Health Assessment For Women (Female Symptom Questionnaire)

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Which of the following symptoms apply to you currently (in the last 2 weeks)? Please mark the appropriate box for each symptom. For symptoms that do not currently apply or no longer apply, mark "never".

Symptoms	Never (0)	Mild (1)	Moderate (2)	Severe (3)	Very Severe (4)
Hot flashes					
Sweating (night sweats or increased episodes of sweating)					
Sleep problems (difficulty falling asleep, sleeping through the night or waking up too early)					
Depressive mood (feeling down, sad, on the verge of tears, lack of drive)					
Irritability (mood swings, feeling aggressive, angers easily)					
Anxiety (inner restlessness, feeling panicky, feeling nervous, inner tension)					
Physical exhaustion (general decrease in muscle strength or endurance, decrease in work performance, fatigue, lack of energy, stamina or motivation)					
Sexual problems (change in sexual desire, in sexual activity and/or orgasm and satisfaction)					
Bladder problems (difficulty in urinating, increased need to urinate, incontinence)					
Vaginal symptoms (sensation of dryness or burning in vagina, difficulty with sexual intercourse)					
Joint and muscular symptoms (joint pain or swelling, muscle weakness, poor recovery after exercise)					
Difficulties with memory					
Problems with thinking, concentrating or reasoning					
Difficulty learning new things					
Trouble thinking of the right word to describe persons, places or things when speaking					
Increase in frequency or intensity of headaches or migraines					
Hair loss, thinning or change in texture of hair					
Feel cold all the time or have cold hands or feet					
Weight gain or difficulty losing weight despite diet and exercise					
Dry or wrinkled skin					
Total:					

Severity	Score
Mild	1 - 20
Moderate	21 - 40
Severe	41 - 60
Very Severe	61 - 80

Signature Women's Healthcare

Address and Contact Information

Name: _____ Date of birth: _____

Date: _____ Diagnosis: ICD10 _____

Re: Reimbursement for services

FEMALE LETTER OF NECESSITY FOR PELLET THERAPY

To whom it may concern:

_____

_____

Pellets are derived from natural plant-based ingredients. They are formulated in specialized 503B compounding pharmacies and possess the exact hormonal structure of the human hormone testosterone. These pellets, once implanted, secrete hormones in tiny amounts into the bloodstream constantly. No other form of testosterone delivery, whether injections, gels, sprays, creams, or patches can produce the consistent blood level of testosterone that pellets can. Pellet therapy is the only method of testosterone therapy that gives sustained and consistent testosterone levels throughout the day, for 4 to 6 months, without a "roller coaster" effect. Other forms of testosterone therapy simply cannot deliver such steady hormone levels.

The dosages are individualized by the physician or practitioner for the patient taking into consideration his current and past medical history as well as prior experience with other forms of therapy, current medications, etc. No other form of therapy has unique dosages which can be tailored to each individual patient to suit his special needs.

The above patient was seen in my office and was diagnosed with:

☐ Testosterone deficiency syndrome and/or ☐ Menopause

Her lab values indicate significant androgen and/or estrogen deficiency. Prior to pellet therapy, the patient experienced:

☐ Decreased libido ☐ Decreased energy ☐ Mood swings ☐ Anxiety ☐ Poor memory

☐ Lack of mental clarity ☐ Joint pain ☐ Lethargy and/or ☐ Other _____

Pellet therapy helps alleviate these symptoms and help improve her quality of life both physically and mentally and has benefited her overall well-being. Please honor her request for reimbursement.

Sincerely,

_____

Doctor or clinic name

Name: _____ Date of birth: _____

HIPAA INFORMATION AND CONSENT FORM

The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) provides safeguards to protect your privacy. Implementation of HIPAA requirements officially began on April 14, 2003. Many of the policies have been our practice for years. This form is a "friendly" version. A more complete text is posted in the office.

What this is all about: Specifically, there are rules and restrictions on who may see or be notified of your Protected Health Information (PHI). These restrictions do not include the normal interchange of information necessary to provide you with office services. HIPAA provides certain rights and protections to you as the patient. We balance these needs with our goal of providing you with quality professional service and care. Additional information is available from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, www.hhs.gov.

