

## Testosterone Pellet Insertion Consent Form

Bio-identical testosterone pellets are concentrated, compounded hormone, biologically identical to the testosterone that is made in your own body. Testosterone was made in your testicles prior to "andropause." Bio-identical hormones have the same effects on your body as your own testosterone did when you were younger. Hormone pellets are made from soy and hormone replacement using pellets has been used in Europe, the US and Canada since the 1930's. Your risks are similar to those of any testosterone replacement but may be lower risk than alternative forms. During andropause, the risk of not receiving adequate hormone therapy can outweigh the risks of replacing testosterone with pellets.

### Risks of not receiving testosterone therapy after andropause include but are not limited to:

Arteriosclerosis, elevation of cholesterol, obesity, loss of strength and stamina, generalized aging, osteoporosis, mood disorders, depression, arthritis, loss of libido, erectile dysfunction, loss of skin tone, diabetes, increased overall inflammatory processes, dementia and Alzheimer's disease, and many other symptoms of aging.

**CONSENT FOR TREATMENT:** I consent to the insertion of testosterone pellets in my hip. I have been informed that I may experience any of the complications to this procedure as described below. **Surgical risks are the same as for any minor medical procedure and are included in the list of overall risks below:**

Bleeding, bruising, swelling, infection and pain. Lack of effect (typically from lack of absorption). Thinning hair, male pattern baldness. Increased growth of prostate and prostate tumors. Extrusion of pellets. Hyper sexuality (overactive Libido). Ten to fifteen percent shrinkage in testicle size. There can also be a significant reduction in sperm production.

There is some risk, even with natural testosterone therapy, of enhancing an existing current prostate cancer to grow more rapidly. For this reason, a rectal exam and prostate specific antigen blood test is to be done before starting testosterone pellet therapy and will be conducted each year thereafter. If there is any question about possible prostate cancer, a follow-up with an ultrasound of the prostate gland may be required as well as a referral to a qualified specialist. While urinary symptoms typically improve with testosterone, rarely they may worsen, or worsen before improving. Testosterone therapy may increase one's hemoglobin and hematocrit, or thicken one's blood. This problem can be diagnosed with a blood test. Thus, a complete blood count (Hemoglobin & Hematocrit.) should be done at least annually. This condition can be reversed simply by donating blood periodically.

### BENEFITS OF TESTOSTERONE PELLETS INCLUDE:

Increased libido, energy, and sense of well-being. Increased Muscle mass and strength and stamina. Decreased frequency and severity of migraine headaches. Decrease in mood swings, anxiety and irritability (secondary to hormonal decline). Decreased weight (Increase in lean body mass). Decrease in risk or severity of diabetes. Decreased risk of heart disease. Decreased risk of Alzheimer's and Dementia

I have read and understand the above. I have been encouraged and have had the opportunity to ask any questions regarding pellet therapy. All of my questions have been answered to my satisfaction. I further acknowledge that there may be risks of testosterone therapy that we do not yet know, at this time, and that the risks and benefits of this treatment have been explained to me and I have been informed that I may experience complications, including one or more of those listed above. I accept these risks and benefits and I consent to the insertion of hormone pellets under my skin. This consent is ongoing for this and all future pellet insertions.

I understand that payment is due in full at the time of service. I also understand that it is my responsibility to submit a claim to my insurance company for possible reimbursement. I have been advised that most insurance companies do not consider pellet therapy to be a covered benefit and my insurance company may not reimburse me, depending on my coverage. I acknowledge that my provider has no contracts with any insurance company and is not contractually obligated to pre-certify treatment with my insurance company or answer letters of appeal.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Today's Date



## Hormone Replacement Fee Acknowledgment

Preventative medicine and bio-identical hormone replacement is a unique practice and is considered a form of alternative medicine. Even though the physicians and nurses are board certified as Medical Doctors and RN's or NP's, insurance does not recognize it as necessary medicine BUT is considered like plastic surgery (esthetic medicine) and therefore is not covered by health insurance in most cases.

This practice is not associated with any insurance companies, which means they are not obligated to pay for our services (blood work, consultations, insertions or pellets). We require payment at time of service and, if you choose, we will provide a form to send to your insurance company and a receipt showing that you paid out of pocket. WE WILL NOT, however, communicate in any way with insurance companies.

The form and receipt are your responsibility and serve as evidence of your treatment. We will not call, write, pre-certify, or make any contact with your insurance company. Any follow up letters from your insurance to us will be thrown away. If we receive a check from your insurance company, we will not cash it, but instead return it to the sender. Likewise, we will not mail it to you. We will not respond to any letters or calls from your insurance company.

