

Placenta Encapsulation Services Description and Agreement

1. My Services

Placenta Encapsulation is the act of taking a fresh, raw placenta, washing the placenta, steaming and/or slicing the placenta, dehydrating, grinding, and putting the placenta powder into consumable capsules. All processes are done with respect and education of the placenta and in a sanitary environment. My business is adhering to strict OSHA guidelines, and I am following proper state food safety standards. The placenta capsules being prepared are for your (owner of the placenta) consumption only and are not designed to reverse medical conditions or ailments from pregnancy, to treat postpartum depression, to ensure normal milk supply or to replace medical attention.

I am not a licensed medical professional and I am not able to diagnose, treat or prescribe for any health condition. Fees agreed upon are for the service of encapsulating your placenta, not for the sale of the capsules. Each client will react to her placenta capsules in different ways. Some of the ascribed benefits of placenta consumption are supported by ongoing research; however, these benefits have not been evaluated or approved by the FDA. It is your responsibility to determine whether using placenta capsules will be beneficial to your wellbeing postpartum.

2. Client Responsibility

It is your responsibility to notify me within eight hours of your birth so that we can work together to make arrangements for pick-up and drop-off. Failure to do so may result in delayed placenta preparation and encapsulation and may cause decreased potency of nutrients, hormones, and other beneficial attributes of the placenta. Improper storage of the placenta prior to pick-up or drop-off may result in spoilage. It is your responsibility to discuss release of your placenta from the facility where you will give birth to ensure proper storage of your placenta in a refrigerator or cooler. This can be done by placing the sealed placenta on ice until proper retrieval for preparation and encapsulation.

It is also your responsibility to inform me of any known blood borne illness(es) or other preexisting or prenatal health issues (such as HIV, hepatitis, etc.) that could place me or others who may come in contact with your bodily fluids, maternal or fetal blood as well as amniotic fluid, at risk. Some specific sexually transmitted diseases, such as Hepatitis or herpes, may preclude me from offering placenta encapsulation in my home.

My responsibilities include maintaining client confidentiality, committing to preparing and returning your capsules within three days of receiving your placenta (usually sooner), and upholding the highest standards of cleanliness, safety and quality of professional placenta preparation services. In the event that I am unable to be available for your placenta encapsulation, I will provide a backup placenta specialist who is capable of providing these services and standards.

It is important to understand that there may be circumstances in which your placenta cannot be used. Significant abnormalities of the placenta may necessitate your care provider sending your placenta to Pathology for further examination. Once the placenta has been released to Pathology, I will be unable to encapsulate without an additional waiver. Other conditions, such as signs of infection in the mother during labor, may mean that consuming your placenta could be harmful to your health. I will always consult with

you prior to making a decision on whether your placenta is viable for ingestion. It is your responsibility to inform me of any healthy concerns or conditions which may affect the health of your placenta. It is important that you let the birth facility and your care provider know of your plans to encapsulate your placenta before the delivery.

3. Photography & Videography

I may photograph and/or videotape the encapsulation process for marketing, social media, educational or instructional purposes. As your placenta specialist, I will watermark all pictures or videography of the placenta to ensure safe usage. I will not use any photographs or video footage for anything other than the aforementioned purposes and agree to full protection of any information regarding the mother and child.

4. Fees

My fees are outlined below. A detailed description of my fees is included separately in my *Menu of Services*. I accept cash, checks, or online payment via PayPal. A \$25 returned check fee applies.

Please select one of the following Service Packages:

- ❖ Placenta Encapsulation (TCM) - \$200 _____
- ❖ Placenta Encapsulation (Raw Method) - \$200 _____

Additional Services:

- ❖ Flavored Capsules - \$15 _____ Flavor: berry lime orange
- ❖ Placenta Tincture - \$40 _____
- ❖ Placenta Balm - \$40 _____
- ❖ Both (tincture and balm) - \$70 _____

Payment terms are as follows:

- ❖ Upon signing this agreement, you will pay a **\$50 non-refundable Placenta Encapsulation Services Fee**.
- ❖ The remaining balance is due before or upon pickup of your placenta from the hospital/birthing place. If not paid in full, I will be unable to deliver your finished placenta capsules.
- ❖ Any discounts or payment plans discussed will be reflected on your invoice.

