

## **STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY**

At the Center for Counseling and Psychological Health (CCPH), we take the confidentiality of your health information very seriously. Your mental health records are confidential and will only be released to others outside of CCPH and University Health Services (UHS) with your written permission. Exceptions to this may occur during an emergency, such as the serious immediate threat to your life or welfare, to another person (including child abuse, elder abuse, and the abuse of persons with disabilities), or to the community at large. At those times, your mental health information may in rare cases be released to someone outside of CCPH and UHS without your permission.

CCPH and UHS share an electronic medical record. To promote coordinated care, UHS and CCPH clinicians are able to see any medication you may be prescribed at either CCPH or UHS. UHS clinicians may view your mental health diagnosis. UHS clinicians may view your full mental health record in the event of an emergency. CCPH clinicians are able to view your entire medical record. Under the Fair Information Practices Act, your records are available for you to review with your clinician. Please see the footnote below for information about Massachusetts law that protects your privacy.

If you have any questions or concerns about the confidentiality of your mental health information, please bring them to the attention of your clinician.

*It is important for you to know that Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 233, Section 206 and Massachusetts Laws Chapter 112, Section 135 outline a protected relationship between mental health professionals and their clients. This privileged relationship means that mental health clinicians may not reveal or be compelled by law to reveal any communication, observation, test result or other information gained as a result of the treatment relationship. Privileged communication between clients and therapists may be waived by a judge in child custody or adoption cases, in lawsuits where mental condition is an important consideration and in criminal lawsuits (e.g. sexual assault cases).*

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