



Premier Wellness Healthcare
103 N Main Street
Bel Air, MD 21014
888-333-1345
www.prewellhealth.com

Confidentiality

In general, the privacy of all communication between a patient and provider, and information can only be released to others with written permission.

In most legal proceedings, you have the right to prevent your provider from providing any information about your treatment. In some proceedings involving child custody and those in which your emotional condition is an important issue, a judge may order testimony if they determine that the issue demands it. We will not release any information to a court without a judge's court order.

Limits on Confidentiality

There are very few situations in which we are required to break confidentiality:

- If you inform your provider that you are threatening serious bodily harm to yourself or someone else, your provider must take protective action that may include hospitalization, contacting the police, and/or notifying the potential victim.
- If your provider believes any child under 18, elderly, or disabled person is being abused, neglected, or exploited, they are required to file a report to the appropriate agency, usually the Office of Child Protective Services and law enforcement. Once such a report is filed, your provider may be required to provide additional information. If abuse, neglect, or exploitation occurred in the past, your provider is still required to file a report to the appropriate agency.
- If a judge (court order) requires your provider to testify about you or you are being accused of a crime and use your sanity as a defense. If you are involved in a court proceeding and a request is made for information concerning the professional services provided by Premier Wellness Healthcare, such information is protected by the psychologist-patient privilege law. Premier Wellness Healthcare nor your provider cannot provide any information without you or your legal representative's written authorization, or a judge's court order. If you are involved in or contemplating litigation, you should consult with your attorney to determine whether a court would be likely to order your provider to disclose information.
- If you file a complaint or lawsuit against Premier Wellness Healthcare or your provider, your records will be used as a defense.
- If a medical emergency arises while you are in session, Premier Wellness Healthcare or your provider will telephone the emergency contact designated on your intake form.
- If you file a worker's compensation claim and your provider is providing services related to that claim, your provider must provide appropriate reports to the Worker's Compensation Commission or the insurer.
- If a government agency is requesting information for health oversight activities, your provider may be required to provide it to them.

The above situations are rare, and your provider will make every effort to fully discuss them with you before taking any action. Let's discuss any concerns that you may have regarding the above. The laws governing confidentiality are complex, and certain situations may require legal advice. If Premier Wellness Healthcare or your provider consults with another professional about a case, they will make every effort to avoid revealing identifying information. The consultant is also legally bound to keep the information confidential. Please also know that Premier Wellness



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Healthcare is an office with other healthcare professionals where protected information may be shared for administrative purposes and confidentiality is protected.

Designated Spokesperson

Because of privacy rules, providers may not release your health information to anyone without your permission. This includes family members or friends that you may want the provider to keep informed. You may authorize us to share information with specific individuals that you designate as your **Spokesperson(s)**. If you provide this authorization, here are some things that you should be aware of:

- We will share information about the services rendered by PWH Providers only, either in person or over the telephone.
- Once this information is released to the spokesperson, it may no longer be protected by federal privacy regulations.
- The designated spokesperson(s), Medical Power of Attorney, Health Care Agent, or other individual allowed by law will be the only individual(s) who may obtain information about you.
- Your spokesperson does not have decision-making abilities unless they are able to do that as outlined in the law.
- The authorization will expire one year after the date on the Patient Consent Signature form.
- You may withdraw this authorization at any time by notifying the PWH Privacy Officer in writing. If you do withdraw the authorization, it will not have any effect on actions taken by PWH before receiving the written request.
- You may refuse to sign this authorization. Your treatment will not be affected in any way by your choice to grant or not grant spokesperson authorization.