

**AUTHORIZATION AND CONSENT TO RECEIVE 6M GERIATRICS & HOSPITAL MEDICINE  
TELEHEALTH SERVICES**

The purpose of this form is to obtain and document your consent to receive telehealth services provided by 6M Geriatrics & Hospital Medicine ("6M Geri").

**What are Telehealth Services?** Telehealth services are health services such as evaluation and management visits which are conducted using interactive video, audio and telecommunications technology ("telehealth technology") through computers, tablets or smart phones, rather than in-person.

**Why is 6M Geri Offering Telehealth Services?** The use of telehealth services will help ensure you are able to visit with your 6M Geri health care provider or clinician without having an in-person visit.

**Why is my consent required?** Governmental payors and private payors have expanded their coverage of telehealth services; in some cases this is only a temporary expansion. We wish to first obtain each patient's/responsible party's consent to the use of telehealth services, and document this consent in the patient's medical record. Some payors require this consent.

**What are some of the risks of using telehealth services?** In order to encourage the use of telehealth services during the current Public Health Emergency, the federal government agreed March 17, 2020 that it would not enforce some of the HIPAA rules relating to the use and disclosure of Protected Health Information (PHI). You should be aware that PHI is at greater risk of improper disclosure during telehealth services, because:

- Your PHI, which may include medical history, examinations, x-rays, or other tests, will be discussed, including with other health professionals through the use of telehealth technology.
- Assessments and physical examinations may take place via telehealth technology.
- Non-medical technical or administrative personnel may be present at our location to assist us with the operation of the telehealth technology and necessary record keeping. Video and/or digital images and audio files may be recorded during telehealth services. At your location, household members or others present may hear or see PHI while you receive telehealth services.
- The telehealth technology used to host telehealth communications with you are vulnerable to cyber threats like any other information technology service.

**Other things to know:**

1) **Getting Used to Telehealth Technology.** At first, you may find it difficult or uncomfortable to communicate using video images or other telehealth technology. Delivering healthcare in this way is new and may not be equivalent to direct patient-to-provider or clinician contact. Following the telehealth services visit your 6M Geri provider or clinician may recommend an in-person visit or other follow up for you.

2) **Rights.** You may withhold or withdraw consent to receiving telehealth services at any time without affecting your right to future care or treatment by 6M Geri. However, without your consent, your insurance plan may not pay for your telehealth care services.

3) **Medical Information and Records.** Except as mentioned above, existing laws regarding patient privacy and access to medical information and obtaining copies of your medical records apply to telehealth services.

***CONSENT: I have been advised of the potential risks and benefits of receiving telehealth services by 6M Geri. I have had an opportunity to ask questions about these risks and benefits and all of my questions have been answered, I understand the information that I have been provided. I hereby consent to receive telehealth services as described from 6M Geri.***

Patient or other authorized representative signature

Printed name \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_