#### **Practice and Policies**

Updated January 2025

# **Beginning Treatment**

The 'assessment phase' of therapy typically lasts a few sessions. During this time, it is critical that we consider our goodness of fit, and your readiness, for the often difficult work that lies ahead. In order to pursue a meaningful and effective course of therapy, it is also necessary that I carefully listen to your speech, and observe how your mind works, for some time before intervention or the provision of a prognosis and treatment direction. While I understand how difficult it can be to anticipate a more conversational engagement, I have found that a non-directive approach delivers optimal intake information in the majority of cases.

#### **Telethealth Sessions**

I offer telehealth sessions via phone for my patients in the event of illness, and in some circumstances, during periods of travel when face to face meetings are not possible.

## Cancellations/No-Show

Cancellation of a scheduled session is acceptable without penalty, up to 24 hours before the session is set to take place. If, for any reason, you cancel with less than 24 hours notice, or do not arrive for a session without notifying me in advance, you will be billed the normal fee for the session. Please note that neither OHP nor private insurance will reimburse fees for missed sessions.

### Insurance, Payment, and Financial Agreement

I accept Oregon Health Plan (OHP) for patients enrolled with the Care Oregon CCO. I do not bill private insurance. However, I can provide you with a 'super bill' so that you may seek reimbursement via your insurer's out-of-network (OON) benefits allowance. Please note that you are responsible for

your bill, and I *cannot guarantee* that your insurer will reimburse you for our sessions. Some questions to ask your insurer to help you determine when and whether you may be reimbursed are:

- \* What is my Out-of-Network deductible for outpatient mental health and have I met it?
- \* Do I need a referral from an in-network provider to see someone Out-of-Network?
- \* What is my coinsurance for Out-of-Network therapy sessions?
- \* How do I submit claims for reimbursement?

I charge a fee of \$150 per psychotherapy session, including initial consultations. In some cases I may accept a sliding scale payment for patients who are uninsured and facing economic challenges. I accept all major credit and debit cards, HSA debit cards, Zelle, PayPal, check, cash, and ACH (bank) transfers.

I send monthly invoices, at the end of the month, for sessions that take place during that same month. These invoices are sent via encrypted email, without any information identifying you. I ask that you please pay promptly.

While you can pay using any of the methods I accept, I ask that new patients keep a credit or debit card on file with me as a backup form of payment. I store this information securely. *If your invoice is unpaid by the next billing cycle, you will be assessed a late fee of* \$50, and your backup payment method will be used.