

Consent Form

Psychological Service

BMD Psychology Consulting is a private independent practice providing a wide variety of elective psychological services (see the website for more details). We offer limited appointment hours - if you have an emergency please contact your medical practitioner, local mental health service or present to your nearest emergency department at your local hospital.

By choosing to engage in services with BMD Psychology Consulting you are acknowledging responsibility for active participation in treatment and for your own welfare. It is important to acknowledge that therapy outcomes are uncertain and vary across individuals. There can be no guarantees regarding improvement or progress.

Purpose of collecting and holding information

As part of providing a psychological service to you, BMD Psychology Consulting will need to collect and record personal information from you that is relevant to your current situation. This information will be a necessary part of the psychological assessment and treatment that is conducted. You do not have to give all your personal information, but if you don't, this may mean the psychological service may not be able to be provided to you.

The information is gathered as part of the assessment, diagnosis and treatment of the client's condition, and is seen only by the psychologist(s) and possibly their clinical supervisor. The information is retained in order to document what happens during sessions, and enables the psychologist(s) to provide a relevant and informed psychological service.

Access to Client Information

At any stage you as a client are entitled to access to the information about you kept on file, unless the relevant legislation provides otherwise. The psychologist(s) may discuss with you appropriate forms of access.

Confidentiality

All personal information gathered by the psychologist during the provision of the psychological service will remain confidential and secure except where: a) it is subpoenaed by a court, or disclosure is otherwise required or authorised by law; or b) failure to disclose the information would place you or another person at serious and imminent risk of harm; or c) your prior approval has been obtained to provide a written report to another professional or agency e.g., a GP or a lawyer; or to discuss the material with another person, e.g., a parent or employer.

In couples counselling the psychologist must maintain neutrality and trust with both parties. Individual therapy with one or both individuals will only occur by mutual agreement and within agreed parameters. To preserve neutrality and trust with both parties, the psychologist will not keep secrets or information for or from either individual when that would significantly impact the relationship and/or the couple therapy process or progress. If one party shares such information with the psychologist outside the couple therapy sessions, the psychologist will strongly encourage that individual to share this information with their partner. In some cases it may become necessary to postpone the couples therapy until both parties can and will engage in appropriate disclosure within the relationship therapy sessions.

Fees

The consultation fee (a consultation is usually 55 minutes) is payable at the end of the session by cash, credit card or EFTPOS. Medicare rebates are available to eligible clients, and immediate Medicare reimbursement is available via the EasyClaim system. All fees are documented on the BMD Psychology Consulting website (see footer).

Cancellation Policy

If for some reason you need to cancel or postpone your appointment, please give us at least 24 hours notice, otherwise you may be charged 50% of the cost for the session.

Charter for Clients of Psychologists

The Charter, available to download from the BMD Psychology Consulting website explains your rights as a client of a psychologist.

I, _____ have read, understood and agree to the above conditions.

Signature _____

Date _____

If, after reading this page you are at all unsure of what is written, please discuss it with the psychologist.