent.

Conditions of Using Electronic Communications

- While the Service Provider will endeavor to review electronic communications in a timely manner, the Service Provider cannot provide a timeline as to when communications will be reviewed and responded to. Electronic communications will not and should not be used for medical emergencies or other time-sensitive matters.
- Electronic communication may not be an appropriate substitute for some services that the Service Provider offers.
- Prior to the commencement of the provision of services by the Service Provider through electronic communications, the Service Provider and the client will establish a protocol to follow in the event of a technical issue that causes a disruption in the services that are being provided by the Service Provider; and the Service Provider is not responsible for information loss due to technical failures associated with your software or internet service provider.
- The client will inform the Service Provider of any changes in the client's email address, mobile phone number, or other account information necessary to communicate electronically.
- The client will ensure the Service Provider is aware when they receive an electronic communication from the Service Provider, such as by a reply message or allowing "read receipts" to be sent.
- The client will take precautions to preserve the confidentiality of electronic communications, such as using screen savers and safeguarding computer passwords.
- If the client no longer consents to the use of electronic communications by the Service Provider, then the client will provide notice of the withdrawal of consent by email or other written communication.

Acknowledgement and Agreement

I acknowledge that I have read and fully understand the risks, limitations, conditions of use, and instructions for use of the selected electronic communications as described above. I understand and accept the risks outlined above to this consent form, associated with the use of the electronic communications with the Service

Provider and the Service Provider's staff. I consent to the conditions and will follow the instructions outlined above, as well as any other conditions that the Service Provider may impose regarding electronic communications with patients. I acknowledge and agree to communicate with the Service Provider or the Service Provider's staff using these electronic communications with a full understanding of the risks in doing so. I confirm that any questions that I had regarding the provision of healthcare services through electronic communications have been answered by the Service Provider.

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature