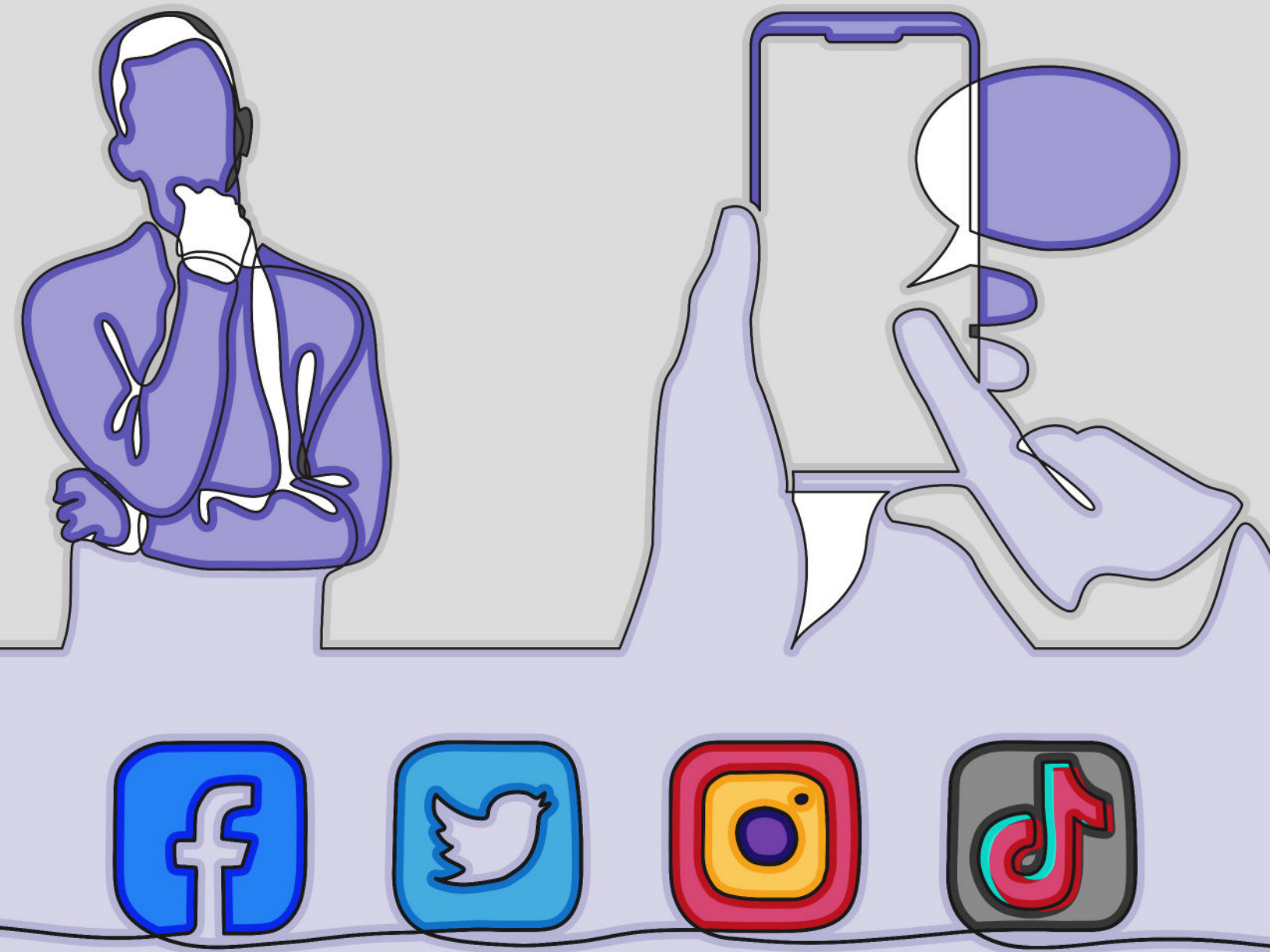


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Social Media HIPAA Policy Checklist




In an era dominated by the rapid dissemination of information and the omnipresence of social platforms, the complexities surrounding HIPAA compliance for therapists have grown exponentially. As professionals committed to safeguarding the privacy and well-being of our clients, we find ourselves facing a pivotal juncture. How do we adapt and thrive in this dynamic environment while upholding the essential principles enshrined within HIPAA?

Within this digital landscape, therapists must gracefully navigate the intricate path of adhering to HIPAA policies while embracing the boundless potential of social media. To aid in this endeavor, we present a comprehensive checklist, meticulously crafted to ensure compliance with the utmost care. So, join us on this journey as we explore the intersection of pixels and compassion, where the healing touch of humanity extends beyond physical boundaries. Together, let us unravel the secrets of responsible digital connection, delving into the realm where pixels and emotions entwine.


Policies & Processes

-  **Develop your own policies and process manual to reference when needed.**
Private practice owner? Develop clear policies covering social media use and ensure all team members are aware of how HIPAA relates to social media platforms.