We have adopted the following policies:

1. Patient information will be kept confidential except as is necessary to provide services or to ensure that all administrative matters related to your care are handled appropriately. This specifically includes the sharing of information with other health-care providers, laboratories, health insurance payers as is necessary and appropriate for your care. Patient files may be stored in open file racks and will not contain any coding which identifies a patient's condition or information which is not already a matter of public record. The normal course of providing care means that such records may be left, at least temporarily, in administrative areas such as the front office, examination room, etc. Those records will not be available to persons other than office staff. You agree to the normal procedures utilized within the office for the handling of charts, patient records, PHI, and other documents or information.
2. It is the policy of this office to remind patients of their appointments. We may do this by telephone, e-mail, U.S. mail, or by any means convenient for the practice and/or as requested by you. We may send you other communications informing you of changes to office policy and new technology that you might find valuable or informative.
3. The practice utilizes a number of vendors in the conduct of business. These vendors may have access to PHI but must agree to abide by the confidentiality rules of HIPAA.
4. You understand and agree to inspections of the office and review of documents which may include PHI by government agencies or insurance payers in normal performance of their duties.
5. You agree to bring any concerns or complaints regarding privacy to the attention of the office manager or the doctor.
6. Your confidential information will not be used for the purposes of marketing or advertising of products, goods, or services.
7. We agree to provide patients with access to their records in accordance with state and federal laws.
8. We may change, add, delete, or modify any of these provisions to better serve the needs of both the practice and the patient.
9. You have the right to request restrictions in the use of your protected health information and to request change in certain policies used within the office concerning your PHI. However, we are not obligated to alter internal policies to conform to your request.

I do hereby consent and acknowledge my agreement to the terms set forth in the HIPAA INFORMATION FORM and any subsequent changes in office policy. I understand that this consent shall remain in force from this time forward.

I ACKNOWLEDGE THAT I HAVE RECEIVED A COPY AND UNDERSTAND THE INSTRUCTIONS ON THIS FORM.

Print name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Name: _____ Date of birth: _____

FEMALE PATIENT QUESTIONNAIRE & HISTORY

Name: _____ Date: _____

Date of birth: _____ Age: _____ Weight: _____ Occupation: _____

Home address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home phone: _____ Cell phone: _____ Work: _____

Preferred contact number: _____

May we send messages via text regarding appts to your cell? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Email address: _____ May we contact you via email? ☐ Yes ☐ No

In case of emergency contact: _____ Relationship: _____

Home phone: _____ Cell phone: _____ Work: _____

Primary care physician's name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____
Address / City / State / Zip

Marital status (check one): ☐ Married ☐ Divorced ☐ Widow ☐ Living with partner ☐ Single

In the event we cannot contact you by the means you have provided above, we would like to know if we have permission to speak to your spouse or significant other about your treatment. By giving the information below you are giving us permission to speak with your spouse or significant other about your treatment.

Name: _____ Relationship: _____

Home phone: _____ Cell phone: _____ Work: _____

Social:

☐ I am sexually active.	OR	☐ I want to be sexually active.	☐ I do not want to be sexually active.
☐ I have completed my family.	OR	☐ I have NOT completed my family.	
☐ My sex life has suffered.	OR	☐ I have not been able to have an orgasm or it is very difficult.	

Habits:

☐ I smoke cigarettes or cigars_____per day. ☐ I use e-cigarettes_____a day. ☐ I use caffeine_____a day.

☐ I drink alcoholic beverages_____per week. ☐ I drink more than 10 alcoholic beverages a week.

Name: _____ Date of birth: _____

FEMALE PATIENT QUESTIONNAIRE & HISTORY CONTINUED

Drug allergies

Drug allergies: _____ If yes, please explain: _____

Have you ever had any issues with local anesthesia? ☐ Yes ☐ No Do you have a latex allergy? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Medications currently taking: _____

Current hormone replacement? ☐ Yes ☐ No If yes, what? _____

Past hormone replacement therapy: _____

Family history:

☐ Heart disease ☐ Diabetes ☐ Osteoporosis ☐ Alzheimer's/dementia ☐ Breast cancer ☐ Other_____

Pertinent medical/surgical history:

- ☐ Breast cancer
- ☐ Uterine cancer
- ☐ Ovarian cancer
- ☐ Polycystic ovaries/PCOS
- ☐ Acne
- ☐ Excess facial/body hair
- ☐ Infertility
- ☐ Endometriosis
- ☐ Epilepsy or seizures
- ☐ Fibrocystic breast or breast pain
- ☐ Uterine fibroids
- ☐ Irregular or heavy periods
- ☐ Menstrual migraines
- ☐ Hysterectomy with removal of ovaries
- ☐ Partial hysterectomy (uterus only)
- ☐ Ophorectomy removal of ovaries only

Birth control method:

- ☐ Menopause
- ☐ Hysterectomy
- ☐ Tubal ligation
- ☐ Birth control pills
- ☐ Vasectomy
- ☐ IUD
- ☐ Infertility
- ☐ Other _____

