

## **Informed Consent for Acupuncture Treatment**

I hereby request and consent to the performance of acupuncture treatments and other Oriental Medicine procedures, including various modes of physiotherapy on me (or the patient named below, for whom I am legally responsible) by Jason Pyeatt, L.Ac.

I understand that methods of treatment may include, but are not limited to, acupuncture, moxibustion, cupping & gua sha, electrical stimulation, breathing techniques, exercise therapy Tui-Na (Chinese massage), Chinese or western herbal medicine, and nutritional counseling.

I have been informed that acupuncture is a safe method of treatment, but that it may have side effects, including bruising, numbness or tingling near the needling sites that may last a few days, and dizziness or fainting. I understand that I should not make significant movements while the needles are being inserted, retained, or removed. Bruising is a common side effect of cupping and gua sha. Unusual risks of acupuncture include spontaneous miscarriage, nerve damage and organ puncture, including lung puncture (pneumothorax). Infection is another possible risk, although the acupuncturist below uses sterile disposable needles and maintains a clean and safe environment. Burns and/or scarring are a potential risk of moxibustion. I understand that while this document describes the major risks of treatment other side effects and risks may occur.

The herbs and nutritional supplements (which are from plant, mineral, and animal sources) that have been recommended are traditionally considered safe in the practice of Chinese medicine, although some may be toxic in large doses. I understand that some herbs may be inappropriate during pregnancy. Some possible side effects of taking herbs are nausea, gas, stomachache, vomiting, headache, diarrhea, rashes, hives and tingling of the tongue.

I understand that the herbs need to be consumed according to the instructions provided orally and in writing. I understand that some herbs may have an unpleasant taste or smell. I will immediately notify the acupuncturist of any unanticipated or unpleasant effects associated with the consumption of the herbs. I will notify the acupuncturist who is caring for me if I am or become pregnant.

I do not expect the acupuncturist to be able to anticipate and explain all possible risks and complications of treatment, and I wish to rely on the acupuncturist to exercise judgment during the course of treatment which the acupuncturist thinks at the time, based upon the facts then known, is in my best interest. I understand that results are not guaranteed.

**By voluntarily signing below I show that I have read, or have had read to me, this consent to treatment, have been told about the risks and benefits of acupuncture and other procedures, and have had an opportunity to ask questions. I intend this consent form to cover the entire course of treatment for my present condition and for any future condition(s) for which I seek treatment.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name of Patient

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Patient (or Representative)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## 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 available at our 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](http://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 healthcare 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 health care provider.

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 the 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, \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_ 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.

ARBITRATION AGREEMENT: PATIENT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

Article 1: Agreement to Arbitrate: It is understood that any dispute as to medical malpractice, including whether any medical services rendered under this contract were unnecessary or unauthorized or were improperly, negligently or incompetently rendered, will be determined by submission to arbitration as provided by state and federal law, and not by a lawsuit or resort to court process, except as state and federal law provides for judicial review of arbitration proceedings. Both parties to this contract, by entering into it, are giving up their constitutional right to have any such dispute decided in a court of law before a jury, and instead are accepting the use of arbitration.

Article 2: All Claims Must be Arbitrated: It is also understood that any dispute that does not relate to medical malpractice, including disputes as to whether or not a dispute is subject to arbitration, as to whether this agreement is unconscionable, and any procedural disputes, will also be determined by submission to binding arbitration. It is the intention of the parties that this agreement bind all parties as to all claims, including claims arising out of or relating to treatment or services provided by the health care provider, including any heirs or past, present or future spouse(s) of the patient in relation to all claims, including loss of consortium. This agreement is also intended to bind any children of the patient whether born or unborn at the time of the occurrence giving rise to any claim. This agreement is intended to bind the patient and the health care provider and/or other licensed health care providers, preceptors, or interns who now or in the future treat the patient while employed by, working or associated with or serving as a back-up for the health care provider, including those working at the health care provider's clinic or office or any other clinic or office whether signatories to this form or not.

All claims for monetary damages exceeding the jurisdictional limit of the small claims court against the health care provider, and/or the health care provider's associates, association, corporation, partnership, employees, agents and estate, must be arbitrated including, without limitation, claims for loss of consortium, wrongful death, emotional distress, injunctive relief, or punitive damages. This agreement is intended to create an open book account unless and until revoked.

Article 3: Procedures and Applicable Law: A demand for arbitration must be communicated in writing to all parties. Each party shall select an arbitrator (party arbitrator) within thirty days, and a third arbitrator (neutral arbitrator) shall be selected by the arbitrators appointed by the parties within thirty days thereafter. The neutral arbitrator shall then be the sole arbitrator and shall decide the arbitration. Each party to the arbitration shall pay such party's pro rata share of the expenses and fees of the neutral arbitrator, together with other expenses of the arbitration incurred or approved by the neutral arbitrator, not including counsel fees, witness fees, or other expenses incurred by a party for such party's own benefit.

Either party shall have the absolute right to bifurcate the issues of liability and damage upon written request to the neutral arbitrator.

The parties consent to the intervention and joinder in this arbitration of any person or entity that would otherwise be a proper additional party in a court action, and upon such intervention and joinder, any existing court action against such additional person or entity shall be stayed pending arbitration.