Training

-  **Ensure you are properly trained and ask questions or conduct research to fill in any knowledge gaps.**
Private practice owner? [Create an engaging and easy-to-understand training for team members or colleagues.](#) (Pro tip: Teaching helps to foster deeper learning!) Train all team members on acceptable social media use as part of HIPAA training and conduct refresher training sessions periodically.


Outline Examples

-  **Develop a list of examples for reference on what social media use is acceptable - and what is not!**
Private practice owner? Provide the examples to team members as a tool to improve understanding.


Understand Potential Consequences

-  **Get familiar with the possible sanctions for violations of HIPAA social media rules (termination, loss of license, criminal penalties).**
Private practice owner? Communicate the possible sanctions for violations of your [HIPAA social media rules to team members. Especially newer licensed clinicians may fall victim to this, not recognizing the harm of social media.](#)


Representing Yourself on Social Media

-  **If you're concerned about the post, get a second set of eyes or reach out to HIPAA experts. Better to ask before! Be aware of how you may be representing yourself or your agency on social media. Mistakes in this way could damage your reputation and your brand trust. If necessary, ensure all professional uses of social media sites are approved prior to posting to a social media network.**
Private practice owner? Ensure team members are aware of the policies.media platforms.

Regular Review

-  **Review policies annually to keep up with any changes or concerns. Update policies as needed.**
Private practice owner? Make sure to offer regular training or updated information to team members.

Keep Records

-  **Maintain a record of social media posts with a tracking tool. Ensure any copy, imagery, and commenting is tracked as well.**
Private practice owner? Keep team members on board with keeping records if they have their own accounts, or encourage them to use the agency account. Consider hiring a social media manager who is trained and well-versed in HIPAA-conscious social media use. Remember to ask about this, as it is therapy or medical niche specific requirement and not always necessary for social media professionals to know.

Moderate Comments



Moderate all commenting on social media platforms.

Private practice owner? Get your team on board with this and encourage reporting of potential violations.

Disperse Information to Clients



Ensure your privacy practices clearly outline your social media policies. Make sure this is distributed to clients and any necessary forms are signed. Use disclosures when sharing any client information or pictures.

Private practice owner? Distribute the necessary forms to your team and ensure they are communicating the policies correctly. Perform regular audits.

Packaged & Relevant Downloads

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HIPAA Compliance Checklist.

As a therapist running your own practice, it is crucial to prioritize HIPAA compliance to ensure the protection of your patients' confidential information. Achieving full compliance with HIPAA can be an extensive process that requires a significant investment of time, energy, and financial resources. However, the benefits of compliance cannot be overstated.

To help guide you through the process, we've prepared a comprehensive checklist of items that you should address to achieve HIPAA compliance, whether you are setting up shop for the first time or conducting a periodic audit of your HIPAA practices.



[Th HIPAA Compliance Checklist](#)

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[Download This Checklist](#)

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A comprehensive social media policy for your therapy practice

[Please modify the policy as you see fit for your own practice]

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A free, secure space for mental health professionals to collaborate with and meet new colleagues, support each other with referrals and stay connected to a trusted network of peers.

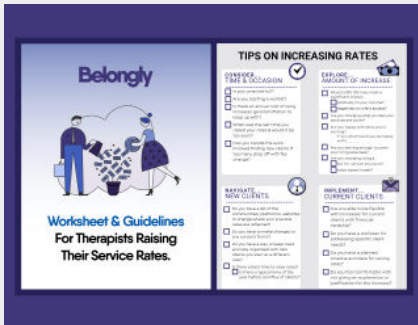
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[A Social Media Policy For Therapists](#)

The American Psychological Association recommends including a social media policy in your informed consent process. Your social media policy should explain to your clients why you have a social media policy in the first place. Be clear that it's not because you don't trust them; in fact, it's the opposite...

[Download This Worksheet](#)

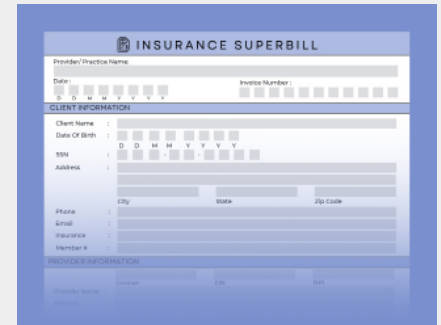
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[Therapy Intervention Words & Phrasing Guide](#)



[Daily Media Opportunities For Mental Health Professionals](#)



[The Tax Deduction Cheatsheet For Therapists](#)

Videos & Webinars Worth Watching



WEBINAR: Grow your online course offering and social media presence



WEBINAR: How to build a thriving mental health practice.



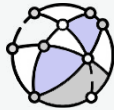
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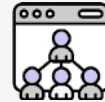
Belongly is a secure private platform. Currently, we only accept US-based therapists.



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