

Informed Consent & Contract

Placenta Encapsulation

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A. Service Description

Placenta encapsulation is the process of dehydrating and encapsulating powdered placenta into pill form for the mother to decide its use. It is a service offered to you and is not a care requirement. No specific benefits, affects or cures are promised. It is your responsibility to determine whether using placenta preparations may be right for you.

B. Processing

You are allowing me to process/handle your placenta. Full safety measures are in place to protect myself and the placenta, including and not limited to proper sterilization techniques, barrier techniques and more. Gelatin capsules are used unless there is an alternative requested by the client.

Processing can take up to 72 hours depending on services requested. If it is going to be more than three days before the placenta can be prepared, it should be frozen. A frozen placenta will take somewhat longer to prepare since it needs to be gently thawed prior to preparation.

In circumstances that lead you to birthing at the hospital, I recommend bringing a Ziploc and cooler to store your placenta. Your placenta can safely remain at room temperature for 3-4 hours following birth but should be refrigerated or otherwise kept cool beyond that.

It is important to note that there may be circumstances under which your placenta cannot be used. Significant abnormalities of the placenta may necessitate your midwife or doctor sending your placenta to pathology for further examination. Other conditions, such as signs of infection during labor, may mean that consuming your placenta will not be beneficial to you. If in doubt, I will consult with you before proceeding. It should be possible to claim your placenta after a cesarean surgery. If you are not able to obtain and use your placenta for any reason, there will be no charge and this contracted will be voided.

C. Risks, Benefits and Uncertainties of the Procedure

Risks: There are unknown risks associated with this service. Potential risks *could* be, but are not limited to allergic or anaphylactic reaction due to a product used in the encapsulation process, ingesting a body organ that could unknowingly be infected or spoiled and leads to a reaction associated with this.

Benefits: The theoretic benefits are increased milk production, increased energy, reduced risk of postpartum depression, emotional stability, increased nutritive values. Any benefits will vary from person to person. Some of the ascribed benefits of placenta consumption are supported by research; however, this process has not been evaluated or approved by the FDA. It is your responsibility to determine whether using placenta preparations may be of benefit to you.

Uncertainties: This service may involve risks to you and/or baby which are currently unforeseeable.



D. Client Agreement

You have informed me of any known conditions that can effect the health of your placenta, or the health and safety of anyone involved during preparation.

You understand that placenta encapsulation is not meant to be a replacement for medical advice or prescription medications. If you are experiencing symptoms of postpartum depression, low milk supply, or other medical concerns please make your provider aware of this.

You also understand that I am interested in placenta research and may take photos of your placenta for this purpose. Pictures may be used in public format, names will not be disclosed.

E. Fees

Standard placenta encapsulation currently costs \$150, although this fee is reduced to \$75 if the client is an established Foothills Midwifery patient.

Fees include the preparation and encapsulation of the placenta, a storage container, written instructions for storage and handling, and guidelines for taking your capsules.

In the event your placenta is unavailable to you (i.e. sent to pathology and not released) or if you change your mind and choose to terminate this contract prior to releasing your placenta to me, this contract will no longer be valid. You can change your mind at any time up until I have begun processing the placenta.

Additional Information: _____

_____ ☐ No Additional Info

I have read the above document and would like to proceed with placenta encapsulation services. I understand that there are no benefit guarantees as well as the possibility of unforeseeable risks. I know that this has not been approved by the FDA. I agree to pay the fees as stated in this contract. I waive the midwife/encapsulator from any liability should unforeseeable problems arise from the ingestion of placenta capsules.

Client's Signature

Printed Name

Date