



The Denver Institute for Psychoanalysis is issuing a position statement in response to COVID-19 that now impacts all of us. It is our ethical responsibility to face this new reality and to take reasonable and scientifically based precautions to protect our patients, ourselves and the community at large.

We are hopeful that this statement is clear and straightforward in a way that helps us make smart decisions during this time of uncertainty.

Position Statement on Telehealth during COVID-19

The faculty, candidates and PTP students of the Denver Institute for Psychoanalysis should follow all local and national directives relating to COVID-19. As health care providers we may be exempt from certain stay-at-home directives. However, in our role as psychoanalysts, we are able to use the multitude of tele-health or telephone options available as a way of continuing our analytic and psychotherapy treatments without meeting in-person. Therefore, in making every effort to protect the health of our patients, ourselves, our colleagues and our communities, the Institute recommends:

All Faculty and Candidates of the Institute

- take reasonable and scientifically based precautions to protect our patients, ourselves and the community at large.
- follow all local and national directives relating to COVID-19.
- provide tele-health platforms as a way of continuing our analytic and psychotherapy treatments.
- do not meet in-person with patients.

Faculty and Supervisors:

- model, teach and supervise flexible ways of working and thinking analytically during this time as this pandemic may affect all of us in various ways; emotionally, economically and physically.
- work with candidates on treatment skills and techniques for working using telehealth modalities.
- work with candidates in understanding the implications of the shifts in treatment, either in modality, frequency, or interruptions.
- explore with candidates the ethical dilemmas inherent in these decisions.

Candidates:

- understand that the decision to temporarily reduce frequency or meet using telehealth modalities during the COVID-19 pandemic will not adversely affect their candidacy or graduation.
- work with their supervisors to develop the proper recommendations for treatment, to understand the analytic meaning of these changes, and implications for conducting the treatment.
- work with their supervisors and teaching faculty on skills for treatment using telehealth modalities, managing interruptions or changes in frequency.

Respectfully submitted,
Executive Committee

Adopted: March 26, 2020