

Alternative Care Wellness Center

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CONSENT AGREEMENT AND WAIVER OF LIABILITY FOR LABORATORY ASSESSMENT FUNCTIONAL MEDICINE AND NUTRITIONAL THERAPY

PLEASE READ THOROUGHLY!

Dr. Faro and the Alternative Care Wellness Center offer laboratory testing for the purpose of assessing the complete metabolic and biochemical terrain of the patient. He also offers nutritional support as part of his individualized treatment plans.

This office does not treat symptoms or diagnose diseases. Our focus is to uncover the underlying causes of imbalance. Since a nutritional deficiency may be associated with a specific disease, or it may be the cause of the disease, or it may occur as a result of that disease, it is important for you to understand fully that Dr. Faro uses laboratory analysis and other exam findings to uncover deficiencies and their causes, and not for the diagnosis of a medical condition or illness. Dr. Faro prescribes vitamins, minerals, bioidentical hormones and therapeutic agents for the sole purpose to aid and support the body to restore proper function and optimal wellness. Instead of focusing on disease and illness, Dr. Faro uses many modalities to support the body nutritionally, energetically and spiritually, in addition to educating the patient on how to be responsible caregivers to their own bodies. A fully functioning body will by nature, be less likely to manifest disease or illness. This office also uses laboratory assessment and nutritional therapy for the prevention of illness. Functional laboratory evaluations and scientific nutritional therapy are powerful tools for healing imbalances, as well as for prevention of illness. One must be pro-active in their health in order to preserve that health and avoid illness.

The laboratory tests and subsequent nutrient recommendations are not meant to diagnose, treat or cure any specific disease. The nutritional recommendations we make based on laboratory tests, physical and clinical findings, history and symptoms, do not constitute treatment for any specific disease.

In the nutritional management of a case, we routinely prescribe numerous vitamins, minerals, enzymes, homeopathics, nutraceuticals, bioidentical hormones and other nutritional substances. We do not want you to have any misconceptions about their use in this clinic. In the event that any vitamin, mineral, food or other nutritional substance mentioned above is prescribed or administered in your case, we want you to understand explicitly that its purpose will be for:

- 1) Improvement of your overall nutritional status
- 2) Improvement of your metabolism; including absorption, proper utilization and detoxification
- 3) Improvement of the sense of well-being
- 4) Possible remission or reduction of pain where present.

You must understand that you may not receive any of these benefits, because they do not occur predictably with every patient, and in some cases, they may not occur at all. Also, it is up to you to follow the dietary and/or lifestyle instructions given to you, as this allows the supplements to be utilized properly and be supportive for your healing. Nutritional supplements are an important part of the healing process in that they provide missing or lacking nutrients and can affect metabolic changes in the body which need support. However, it is vital to understand that nutritional supplements do not "fix" problems or treat symptoms. They are part of a holistic treatment plan which is offered here which includes diet and lifestyle modifications.

Dr. Faro has obtained advanced training from the ACA Counsel and is a Diplomat of the American Board of Chiropractic Internists and has demonstrated competency in the area of diagnosis through board examination and certification.

Dr. Faro uses only the highest quality nutritional products available. Most of what he prescribes is only available through licensed qualified healthcare practitioners. They are of higher quality, and in many cases, of greater potency than what is available in supermarkets or health food stores. He has researched every nutritional supplement that is offered so that the patients under his care will receive only the highest quality, scientifically formulated, and clinically proven products. Supplements bought elsewhere are often not put

through strict manufacturing processes and may not even contain labeled ingredients. All supplements offered through Dr. Faro are meticulously manufactured by state of the art facilities with advanced raw material testing, production processes, and are verified by third parties as to the purity and potency of each product. Buying a cheaper supplement may only delay the healing process and in some instances may be toxic to your body and exacerbate a condition.

Dr. Faro has also received advanced training in the administration of nutraceuticals and continues to stay current on the latest research and clinical effectiveness using natural therapeutics. It is important that you follow his instructions to the best of your ability. This office will not be responsible for any adverse reactions or absence of effectivity. In order to improve your health outcome, please implement all suggestions given (including dietary and lifestyle changes). The individualized treatment plan given to you is dependent on all facets working synergistically together. To give a simple analogy, how well does a car move with only two or three wheels? **Healing is a partnership and you must be willing to do your part.**

There are always **risks and benefits** associated with any therapy. Supplements are prescribed in your case because there has been a clinical need or indication established. They may also be prescribed as purely preventive or supportive in nature. However, everybody reacts differently to something new. And often when the body is undergoing a shift, it may feel uncomfortable for a period of time. Please advise Dr. Faro if any reactions appear, as they may be part of the healing process or signify that a change in dosage or product is needed. Possible unintended reactions include stomach pain/cramps, rashes, headaches, fatigue, allergy, joint pain, vomiting, sweating, increase in body odor, etc. If any severe allergic reaction is noted, please discontinue use and call Dr. Faro immediately.

It is also important that you return to our office for scheduled appointments to review the results and interpretation of your test(s). Our office policy (not state law) requires that you see or discuss your results with Dr. Faro **before** we can release the results of the test to you or to anyone else. These tests allow you and Dr. Faro to better understand your unique physiology and design an effective and thorough health care plan. Follow up tests are often required as well, in order to ensure that the underlying imbalances are improving with treatment. It is also highly encouraged to acquire annual preventive laboratory exams so that the baseline tests can be compared and trends observed over time. Knowing your individual, biochemical uniqueness is of great advantage when interpreting laboratory tests. Allowing the same doctor to run your annual labs and physical exam can cut down on unnecessary tests and procedures.

Payment, Insurance, Refunds: Payment is due at time of service, no exceptions. Payment for service is not conditional on response to care. ACWC does not bill insurance, nor contracted with any insurance company. You may choose to bill your insurance yourself if you choose and all reimbursements are between you and your insurance company. No refunds are given for any reason for services rendered.

Return Policy: Once a supplement is purchased, it cannot be returned for any reason, even if the bottle/package is unopened. Once the supplement leaves this office, we can no longer guarantee the potency, purity or condition of the product, how it was handled, stored, etc. (Please keep all supplements in a cool, dry place or refrigerated if indicated).

By signing below I am attesting that I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THE ABOVE, and have had all my questions answered satisfactorily. I hereby place myself under Dr. Faro's care for such advice, prescription, treatment and administration as may appear to be indicated in his professional judgment. I understand there is no guarantee of results of care. I agree to hold Dr. Faro and the Alternative Care Wellness Center free of any and all liability for any adverse reactions that may result from testing procedures and/or administration of nutraceuticals or other treatments.

DO NOT SIGN unless you have read and fully understand this document.

Patient (print): _____

Date: _____

Signature: _____

Witness: _____