Name: _____ Date of birth: _____

FEMALE PATIENT QUESTIONNAIRE & HISTORY CONTINUED

Medical history:

- ☐ High blood pressure or hypertension
- ☐ Heart disease
- ☐ Atrial fibrillation or other arrhythmia
- ☐ Blood clot and/or a pulmonary embolism
- ☐ Depression/anxiety
- ☐ Chronic liver disease (hepatitis, fatty liver, cirrhosis)
- ☐ Arthritis
- ☐ Hair thinning
- ☐ Sleep apnea
- ☐ High cholesterol
- ☐ Stroke and/or heart attack
- ☐ HIV or any type of hepatitis
- ☐ Hemochromatosis
- ☐ Psychiatric disorder
- ☐ Thyroid disease
- ☐ Diabetes
- ☐ Thyroid disease
- ☐ Lupus or other autoimmune disease
- ☐ Other _____

Name: _____ Date of birth: _____

POST-INSERTION INSTRUCTIONS FOR WOMEN

- Your insertion site has been covered with two layers of bandages. Remove the outer pressure bandage any time after 24 hours. It must be removed as soon as it gets wet. The inner layer (usually a steri strip) should be removed in 3 days.
- **Do not take tub baths or get into a hot tub or swimming pool for 3-4 days.** You may shower, but do not remove the bandage or steri-strips for 4 days.
- No heavy lifting or major exercises for the incision area for the next 3-4 days, which includes running, elliptical, squats, lunges, etc.
- The sodium bicarbonate in the anesthetic may cause the site to swell for 1-3 days.
- 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 (25 to 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. If the redness worsens after the first 2-3 days, please contact the office.
- 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 relieved with pressure (not oozing), as this is NOT normal.
- Please call if you have any pus coming out of the insertion site, as this is NOT normal.
- We recommend putting an ice pack on the area where the pellets are located a couple of times for about 20 minutes each time over the next 4 to 5 hours. You can continue this for swelling, if needed. Be sure to place something between the ice pack and your bandages/skin. Do not place ice packs directly on bare skin.

REMINDERS:

- Remember to have your post-insertion blood work done 6 weeks after your FIRST insertion. If you are not feeling any better by 4 weeks, however, please call the office to have your labs drawn early.
- Most women will need re-insertion of their pellets 3-4 months after their initial insertion. If you experience symptoms prior to this, please call the office.
- Please call as soon as symptoms that were relieved from the pellets start to return to make an appointment for your next insertion.

ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS:

_____

_____

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Print name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Name: _____ Date of birth: _____

WHAT MIGHT OCCUR AFTER A PELLET INSERTION (FEMALE)

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.

- INFECTION:
  Is possible with any type of procedure. Infection is uncommon with pellet insertion and occurs in <0.5 to 1%. If redness appears and seems to worsen (rather than improve), is associated with severe heat and/or pus, please contact the office. Warm compresses are helpful, but a prescription antibiotic may also be needed.
- PELLET EXTRUSION:
  Pellet extrusion is uncommon and occurs in <5% of procedures. If the wound becomes sore again after it has healed, begins to ooze or bleed or has a blister-type appearance, please contact the office. Warm compresses may help soothe discomfort.
- ITCHING or REDNESS:
  Itching or redness in the area of the incision and pellet placement is common. If you have a reaction to the tape, please apply hydrocortisone 2-3 times per day to the rash. If redness becomes firm or starts to spread after the first few days, you will need to contact the office.
- FLUID RETENTION/WEIGHT GAIN:
  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, or by taking a mild diuretic, which the office can prescribe.
- BREAST TENDERNESS or SWELLING:
  This usually occurs most commonly in the first round of pellets but does not usually continue thereafter. DIM 1 capsule daily is helpful in preventing this, but the dose may be increased to 2-3 daily, if needed. Evening primrose oil (available in our office) is helpful as is Iodine+ if this occurs.
- MOOD SWINGS/IRRITABILITY/ANXIETY:
  These may occur if you were quite deficient in hormones. These symptoms usually improve as hormone levels improve. 5HTP can be helpful for this temporary symptom and can be purchased at many health food stores.
- ELEVATED RED CELL COUNT (most common in men):
  Testosterone may stimulate growth in the bone marrow of the red blood cells. This condition is called erythrocytosis. Erythrocytosis may also occur in some patients independent of any treatments or medications. If your blood count goes too high, you may be asked to see a blood specialist called a hematologist to make sure there is nothing worrisome found. If there is no cause, the testosterone dose may have to be decreased.
- HAIR LOSS:
  Is rarely due to pellets but can occur in some patients who convert testosterone to DHT. Dosage adjustment generally reduces or eliminates the problem. Prescription medications may be necessary in rare cases. Workup for other causes may also be needed.
- FACIAL BREAKOUT:
  Some pimples may arise if the testosterone levels are either too low or rise rapidly. 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.
- UTERINE SPOTTING/BLEEDING/ IRREGULAR PERIODS:
  This may occur in the first few months after an insertion, especially if you have been prescribed progesterone and are not taking properly: i.e. missing doses, or not taking a high enough dose. Please notify the office if this occurs. Bleeding is not necessarily an indication of a significant uterine problem.
- HAIR GROWTH:
  Testosterone may stimulate some growth of hair on your chin, chest, nipples and/or lower abdomen. This tends to be hereditary. Fine, vellous hairs or "peach fuzz" often occurs but is not thick nor coarse. You may also have to shave your legs and arms more often. Dosage adjustment generally reduces or eliminates the problem.

I ACKNOWLEDGE THAT I HAVE RECEIVED A COPY AND UNDERSTAND THE INSTRUCTIONS ON THIS FORM.

Print name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Name: _____ Date of birth: _____

REQUEST TO RESTRICT DISCLOSURE TO HEALTH PLAN

Authorized by Section 13405(a) of the HITECH Act

I, _____

request that my treating provider(s) and clinic (listed above) not disclose my protected health information (PHI) to my health plan or other third party insurance carrier. Pursuant to Section 13405(a) of the HITECH Act, I understand I have the right to request restrictions on whether the Practice discloses my protected health information (PHI) with my health plan and the Practice is required to agree to my request unless the information is required to be disclosed to my health plan to comply with the law.

The records of the restricted services/items listed below ("Restricted Services/Items") will not be released or billed to my health plan or other third party insurance carrier for the purposes of payment or health care operations. I understand I am financially responsible for these Restricted Services/Items and will pay out-of-pocket, in full, at the time of service in order for the Practice to accept this restriction request.

REQUESTED RESTRICTION:

Services/Items to be restricted: Pelleting subcutaneous pellet hormone replacement: BHRT

Total charge amount (or estimated amount): $ 350 (per treatment) per month (circle one)

Other: _____

I understand that I am responsible personally for full charges when finalized.

Patient name (please print): _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

PRACTICE USE ONLY:

Witness name (please print): _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Name: _____ Date of birth: _____

ANTIDEPRESSANT WEAN PROTOCOL

If you are taking an SSRI or SNRI antidepressant such as Prozac, Zoloft, Lexapro, Pristiq, Effexor, Viibryd, the generic equivalents or others and have NOT had long-term issues with generalized anxiety disorder, bipolar or major depressive disorders, you may be able to slowly wean off of your antidepressants. We recommend you wean off of these slowly as soon as you start to feel better with your pellets. This is usually after about 4 weeks and only if you are feeling better and ready to start the weaning process.

These antidepressants have many side effects. You can feel tired, sleepy, have weight gain or difficulty achieving an orgasm (to name few) which is everything we are trying to improve. It is very difficult for the pellet therapy to have adequate results in some patients who are still on these medications.

You are NOT deficient in these antidepressant medications. You are deficient in hormones. As we restore your hormone levels to normal with pellets, your symptoms of anxiety and/or depression should be relieved naturally. You should be able to wean off your antidepressant.

Go slowly – especially if you have been taking them for a while. While taking an SSRI or SNRI, your brain relies on these medications to get serotonin (the calming, feel good hormone) and doesn't make its own. If you stop your medication abruptly, you can go through withdrawals. Symptoms of abrupt cessation may include headache, GI distress, faintness, body aches, chills, and strange sensations of vision or touch. Some patients withdrawing from Effexor may describe the feelings of "electric shocks". You may also experience depression or anxiety symptoms returning. When you wean slowly, your brain has time to catch up, wake up, and start making its own serotonin again.

If you are on a high-dose or capsule, you may have to request a lower dose to use in the transition.

WE RECOMMEND THE FOLLOWING PROTOCOL TO HELP:

1. Take your pill every other day for 2 weeks.
2. Then every 3 days for 2 weeks.
3. Then every 4 days for 2 weeks and so on until you are down to one a week, then STOP.

If at any point you feel badly or "off", go back to the lowest dose you felt good on and take the wean a bit slower. If you are on a high dose of the medication, you may need an additional prescription for a lower strength so you can slowly transition from the higher to the lower strength and then wean as described above.