



Still Waters Mental Health Services, LLC Bradley J. Shaw, CRNP, FNP-C, PMHNP-BC 216 N. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Suite 5, Clearfield, PA 16830 Phone: 814-205-4025 Fax: 814-240-6632

# Patient Policy Agreement Medicaid Members

<u>Please read each section carefully.</u> Sign and date at the bottom. If you would like to review these policies again, please visit: <a href="https://www.stillwatersmh.com">www.stillwatersmh.com</a>

## Late Cancellations / No Shows / Discharge

If you arrive more than 10 minutes late to an appointment, it will be considered a late cancellation / missed appointment and you may be rescheduled for another time. If you need to cancel an upcoming appointment for any reason, please allow at least 24-hour's notice, not including weekends and holidays.

If you fail to show for three (3) appointments in a 12-month rolling period, and/or if you fail to show to a scheduled appointment and do not call within 30 days to reschedule, you will be considered to have terminated treatment with Still Waters Mental Health Services, LLC. All patients must be seen at least one time every 3 months. If a required follow up is not made at the three-month period you will no longer be considered an active patient of Still Waters Mental Health Services, LLC and we will no longer accept responsibility for your care. You will be considered for reestablishment as a patient of Still Waters Mental Health Services, LLC on a case-by-case basis at the sole discretion of Bradley J. Shaw, CRNP, PMHNP-BC, FNP-C.

In addition, Still Waters Mental Health Services, LLC may discharge you from the practice immediately, at the discretion of Bradley J. Shaw, CRNP, PMHNP-BC, FNP-C, for any of the following reasons:

- Use of profanity towards staff or other patients, whether in person or via telephone or electronic media
- Threat of or actual violence towards staff or other patients
- Being on the premises of Still Waters Mental Health Services' office or parking lot while under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol
- Purposely withholding important clinical information in a deceitful or deviant manner
- If the clinician deems the patient to need a higher level of care, or if the therapeutic relationship becomes non-therapeutic for any reason at the sole discretion of Bradley J. Shaw, CRNP, PMHNP-BC, FNP-C (with 30-day's notice in most instances)
- Deliberate defamation of Still Waters Mental Health Services, LLC., or any of its staff, in personal or online environment/social media platforms

## **Medication Refills**

Medication refills are done during appointment time only so that your response to the medication(s) can be properly assessed. Prescriptions will be written with enough refills to last until your next appointment. We recommend scheduling your next appointment at the end of each session so that we can be sure you are following your treatment plan and also so you do not run out of medication.

These strict policies primarily reflect my concern for my clients' well-being. Self-assessment of psychiatric symptoms can be difficult and requires quite a bit of practice and feedback, especially early in treatment. We recommend scheduling your next appointment at the end of each follow-up appointment as our schedule fills up quickly.

If something unexpected occurs and you run out of medication before your next scheduled follow-up, please call or message our office ASAP to request a refill. Do not contact the pharmacy as this can cause delays. Please allow up to 5 business days for the refill to be approved by insurance, if appropriate. Controlled substances cannot be refilled without an appointment.

#### **Controlled Substances**

Controlled substances such as benzodiazepines and stimulants are highly regulated by the DEA. These medications can be very useful when indicated, but require more monitoring and must be part of a comprehensive treatment plan. Patients who are prescribed controlled substances must be seen at minimum once every 3 months. If you do not adhere to the agreed upon treatment plan, then I will be unable to continue to provide care to you. **There will be no early refills of controlled substances for any reason**. If you no show or late cancel for your scheduled appointment and request a refill of these medications, you will not receive a refill until you are seen.

## **Court Evaluations and Legal Matters**

Still Waters Mental Health Services, LLC does not provide court evaluations or court testimony and is not a Forensic Psychiatry office. Forensic (court) work and forensic psychiatry is a specialty that we are not trained in and we are happy to refer you to someone who does this type of therapy.

If we are ordered to testify in proceedings, it seriously undermines our therapeutic practitioner-patient relationship, is very disruptive to the office routine, and is unfair to our other patients. Please inform us immediately if you are involved in, or plan to go to court.

We accept clients only with the specific agreement that that they will not involve Bradley J. Shaw, CRNP, FNP-C, PMHNP-BC or Still Waters Mental Health Services, LLC in any legal matters, including but not limited to child custody, court-ordered treatment, worker's compensation claims, and criminal cases. We do not provide legal opinions, evaluation, nor testify for disability or child custody cases.

## **Emergency Services**

Still Waters Mental Health Services, LLC is an outpatient behavioral health clinic, and does provide after-hours availability. However, if you are unable to reach a staff member or provider by phone, you are encouraged to leave a message (by phone or by secure message on the DrChrono On-Patient platform), and a staff member will get back to you within 3 business days. If you are experiencing an emergent or urgent situation, we encourage you to call the CRISIS hotline (which is provided to you at your first appointment, and is available on our website) and/or report to the nearest emergency department.

By signing below, I acknowledge I have read and understand Still Water Mental Health Services, LLC Patient Policy Agreement.	
Patient name:	Date
Patient or Guarantor signature	Date