



# Boston Child Study Center

*Expert Mental Health Treatment, Training & Research*

## INFORMED CONSENT FOR IN-PERSON SERVICES DURING COVID-19 REOPENING

This document contains important information about the decision to resume in-person services in light of the ongoing COVID-19 public health crisis.

### DECISION TO MEET FACE-TO-FACE

You and a Boston Child Study Center (BCSC) provider have agreed to meet in-person. If there is a resurgence of the pandemic or if other health concerns arise, BCSC may require you to meet via telehealth. In the event of a future shutdown of in-person services, neuropsychological testing cases will be rescheduled to a time in which in-person services resume. If you have concerns about meeting through telehealth, please speak with your clinician to address any issues. You understand that BCSC may determine that services return to telehealth for the well-being of everyone.

### RISKS OF OPTING FOR IN-PERSON SERVICES

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts have approved indoor, face-to-face contact for individuals who have been vaccinated. Close contact continues to carry some risks; by meeting in-person you are assuming the risk of exposure to COVID-19 (and/or other public health risks). This risk may increase if you travel by public transportation, taxi cab, or a ridesharing service to your appointment.

### Office Protocol

Prior to and at the time of your visit you will be responsible for:

- Submission of a COVID-19 vaccination card for the patient and any approved person accompanying the patient. Only persons who have been fully vaccinated and, when eligible (i.e., received the second dose 6 or more months ago), boosted will be allowed to enter the building.
- Only the patient engaged in the session is allowed in the office building. Parents, family, and friends are not allowed into the building without explicit consent from BCSC.
- Wearing an approved mask (N-95, KN-95, surgical mask) is required while in the building including for the duration of the session. If you do not have an appropriate mask (bandanas, Sun Scarves or “gators,” and masks with unfiltered respirators are not approved) a mask will be provided to you upon arrival when your temperature is taken.
- Washing or sanitizing your hands upon entrance to the building.

### YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO MINIMIZE YOUR EXPOSURE

To resume services in-person, you agree to take certain precautions that will help keep everyone (you, your family, BCSC staff and other patients) safer from exposure. If you do not adhere to these safeguards, it may result in starting/ returning to a telehealth arrangement.

- You acknowledge that you are fully vaccinated (i.e., two doses) as well as all eligible residents of your home are fully vaccinated and, when possible, boosted.
- You will only keep your in-person appointment if you are symptom-free.
- You will take your temperature before coming to each appointment. If it is elevated (100° Fahrenheit or more), or if you have other symptoms of COVID-19 (e.g., dry cough, shortness of breath, runny nose), you agree to cancel the appointment or proceed using telehealth. If you wish to cancel for this reason, BCSC will not charge you the normal cancellation fee.
- You will not attend a session if you have had close contact (15 minutes indoors) with someone with COVID-19 within the last 14 days.
- You and your provider will refrain from physical contact.
- If you have a job that exposes you to people who are infected, you will immediately inform BCSC. If you or a resident of your home tests positive for the infection, you will immediately inform BCSC and services will



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- begin/resume treatment via telehealth.
- If your child is in treatment, you will make sure that your child follows all of these sanitation and distancing protocols outlined above.
- BCSC may change the above precautions if additional local, state, or federal orders or guidelines are published. If this happens, you and your clinician will talk about any necessary changes.

## BCSC'S COMMITMENT TO MINIMIZE EXPOSURE

BCSC has taken steps to reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19 to our staff and patients. Only fully vaccinated and boosted staff will be eligible to work out of our Boston, Natick, Los Angeles, or Portland offices and meet with clients in person. You understand that BCSC is committed to keeping you, BCSC staff, and all of our families safe from the spread of this virus. If you arrive for an appointment and you have a fever or other symptoms, or if your clinician believes you have been exposed, they have the right to end the session immediately. We can follow up with services by telehealth, as appropriate. BCSC reserves the right to suspend in-person services for individuals who have not followed the aforementioned guidelines.

## YOUR CONFIDENTIALITY IN THE CASE OF INFECTION

If you have tested positive for COVID-19, BCSC may be required to notify local health authorities that you have had appointments. If a report is necessary, BCSC will only provide the minimum information necessary for their data collection and will not go into any details about the reason(s) for our visits. By signing this form, you are agreeing that BCSC clinicians and/or staff may do so without an additional signed release.

## INFORMED CONSENT

This agreement supplements the Registration Packet that was signed at the start of services at BCSC. Your signature below shows that you agree to these terms and conditions.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Patient Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Caregiver Name (if under age 18)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Patient Signature (if age 18+) or Caregiver Signature (if under age 18)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Vaccine Manufacturer Received: \_\_\_\_\_ Doses Received \_\_\_\_\_  
Dates Received \_\_\_\_\_

Mask Type You Will Be Wearing Upon Arrival (Surgical, N-95 or KN-95): \_\_\_\_\_