

NATUROPATHIC CONSENT TO TREATMENT FORM

Naturopathic Medicine is the treatment and prevention of diseases by natural means. Naturopaths assess the whole person, taking into consideration physical, mental, emotional and spiritual aspects of the individual. Gentle, non-invasive techniques are generally used in order to stimulate the body's inherent healing capacity.

A number of different approaches are used. Diet and Nutritional supplements, botanical medicine, homeopathy, traditional Chinese medicine and acupuncture, hydrotherapy and lifestyle counseling are the mainstays of naturopathic medicine.

Individual diets and nutritional supplements are recommended to address deficiencies, treat disease processes and promote health. The benefits include increased energy, increased gastrointestinal function, improved immunity and general well being.

Botanical Medicine is a plant based medicine using herbal teas, tinctures, capsules and other forms of herbal preparations to assist in the recovery from injury and disease. These compounds are also used to boost the body's immune system and prevent disease.

Homeopathy is a form of medicine based on the Law of Similars- that is the use of tiny extremely diluted doses of the very thing that causes symptoms in healthy people. These minute doses of plant, animal or mineral origins are used to stimulate the body's ability to heal itself. Homeopathy is a powerful tool and affects healing on a physical and emotional level.

Asian Medicine includes acupuncture, as well as the use of botanical formulas and dietary changes to eliminate disease and balance body functions. Acupuncture refers to the insertion of sterilized needles through the skin into underlying tissues at specific points on the surface of the body. Sometimes moxa (a compressed herb in the form of a stick) is burned over an acupuncture point to help relieve symptoms. Botanical formulas may be given in the form of pills, tinctures or decoctions (strong teas) to be taken internally or used externally as a wash. Herbal formulas may include shell, mineral, animal and plant materials. Dietary advice is based on traditional Chinese medical theory.

Hydrotherapy refers to the use of hot and cold water applications to improve circulation and stimulate the immune system.

As naturopathic medicine is a holistic approach to health, lifestyle is considered relevant to most health problems. I will try to help you to identify risk factors and make recommendations to help you optimize your physical, mental and emotional environment.

I will take a thorough case history, do a screening physical examination including breast examination if indicated.

Even the gentlest therapies have their complications in certain physiological conditions such as pregnancy and lactation, in very young children or those with multiple medications. Some therapies must be used with caution in certain diseases such as diabetes, heart, liver or kidney disease. It is very important that you inform me immediately of any disease process that you are suffering from or if you are taking any medications. If you are pregnant, suspect you are pregnant or you are breast-feeding please inform me as well.

There are some slight health risks to treatment by naturopathic medicine. These include but are not limited to:

- Temporary aggravation of pre-existing symptoms
- Allergic reactions to herbs or supplements
- Bruising from acupuncture, intramuscular injection, mesotherapy and neural therapy

A record will be kept of health services provided to you. This record will be kept confidential and will not be released to others unless you give your consent or the law requires it. You may look at your medical record at any time and can request a copy of it by paying the appropriate fee for copying charges.

I _____ understand that my naturopathic doctor will answer any questions to the best of her ability. I understand that results are not guaranteed. I do not expect my naturopath to be able to anticipate and explain all risks and complications. I will rely on my naturopathic doctor to exercise judgement during the course of the procedure which they feel at that time is in my best interests based on the facts then known. With this knowledge, I voluntarily consent to diagnostic and therapeutic procedures mentioned above, except for: (please list any exceptions below)

I understand this consent form to cover the entire course of my treatment for my present condition. I understand that I am free to withdraw my consent and to discontinue participation in these procedures at any time.

Patient Name: (please print) _____

Signature of Patient or Guardian: _____

Date: _____

I would like to apply my consent to treat retroactively to include

all treatments received since _____ .

Signature of Patient or Guardian: _____