

POLICY:

Confidential information is any fact about another person, which if shared with others could pose distress or hardship to that person or their family. No one from the group, including the Facilitator, shall recognize, acknowledge or introduce women/men they casually run into between meetings as either being from the group or is living with lupus.

During the course of this support group meeting you will become aware of participants names and personal information. As a member of this group it is your responsibility to ensure that this information is not shared outside of the group meeting or with anyone who is not a member of this support group.

A BREACH IN CONFIDENTIALITY

- ◇ Takes away the person's right to the privacy that was agreed to.
- ◇ Gives group members the message that the group may not be a safe place in which to learn and to share experiences and information.
- ◇ Breaks the circle of group trust and loyalty and keeps discussion at a less meaningful and superficial level.
- ◇ Can have a negative long-term impact on important things such as family relationships, employment, insurance benefits etc.

DISCUSSING CONFIDENTIALITY GUIDELINES WITH YOUR GROUP AS A FACILITATOR

- ◇ Not everyone in your group will have the same understanding of Confidentiality as it applies to the group.
- ◇ Have a group discussion concerning Confidentiality at least once a year to review and reinforce Guidelines.
- ◇ This will also encourage and promote trust in the group.
- ◇ Have each person share what Group Confidentiality means to them and give an example of this.
- ◇ Capture what you can on paper to share with new members during the next 12 months.

Failure to comply with this confidentiality policy may result in an individual being asked to leave the group.

I _____ agree to the conditions of the above confidentiality policy and will, to the best of my ability keep names and personal information about group members in strictest confidence.

DATE