SkinMedix®

GETTING STARTED WITH BHRT & FAQ'S

Blood Work: The first step is to get your blood work. You will need a lab slip and you can come by the office to pick one up or we can mail one to you. We use Quest Laboratory and we recommend calling your closest location in advance to schedule an appointment. Please fast for 12 hours before your appointment. Quest accepts most insurance but If you do not have insurance or have a high deductible then you can take advantage of our cash lab fees, which are $250.00. Once we have received your lab results, one of our Providers will call you to go over your results with you. **Please note that it can take up to two weeks for your lab results to be received by our office.**

Q. What is BioTE®? A. BioTE® is 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 am 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 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 am 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. Most side effects are temporary and typically only happens on the first dose. All are very treatable. There are no serious side effects.

Q. What if I am 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 have had certain types of cancer? A. Those who have a history of cancer of 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.

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Female Patient Questionnaire & History

Name: _____Today's Date: _____
(Last) (First) (Middle)

Date of Birth: _____ Age: _____ Occupation: _____

Home Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____ Work: _____

E-Mail Address: _____ May we contact you via E-Mail? ( ) **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 mean's you've 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.

Spouse's Name: _____ Relationship: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____ Work: _____

Social:

( ) I am sexually active.
( ) I want to be sexually active.
( ) I have completed my family.
( ) My sex has suffered.
( ) I haven't been able to have an orgasm.

Habits:

( ) I smoke cigarettes or cigars _____ per day.
( ) I drink alcoholic beverages _____ per week.
( ) I drink more than 10 alcoholic beverages a week.
( ) I use caffeine _____ a day.

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Medical History

Any known drug allergies: _____

Have you ever had any issues with anesthesia? ( ) Yes ( ) No
If yes, please explain:

_____

Medications Currently Taking: _____

Current Hormone Replacement Therapy: _____

Past Hormone Replacement Therapy: _____

Nutritional/Vitamin Supplements: _____

Surgeries, list all and when: _____

Last menstrual period (estimate year if unknown): _____

Other Pertinent Information: _____

Preventative Medical Care:

( ) Medical/GYN Exam in the last year.
( ) Mammogram in the last 12 months.
( ) Bone Density in the last 12 months.
( ) Pelvic ultrasound in the last 12 months.

High Risk Past Medical/Surgical History:

( ) Breast Cancer.
( ) Uterine Cancer.
( ) Ovarian Cancer.
( ) Hysterectomy with removal of ovaries.
( ) Hysterectomy only.
( ) Oophorectomy Removal of Ovaries.

Birth Control Method:

( ) Menopause.
( ) Hysterectomy.
( ) Tubal Ligation.
( ) Birth Control Pills.
( ) Vasectomy.
( ) Other: _____

Medical Illnesses:

( ) High blood pressure.
( ) Heart bypass.
( ) High cholesterol.
( ) Hypertension.
( ) Heart Disease.
( ) Stroke and/or heart attack.
( ) Blood clot and/or a pulmonary emboli.
( ) Arrhythmia.
( ) Any form of Hepatitis or HIV.
( ) Lupus or other auto immune disease.
( ) Fibromyalgia.
( ) Trouble passing urine or take Flomax or Avodart.
( ) Chronic liver disease (hepatitis, fatty liver, cirrhosis).
( ) Diabetes.
( ) Thyroid disease.
( ) Arthritis.
( ) Depression/anxiety.
( ) Psychiatric Disorder.
( ) Cancer (type): _____
Year: _____

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BHRT CHECKLIST FOR WOMEN

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

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

Other symptoms that concern you:

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Testosterone and/or Estradiol Pellet Insertion Consent Form

Name: _____
(Last) (First) (Middle)

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 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 & 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 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.

_____

Signature **Date**