

Texting Authorization

Communicating through email or text messaging

If you elect to communicate with me by email or text messaging at some point in our work together, please be aware that email and texting is not completely confidential. There are risks associated with email and text messaging as outlined below:

- All emails and text messages are retained in the logs of the email/phone/internet service provider. While patient information is protected on GRU servers, the same may not be true for email and text message copies that are retained in the logs of your and my phone/internet service providers. Although under normal circumstances no one looks at these logs, they are, in theory, available to be read by the system administrator(s) of the service providers.
- Copies of emails and texts may exist even after the sender and/or the recipient has deleted his or her copy.
- Email and text senders can easily misaddress an email or text and send the information to an undesired recipient.
- Emails and texts can be intercepted, altered, forwarded or used without authorization or detection.

Conditions for the use of email and texts:

- I cannot guarantee but will use reasonable means to maintain the security and confidentiality of email and text information sent and received, including a passcode lock on my phone.
- Email and texting is not appropriate for urgent or emergency situations. I cannot guarantee that any particular email and/or text will be read and responded to within any particular period of time.
- Email and texts should be concise. Unless we have agreed to a specific exception, sensitive or complex situations should be discussed in a phone call or during a scheduled appointment, not on email or text.
- If texts or emails contain information relevant to your treatment, they may be retained in your medical record, or a summary of the content may be included in a clinical note in your record.



- If you choose to use email or text messaging, you agree that I may reply to your email and text messages, and that I may include any information that I deem appropriate, including information that would otherwise be considered confidential.
- You agree that if you do not receive a timely response from an email or text message to me, that you will follow up with a phone call to one or more of the numbers provided below.
- If you choose to use email or text messaging, you agree not to hold me liable for improper disclosure of confidential information that is caused by you or any third party.

By initialing here, you agree that you have read and understand the risks associated with communication via email and text messaging, and that you consent to the conditions outlined above.
