

Informed Consent

Generally, informed consent refers to the agreement by a client to undergo a treatment after being informed of and having understood the risks involved.

All North Dakota Licensed Addiction Counselors sign an agreement (upon initial application and biennially thereafter) stating they have read, understand, and will abide by the Code of Ethics. The North Dakota Board of Addiction Counseling Examiner's (NDBACE) has adopted the NADAAC Code of Ethics (www.naadac.org/code-of-ethics).

According to the National Association for Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Counselors (NAADAC), **INFORMED CONSENT** information must be presented in **clear and understandable language** that **informs the client or guardian** of:

- ▶ purpose of the service(s)
- ▶ risks related to the service(s)
- ▶ limits of service(s) due to requirements from a third party payer
- ▶ relevant costs
- ▶ reasonable alternatives
- ▶ client's right to refuse or withdraw consent within the time frames covered by the consent

North Dakota Administrative Code (NDAC) Article 75-09.1 requires all licensed substance abuse treatment programs to implement a written policy regarding informed consent for services guided by professional and legal requirements.

please consult with your agency attorney