

Informed Consent

Naturopathic medicine is the treatment and prevention of diseases by natural means. Naturopathic physicians assess the whole person, taking into consideration physical, mental, emotional and spiritual aspects of the individual. Gentle, non-invasive techniques are generally used in order to stimulate the body's inherent healing capacity. Dr. Van Gaver will take a thorough case history, perform a physical examination, and on occasion take blood for laboratory investigation. If your case requires, the physical may include more specific examinations such as gynaecological, rectal, prostate or genital exams. As some of these services are not provided by Dr. Van Gaver, an appropriate referral will be made to another health professional.

It is very important that you inform Dr. Van Gaver immediately of any disease process that you are suffering from and any medications/over the counter drugs that you are currently taking. Please advise Dr. Van Gaver if you are pregnant, suspect you are pregnant or if you are breast-feeding.

As a patient you will receive information about your diagnosis and/or treatment, alternative courses of action, the material effects, costs, expected benefits, risks, side effects and in each case the consequences of not having the diagnosis and/or treatment acted upon.

Please **initial** next to the following to indicate your understanding and consent. There are some slight health risks associated with treatment by naturopathic medicine. These include but are not limited to:

- _____ Homeopathic remedies may occasionally result in the aggravation of pre-existing symptoms. When this occurs the duration is usually short.
- _____ Some patients experience allergic reactions to certain supplements, herbs and IV nutrients. Please advise Dr. Van Gaver of any allergies you may have.
- _____ Pain, bruising or injury from venipuncture or acupuncture or parental therapy.
- _____ Fainting or puncturing of an organ with acupuncture needles, accidental burning of the skin from the use of moxa.
- _____ Muscle strains and sprains, disc injuries from spinal manipulation.
- _____ There is a very small potential for stroke in neck manipulation. Patients are thoroughly screened by Dr. Van Gaver prior to manipulating the neck.
- _____ Intravenous therapies run the risk of anaphylaxis, though in practice this is rare.
- _____ Anaphylaxis could occur during Allergy Desensitization treatments.
- _____ Dr. Van Gaver is trained to handle emergencies should the need arise.

I understand:

- _____ **Dr. Van Gaver does not guarantee treatment results.**
- _____ **Dr. Van Gaver will explain to me the exact nature of any treatment provided and will answer any questions I may have.**
- _____ **I am free to withdraw my consent and to discontinue treatment at any time.**

Patient Name: (please print name) _____

Patient Signature: _____ Date: _____