

Maryland HealthCare Professionals Program

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CONSENT FOR SERVICE

The Maryland HealthCare Professionals Program (MHPP) advocates for the health and well-being of physicians, physician assistants, and other licensed healthcare providers in the state of Maryland. The Program assists practitioners with problems such as alcohol abuse, chemical dependency, or other physical, emotional, or mental health conditions that may affect their ability to practice medicine safely.

The Program provides the following services:

- Assessment of the presenting problem and referral, if appropriate, for independent evaluation by a clinically appropriate provider;
- Development of a treatment plan with periodic review;
- Referral to a clinically appropriate provider for treatment and remediation of the identified problem;
- Intensive case management to facilitate and assist the participants in meeting the requirements of their treatment plan; and
- Advocacy on behalf of the participants.

Participants may choose to access their health insurance plans for reimbursement or pay out-of-pocket for initial assessments, evaluations, recommended therapies or treatments, and ongoing toxicology costs. Once a participant is enrolled into the MHPH for monitoring, case management and advocacy, a monthly fee is charged for case management services.

The scope of advocacy includes reports on behalf of the participants, with his or her consent, to referring parties regarding the participant's progress in treatment and his or her compliance with the case management plan.

The MHPP is a confidential, private, voluntary program, compliant with HIPPA standards. It is not affiliated with the Maryland Board of Physicians or any other State Boards. It does not report to the Maryland Board of Physicians for any reason without written consent from the participant. If a participant is mandated to participate in the MHPP by a referring entity, such as a hospital, and the participant refuses consent for release of progress and compliance reports to the referring entity, the Program may only report the refusal of consent to the referring entity. Other information may not be disclosed.

Federal and state laws ensure the confidentiality of practitioners referred to the Program. Program records are non-discoverable and confidential to the extent covered by law. Exceptions to confidentiality include

- *evidence of imminent harm to self or others through good-faith assessment by program staff,*
- *medical emergencies,*
- *court-ordered disclosures, and*
- *the mandated reporting requirements of the State of Maryland regarding child abuse and neglect.*

All treatment and case management plans

- are determined on a case-by-case, individual basis after discussion by the entire clinical team and Medical Director, and with input from the participant,
- offer the participant multiple options and the opportunity to explore options regarding treatment venues and treatment providers
- are reviewed by the team and Medical Director regularly on an on-going basis and as needed.

All participants

- are entitled to review and agree to their initial plans prior to signing a participation agreement,
- are entitled to review the content of their chart, including their plans, at any time,
- are entitled to discuss the treatment plan by meeting face to face with the Medical Director if the participant disagrees with or has concerns about any element of the plan.

As the MHPP is entirely voluntary, a prospective or ongoing participant retains the right to withdraw from participation at any time.

The program retains the right to close a case for cause.

Signature of Participant

Date

Signature of Program Personnel

Date