The parties agree that provisions of state and federal law, where applicable, establishing the right to introduce evidence of any amount payable as a benefit to the patient to the maximum extent permitted by law, limiting the right to recover non-economic losses, and the right to have a judgment for future damages conformed to periodic payments, shall apply to disputes within this Arbitration Agreement. The parties further agree that the Commercial Arbitration Rules of the American Arbitration Association shall govern any arbitration conducted pursuant to this Arbitration Agreement.

Article 4: General Provision: All claims based upon the same incident, transaction, or related circumstances shall be arbitrated in one proceeding. A claim shall be waived and forever barred if (1) on the date notice thereof is received, the claim, if asserted in a civil action, would be barred by the applicable legal statute of limitations, or (2) the claimant fails to pursue the arbitration claim in accordance with the procedures prescribed herein with reasonable diligence.

Article 5: Revocation: This agreement may be revoked by written notice delivered to the health care provider within 30 days of signature and, if not revoked, will govern all professional services received by the patient and all other disputes between the parties.

Article 6: Retroactive Effect: If patient intends this agreement to cover services rendered before the date it is signed (for example, emergency treatment), patient should initial here. \_\_\_\_\_. Effective as of the date of first professional services.

If any provision of this Arbitration Agreement is held invalid or unenforceable, the remaining provisions shall remain in full force and shall not be affected by the invalidity of any other provision. I understand that I have the right to receive a copy of this Arbitration Agreement. By my signature below, I acknowledge that I have received a copy.

**NOTICE: BY SIGNING THIS CONTRACT, YOU ARE AGREEING TO HAVE ANY ISSUE OF MEDICAL MALPRACTICE DECIDED BY NEUTRAL ARBITRATION, AND YOU ARE GIVING UP YOUR RIGHT TO A JURY OR COURT TRIAL. SEE ARTICLE 1 OF THIS CONTRACT.**

PATIENT SIGNATURE or REPRESENTATIVE \_\_\_\_\_ (Date) \_\_\_\_\_

# FINANCIAL AGREEMENT

## HEALTH INSURANCE

We would like to take a moment to welcome you to our office and assure you that you will receive the very best of care available for your condition. In order to familiarize you with the financial policy of this office we would like to explain how your medical bills will be handled.

### Explanation of Insurance Coverage:

Many insurance policies do cover acupuncture care but this office makes no representation that yours does. Insurance policies may vary greatly in terms of deductible and percentage of coverage for acupuncture care. Because of the variance from one insurance policy to another, we require that you, the patient, be personally responsible for the payment of your deductibles, as well as any unpaid balances in this office. We will do our best to verify your insurance coverage, and will bill your insurance in a timely manner. Any unpaid bill or portions of a bill with this office are the patients responsibility to pay in full if the Insurance Company fails to do so.

**Preauthorization:** Failure to obtain preauthorization may result in your insurance company refusing to pay your claim. Any refusal of payment by insurance for this reason is your responsibility.

### Payment Arrangements

We require that you pay \_\_\_\_\_% of your charges on a \_\_\_\_\_ basis. Your portion of the bill is expected to be paid by the \_\_\_\_ day of each month, and any unpaid balances will be considered past due on the \_\_\_\_ day of the following month. Past due balances may have an interest charge of \_\_\_% applied per month.

or

We require that you pay \$20 towards today's charges and \$20 on each visit. Your full portion of the bill is expected to be when payment is received from your insurance carrier. Any unpaid balances will be considered past due 30 days following insurance reimbursement Past due balances may have an interest charge of 1.5 % applied per month. If you have a specific contracted amount for copayment that amount is due on each visit

### Assignment of Benefits

By signing this form you are authorizing payment of medical benefits will be made directly to this office. If your insurance carrier sends payment to you for services incurred in this office, you agree to send or bring those payments to this office upon receipt. However if you pay for your visits in full the assignment will not be reported by this provider and any payment will be sent directly to you.

### Release of Information

By signing this form you are also authorizing this office upon request from your insurance carrier the release of any medical or other information necessary to process the claim. You also acknowledge and request payment of government benefits either to myself or to the party who accepts assignment, namely this office.

### Voluntary Termination of Care

If you suspend or terminate your care at any time, your portion of all charges for professional services is immediately due and payable to this office. All services rendered by this office are charged directly to you, and you, ultimately will be personally responsible for payment regardless of your insurance coverage.

**Cancellations/Missed (Non-cancelled):** We understand that occasional missed appointments can occur for a wide variety of reasons. If you are unable to attend an appointment, we ask that you cancel at least 24 hours in advance, or as soon as possible. We reserve the right to charge \$40.00 for appointments without 24 hours cancellation notice, or no-show appointments.

We hope this answers any questions you might have concerning the financial policy of this office. Once again we welcome your to our office, and will be glad to answer any further questions that you might have.

I have read and agree to the above.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## Credit Card Authorization for Payment for Past Due Payments

Please be advised that as a courtesy to our patients, we will accept your insurance assignment toward partial payment for your care.

**Our office policy for accepting Insurance Assignment includes your knowledge of the following:**

**YOU MUST** have a credit card on file to ensure payment until insurance assignment is verified and accepted by your insurance company. \_\_\_\_ Initial I, \_\_\_\_\_, authorize (CLINIC NAME) to charge my credit card any balance owed after a 90 day period of non-payment by the insurance company.

Visa

Master Card

Card # \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration date \_\_\_\_\_

3 Digit Security Code \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name on the Card \_\_\_\_\_

Billing Address of the Card \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Authorized Signature of Credit Card for this payment \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Witness Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_