

# Authorization for Release of Protected Health Information

## Important information about releasing patient medical records

MIT Health recognizes the patient's right to confidentiality of protected health information as set forth in federal and Massachusetts state law. You should be aware of these guidelines when requesting medical records.

### State and federal laws recognize the need for written authorization.

All releases based on this form are limited to records dated up to and including the date of the patient's signature. A new authorization is necessary for release of information on care provided after the date of the patient's signature, unless you (the patient or personal representative) specify release of future records of a specific test, specific clinic appointment, etc.

### If the patient is 18 years or older, the patient must sign the release unless:

- The patient is incompetent,
- The patient is disabled and cannot sign the form,  
or
- The patient is deceased. (The surviving spouse or legal representative with legal proof must sign the authorization for release of the deceased patient's records.)

### If the patient is 18 years or younger, the patient must sign the release if:

- The patient is an MIT student, regardless of age
- The patient is 14 years or older and the records involve treatment for mental illness, alcohol or drug abuse/treatment, domestic/sexual assault, or AIDS testing  
or
- The patient's records for release include an abortion procedure.

### Please read before completing the form below:

- This form must be completed in its entirety and signed by the patient or personal representative to be a valid authorization. Incorrect or incomplete forms will not be processed. Anyone other than the patient who signs this authorization for release of records must state his or her relationship to the patient and provide proof of legal authority to release the records.
- To obtain a copy of test results, procedures and/or notes that were done at another health care organization, please contact that facility directly.

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## 1. Patient Information

Patient Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_  
First Name Middle Initial Last Name (month / day / year)

Preferred Name \_\_\_\_\_ Gender \_\_\_\_\_

Pronouns \_\_\_\_\_ MIT ID# \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

## 2. Recipient Authorization

I, \_\_\_\_\_ do hereby authorize \_\_\_\_\_  
Patient name or representative  
to release a copy of my mental health record or verbal information to person or facility below.

Name of person or facility to receive medical information \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**3. Information to be Released (Note: requests for release of psychotherapy notes cannot be combined with any other type of request.)**

Verbal communication only regarding \_\_\_\_\_  Visit note(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
Specific topic or visit date(s) Specific provider or visit date(s)  
 My entire mental health record  Only those portions pertaining to: \_\_\_\_\_  
Specific provider name and/or dates of treatment

**4. Purpose of Information Release**

Further mental health care  Payment of insurance claim  Legal investigation  Legal investigation  
 Vocational rehab, evaluation  Legal investigation  Disability determination  At the request of the individual  
 Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

**5. Inclusion of Privileged Information**

- I understand that if my record contains information concerning alcohol or drug abuse/treatment that is protected by federal regulations 42 CFR, Part 2, or information concerning abortion, HIV testing and related information, AIDS or AIDS-related condition, genetic testing, STDs, domestic/sexual abuse, or developmental disabilities that is protected by MGL c111 §70, such information will be included in this disclosure.

If you do not wish to have released any of the categories of information described in the paragraph above, please specify:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**6. Patient Rights and Privacy**

- I understand that I do not have to sign the authorization in order to receive treatment or payment, or to enroll or be eligible for benefits. I understand that I may revoke this authorization by providing a written statement to MIT Health's Mental Health Service, except to the extent that Mental Health Service has already completed action on it.
- I understand that protected health information disclosed pursuant to this authorization may be re-disclosed by the recipient(s) to other individuals or organizations that are not subject to privacy protection laws. I also hereby release the MIT Health from all legal responsibilities and liabilities that may arise from the release of such protected health information.
- I understand this authorization is valid for the disclosures of the specified protected health information to the recipient above for a period of six months, and it automatically expires six months after the date this form is executed.

**10. Signature of Patient or Personal Representative:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature Date  
If signed by a personal representative: (a) print your name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(b) indicate your relationship to the patient and/or reason and legal authority for signing:  
Patient is:  minor  incompetent  disabled  deceased  
Legal authority:  parent  legal guardian  representative of deceased

**8. Submitting this form**

Once complete, please send to MIT Health's Student Mental Health & Counseling Services:

77 Massachusetts Ave., E23  
Cambridge, MA 02139-4307  
Fax: 877-932-6537

**For MIT Health's Student Mental Health & Counseling Services: use only:**

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Received by: \_\_\_\_\_ ID provided: \_\_\_\_\_ MRN: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date released: \_\_\_\_\_ Processed by: \_\_\_\_\_  Sent by FedEx  Picked up in person