



BHRT Checklist For Women

Name: _____

Date: _____

E-Mail: _____

Symptom (please check mark)	Never	Mild	Moderate	Severe
Depressive mood	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fatigue	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Memory Loss	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mental confusion	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Decreased sex drive/libido	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sleep problems	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mood changes/Irritability	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tension	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Migraine/severe headaches	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Difficult to climax sexually	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bloating	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Weight gain	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Breast tenderness	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vaginal dryness	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hot flashes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Night sweats	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dry and Wrinkled Skin	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hair is Falling Out	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cold all the time	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Swelling all over the body	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Joint pain	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Family History

	NO	YES
Heart Disease	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Diabetes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Osteoporosis	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Alzheimer's Disease	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Breast Cancer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Commonly Asked Questions

Q. What are Hormone Pellets?

A. Hormone Pellets are a Bio-Identical form of hormone therapy that seeks to return the hormone balance to youthful levels in men and women.

Q. How do I know if I'm a candidate for pellets?

A. Symptoms may vary widely from depression and anxiety to night sweats and sleeplessness for example. You will be given a lab slip to have blood work done which will determine your hormone levels. Once the doctor reviews and determines you are a candidate we will schedule an appointment for insertion.

Q. Do I have blood work done before each Treatment?

A. No, only initially and 4-8 weeks later to set your dosing. You may have it done again if there are significant changes.

Q. What are the pellets made from?

A. They are made from wild yams and soy. Wild yams and soy have the highest concentration of hormones of any substance. There are no known allergens associated with wild yams and soy, because once the hormone is made it is no longer yam or soy.

Q. How long will the treatment last?

A. Every 3-6 months depending on the person. Everyone is different so it depends on how you feel and what the doctor determines is right for you. If you are really active, you are under a lot of stress or it is extremely hot, your treatment may not last as long. Absorption rate is based on cardiac output.

Q. Is the therapy FDA approved?

A. What the pellets are made of is FDA approved and regulated, the process of making pellets is regulated by the State Pharmacy Board, and the distribution is regulated by the DEA and Respective State Pharmacy Boards. The PROCEDURE of placing pellets is NOT an FDA approved procedure. The pellets are derived from wild yams and soy and are all natural and bioidentical. Meaning they are the exact replication of what the body makes.

Q. How are they administered?

A. Your practitioner will implant the pellets in the fat under the skin of the hip. A small incision is made in the hip. The pellets are inserted. No stitch is required.

Q. Does it matter if I'm on birth control?

A. No, the doctor can determine what your hormone needs are even if you are on birth control.

Q. Are there any side effects?

A. The majority of side effects are temporary and typically only happen on the first dose. All are very treatable. There are no serious side effects.

Q. What if I'm already on HRT of some sort like creams, patches, pills?

A. This is an easy transition. The doctor will be able to determine your needs even though you may be currently taking these other forms of HRT.

Q. What if I've had breast cancer?

A. Breast cancer survivors and/or those who have a history of breast cancer in their family may still be a candidate; however, this is to be determined by the physician. You should schedule a consultation with the Doctor.



WHAT MIGHT OCCUR AFTER A PELLET 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.
- **UTERINE SPOTTING/BLEEDING:** 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. More than likely, the uterus may be releasing tissue that needs to be eliminated. This tissue may have already been present in your uterus prior to getting pellets and is being released in response to the increase in hormones.
- **MOOD SWINGS/IRRITABILITY:** These may occur if you are quite deficient in hormones. They will disappear when enough hormones are in your system. 5HTP can be helpful for this temporary symptom and can be purchased at many health food stores.
- **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.

I acknowledge that I have received a copy and understand the instructions on this form.

Print Name

Signature

Today's Date



Female Testosterone and/or Estradiol Pellet Insertion Consent Form

Name: _____ Today's Date: _____

Bio-identical hormone pellets are concentrated 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 made from soy 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 like 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; 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. This is diagnosed with a blood test. Thus, a complete blood count (Hemoglobin & Hematocrit) will be done 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 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 have been advised that most insurance companies do not consider compounded hormone pellet therapy to be a covered benefit. I am aware that, while there may be some insurance companies that allow for the insertion, itself. My charge today is for the compounded medication which is generally not covered by insurance.

Print Name

Signature

Today's Date



Bio-Identical Hormone Therapy Pellet

I, _____, have voluntarily chosen to undergo implantation of subcutaneous bio-identical estradiol and/or testosterone pellet therapy. I understand that this procedure will not be filed with my insurance carrier, and I am responsible for the \$350.00 payment, in full, for this service at my visit today.

I am aware that while there may be some insurance companies that allow reimbursement for the insertion of the pellet, I am not being charged for the insertion itself. My charge today is for the compounded medication (compounded estradiol/testosterone pellets) only, which is not covered by insurance.

I have been given the appropriate information and all of my questions have been answered.

Patient Name

Date Of Birth

Signature

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 day 1. You may replace it with a bandage to catch any anesthetic that may ooze out. The inner layer is a steri-strip that should be removed after 4 days.
- Do not take tub baths or get into a hot tub or swimming pool for 4 days. You may shower but do not scrub the site until the incision is well healed (about 7 days).
- No energetic exercising for the next 4 days, this includes running, riding a horse, etc.
- 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 Claritin for relief, 10 mg. orally every day.
- 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, fever, increasing pain or pus from the insertion site that is not relieved by pressure. Oozing is common and normal.
- Remember to go for your post-insertion blood work 5-6 weeks after insertion.
- Most women will need re-insertion of their pellets 4 months after their initial insertion.
- Please call as soon as symptoms that were relieved from the pellets start to return. You will need blood lab tests 1 week before 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.
- Taper the dose of current hormones if instructed to do so.

Additional medications which may be recommended:

Progesterone/Prometrium 200 mg nightly

Please do not skip doses of this medication as it can result in vaginal bleeding or an increased risk for endometrial cancer.

Thyroid supplement

This should be taken every morning with water on an empty stomach. Please wait 30 minutes before eating or drinking anything other than water. This includes coffee, food, medications, vitamins or supplements.

Spironolactone

This is best taken in the mornings though not with a thyroid supplement. This is a mild diuretic. It is acceptable to skip a dose if you will not have access to water or will be outdoors with a risk of dehydration.

Print Name

Signature

Today's Date