

## Female Testosterone and/or Estradiol Pellet Insertion Consent Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
(LAST) (FIRST) (MIDDLE)

Bio-identical hormone pellets are hormones, biologically identical to the hormones you make in your own body prior to menopause. Estrogen and testosterone were made in your ovaries and adrenal gland prior to menopause. Bio-identical hormones have the same effects on your body as your own estrogen and testosterone did when you were younger, without the monthly fluctuations (ups and downs) of menstrual cycles.

Bio-identical hormone pellets are plant derived and are FDA monitored, but not approved for female hormonal replacement. The pellet method of hormone replacement has been used in Europe and Canada for many years and by select OB/GYNs in the United States. You will have similar risks as you had prior to menopause, from the effects of estrogen and androgens, given as pellets.

Patients who are pre-menopausal are advised to continue reliable birth control while participating in pellet hormone replacement therapy. Testosterone is category X (will cause birth defects) and cannot be given to pregnant women.

**My birth control method is: (please circle)**

Abstinence    Birth control pill    Hysterectomy    IUD    Menopause    Tubal ligation    Vasectomy    Other

**CONSENT FOR TREATMENT:** I consent to the insertion of testosterone and/or estradiol pellets in my hip. I have been informed that I may experience any of the complications to this procedure as described below. These side effects are similar to those related to traditional testosterone and/or estrogen replacement. **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; reaction to local anesthetic and/or preservatives; extrusion of pellets; hyper sexuality (overactive Libido); lack of effect (from lack of absorption); breast tenderness and swelling especially in the first three weeks (estrogen pellets only); increase in hair growth on the face, similar to pre-menopausal patterns; water retention (estrogen only); increased growth of estrogen dependent tumors (endometrial cancer, breast cancer); birth defects in babies exposed to testosterone during their gestation; growth of liver tumors, if already present; change in voice (which is reversible); clitoral enlargement (which is reversible). The estradiol dosage that I may receive can aggravate fibroids or polyps, if they exist, and can cause bleeding. 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; decreased weight; 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 and or estrogen 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 understand that this procedure is only offered as a cash service by Bella Natural Women's Care & Family Wellness separate from insurance, and Bella will not engage in any insurance communication nor reimbursement.

\_\_\_\_\_  
PRINT NAME

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE

\_\_\_\_\_  
TODAY'S DATE

## 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 is either waterproof foam tape or steri-strips. They should be removed in **3 days**.
- 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.
- 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 **3 days**, this 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, 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 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.

### Reminders:

- Remember to go for your post-insertion blood work **6 weeks** after the insertion.
- Most women will need re-insertions of their pellets **3-4 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 only be for the insertion and not a consultation.

### Additional Instructions:

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

PRINT NAME

SIGNATURE

TODAY'S DATE

## PATIENT COPY

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