



sem community doula

Letter of Agreement for Placenta Encapsulation Services

Placenta Encapsulation Description

Placenta encapsulation is the process of preparing a mother's placenta after the birth of her baby by dehydrating, powdering, and placing it into capsules for the mother to ingest. The purpose of placenta encapsulation is to reintroduce the beneficial vitamins, minerals, hormones, proteins, iron, and other nutrients to the mother's body following the birth of her baby. It may help restore a more balanced body function, decrease postpartum mood swings or blues, increase milk production, shorten healing time, increase maternal energy, and provide an overall feeling of wellness.

Limitations and Disclaimer

We are not medical professionals, holistic practitioners, or herbalists and we are not able to diagnose, treat, or prescribe for any health condition. Services and fees are for the preparation and encapsulation of your placenta, not for the sale of the pills. Unfortunately, very little research has been done on the benefits of placenta encapsulation. No specific benefits or effects are promised; any benefits will vary from person to person. None of the ascribed benefits have been evaluated or approved by the FDA. It is your responsibility to determine whether placenta encapsulation may be of benefit to you. We have each taken the Biologix Solutions Bloodborne Pathogens and Infection Control for Placenta Encapsulation Specialist class, but all placenta work and consumption are done at your own risk; we are not responsible for any adverse reactions to consuming your placenta capsules.

Client initials: _____

Service Description

Please choose the method of encapsulation you'd prefer. If you'd like additional information, please feel free to ask.

- Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) Method – This method involves steaming your placenta with lemon, ginger, and peppers, which, according to TCM, are believed to enhance the placenta's warming properties and help your body use the beneficial properties in a deeper way. This method is believed to kill any bacteria and reduce the risk of spoilage.
- Raw Dehydrated Method – This method involves dehydrating your placenta from a raw state, without steaming. This method is believed to offer the mother intense increased energy. Some believe that the hormones are more likely to be bioavailable with this method. However, some believe there is an increased risk of spoilage or the placenta powder decreasing in potency over time, which is relevant for those wanting to save their capsules for later.
- Half TCM and Half Raw – If you'd like, we can offer both methods. Preparing both methods may take an extra day or two processing time. Because of the additional materials and time, there is an additional \$50 fee.
- Tincture – A tincture involves soaking a piece of raw placenta in alcohol for six weeks in order to extract the essence of the placenta into the alcohol. It's then strained and the alcohol is reserved. Tinctures are an additional \$40 fee.
- Salve - A salve may be made from your placenta and oils. Placenta salves are good for cesarean scars, diaper rash, and many other skin irritations. Salves are an additional \$40 fee.
- Umbilical Cord – Please check here if you'd like to keep your baby's dehydrated umbilical cord as a keepsake.

Client Responsibility

It is your responsibility to call as soon after birth as possible. Failure to do so may result in delayed placenta preparation and encapsulation, which may cause decreased potency of nutrients, hormones, and other beneficial attributes of the placenta.

It is your responsibility to discuss release of your placenta from the hospital/birth center where you give birth. We suggest you discuss this with your care provider beforehand.

Whether birthing at home or in a hospital/birth center, please ensure that your placenta is kept fresh. It can remain at room temperature for three to four hours following birth. After that, or sooner if possible, it should be refrigerated or placed in a cooler with ice.

It is your responsibility to inform us of any known blood-borne illness or other health issues that we may become infected with through contact with bodily fluids (specifically maternal and fetal blood and amniotic fluid), such as HIV, hepatitis, STDs, etc. Unfortunately, there are situations when we would decline to process your placenta. In that case, we will refer to you another placenta encapsulator or can provide guidance for you to prepare your own placenta.

Client initials: _____

Photo Release

By signing this contract, you agree to let us photograph your placenta, before, during, and after the encapsulation process, and to use these photographs for educational and promotional purposes, both in print and on the internet. We will never include any personal or identifying information with the photographs. If you'd like electronic files of any photos we take, please let us know and we'd be happy to send them to you. However, we do not photograph every placenta we encapsulate.

Client initials: _____

Fees

The fee for the services described is to be paid as follows:

The full fee amount is \$200. For birth or postpartum clients of SEM Community Doulas or any of its members, the full fee amount is \$175. In most cases, the full fee amount for twins is \$300. If you'd like half TCM/half raw, there is an additional fee of \$50. If you'd like a tincture, there is an additional fee of \$40. We require full payment and this signed contract when we receive your placenta. (We recommend you place this signed contract and the payment in an envelope and pack it in your hospital bag.) Check, cash, or PayPal or credit card, with a processing fee of \$10, are accepted. Your total fee is \$_____.

Refunds

In the event your placenta is unavailable to you or if you change your mind and choose to terminate this contract prior to releasing your placenta to us, any fees that have been paid will be refunded in full. In the event of an accident on the part of the encapsulator that renders the placenta unusable, we will return your full fee, but we will not be held responsible beyond the refund. Once we have received your placenta, there will be no refund, even if you choose not to take delivery of the finished capsules, except as stated above.

I have read this letter of agreement describing the placenta encapsulation services and agree that it reflects my understanding of them. In signing this agreement, I agree to these terms.

Client's name

Estimated due date

Today's date

Signature

Phone number

Email

Home address

Place of birth/Care provider

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