For patients who have access to Health Savings Account, you may pay for your treatment with that credit or debit card. This is the best idea for those patients who have an HSA as an option in their medical coverage.

<b>New Patient Consult Fee .....</b>	<b>\$125.00</b>
<b>Male Hormone Pellet Insertion Fee.....</b>	<b>\$800.00</b>
<b>Late Cancellation/Missed Appointment.....</b>	<b>\$100.00</b>

**We accept the following forms of payment:**

**Master Card, Visa, Discover, Personal Checks and Cash.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Today's Date

## Post-Insertion Instructions for Men

- Your insertion site has been covered with two layers of bandages. The inner layer is a steri-strip and the outer layer is a waterproof dressing.
- We recommend putting an ice pack on the insertion area a couple of times for about 20 minutes each time over the next 4 to 5 hours. You can continue for swelling if needed. *Be sure to place something between the ice pack and you bandages/skin. Do not place ice packs directly on bare skin.*
- Do not take tub baths or get into a hot tub or swimming pool for 7 days. You may shower but do not scrub the site until the incision is well healed (about 7 days).
- **No major exercises** for the incision area for the next 7 days, this includes running, elliptical, squats, lunges, riding a horse, etc. You can do moderate upper body work and walking.
- The sodium bicarbonate in the anesthetic may cause the site to swell for 1-3 days. Don't worry.....this is normal.
- The insertion site may be uncomfortable for up to 2 to 3 weeks. If there is itching or redness you may take Benadryl for relief, 50 mg. orally every 6 hours. Caution this can cause drowsiness!
- You may experience bruising, swelling, and/or redness of the insertion site which may last from a few days up to 2 to 3 weeks.
- You may notice some pinkish or bloody discoloration of the outer bandage. This is normal.
- If you experience bleeding from the incision, apply firm pressure for 5 minutes.
- Please call if you have any bleeding (not oozing) that is not relieved by pressure, as this is NOT normal.
- Please call if you have any pus coming out of the insertion site, as this is NOT normal.
- Remember to go for your post-insertion blood work 4 weeks after the insertion.
- Most men will need re-insertions of their pellets 5-6 months after their initial insertion.
- Please call as soon as symptoms that were relieved from the pellets start to return to make an appointment for a re-insertion. The charge for the second visit will be only for the insertion and not a consultation unless you would like to discuss treatment and additional hormonal health matters.

### Reminders:

#### Please have your labs rechecked:

( ) 4 weeks after your insertion

( ) 2 weeks before your next insertion

( ) Yearly

#### Prescriptions:

( ) DIM \_\_\_\_\_ Every \_\_\_\_\_

( ) Femara \_\_\_\_\_ Every \_\_\_\_\_

( ) Vitamin D \_\_\_\_\_ Every \_\_\_\_\_

( ) Other \_\_\_\_\_ Every \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name

Signature

Today's Date

## WHAT MIGHT OCCUR AFTER A PELLETT INSERTION

A significant hormonal transition will occur in the first four weeks after the insertion of your hormone pellets. Therefore, certain changes might develop that can be bothersome.

- **FLUID RETENTION:** Testosterone stimulates the muscle to grow and retain water which may result in a weight change of two to five pounds. This is only temporary. This happens frequently with the first insertion, and especially during hot, humid weather conditions.
- **SWELLING of the HANDS & FEET:** This is common in hot and humid weather. It may be treated by drinking lots of water, reducing your salt intake, taking cider vinegar capsules daily, (found at most health and food stores) or by taking a mild diuretic, which the office can prescribe.
- **MOOD SWINGS/IRRITABILITY:** These may occur if you were quite deficient in hormones. They will disappear when enough hormones are in your system.
- **FACIAL BREAKOUT:** Some pimples may arise if the body is very deficient in testosterone. This lasts a short period of time and can be handled with a good face cleansing routine, astringents and toner. If these solutions do not help, please call the office for suggestions and possibly prescriptions.
- **HAIR LOSS:** Is rare and usually occurs in patients who convert testosterone to DHT. Dosage adjustment generally reduces or eliminates the problem. Prescription medications may be necessary in rare cases.
- **HAIR GROWTH:** Testosterone may stimulate some growth of hair on your chin, chest, nipples and/or lower abdomen. This tends to be hereditary. You may also have to shave your legs and arms more often. Dosage adjustment generally reduces or eliminates the problem.

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Print Name

Signature

Today's Date