5. Refunds

In the event your placenta is unavailable to you (i.e. sent to Pathology or not released) or if your placenta has been contaminated with a bacterial infection, you will be entitled to a refund sans the amount of your deposit. If you choose to terminate this contract due to change of mind within seven days of your estimated delivery date, then you are no longer eligible for a full refund. If I have already taken possession of your placenta and you choose to not go forward with services, I will return your placenta for disposal. There will be no refund and payment will be due in full once preparation has begun.

6. Agreement

I have read, understood, and agreed to the above information. I accept the responsibility of gaining possession of my placenta and notifying my placenta specialist after delivery of the placenta. I understand

the importance of appropriate handling and storing of the placenta. By signing below, I authorize the release of my healthy placenta to Woodlands Birth and Baby for the purposes of placenta encapsulation and keepsake preparation for my own personal use. Upon receiving my placenta capsules from my placenta specialist, I waive all rights to hold the specialist responsible for any undesired effect of consuming the capsules. This may include an oversupply of milk, hormonal shift, headaches, or trouble sleeping. These side effects are rare, but have been reported. I agree to contact my specialist immediately if and when I experience any of these side effects.

I do not hold my placenta specialist responsible or liable for any transportation mishap that is beyond their control (ex. car accident or detainment) and understand that I am choosing to have the specialist encapsulate my placenta:

In my own home

In specialist's home or business

I put full trust and acknowledge that my placenta is being handled in a sanitary and safe environment. I trust that my placenta specialist has been trained correctly to prepare placenta remedies. I have provided my specialist with recent blood documentation information stating that I have been tested for STD's and the results were negative. If my blood results indicate hepatitis, HIV/AIDS or Herpes virus, I understand that I will allow my placenta specialist to prepare in my home using some of my own supplies. Universal precautions for sanitizing are the same with each client. I understand and trust that my placenta specialist retains bloodwork information for each client and that I am protected.

I understand and acknowledge that in accordance to my state laws and bylaws, choosing to encapsulate my placenta is not intended to prevent or treat any physical or mental disease, ailments or symptoms, and I am choosing to consume my placenta for my own personal beliefs. I understand that upon receiving my capsules, my placenta specialist is no longer liable, including but not limited to any other person(s) ingesting my own placenta capsules.

I agree to give rights to Woodlands Birth and Baby to present and use photographs and video footage of placenta and/or encapsulation process during any workshops, classes, seminars or teaching curriculum. I understand that all my personal information including name, date of birth, address or child's name will remain confidential. There will be no distinguishing information about the mother's placenta shared.

This contract is entered on the _____ day of _____, year _____. All parties are legally bound to the services outlined and agreed upon within this signed contract.

Client Name Printed

Placenta Specialist

Client Signature

Placenta Specialist Signature

Menu of Services

Placenta Encapsulation – Traditional Method (TCM)

- This method involves Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) practice, which is over 5,000 years old. In TCM theory, the process of labor and birth leaves a lot of open, empty space, which is considered Yin, or cold. One way to promote healing during the postpartum period is to add Yang energy via heat. Incorporating the steam and warming herbs produces a balancing effect in the body and a nourishing remedy for the postpartum period.
- The process begins with an overall health check and cleaning of the placenta. Once cleaned, it is steamed on top of (optional) warming herbs of organic lemon and ginger (added only to the water). The placenta is then dehydrated for 16-24 hours, ground into a fine powder and placed into vegetarian capsules for consumption. A placenta processed using this method usually yields between 100-160 capsules.

\$200

Placenta Encapsulation – Raw Method

- This method is a good option for those who have had a homebirth, already follow a raw foods diet, or for those who are interested in the freshest hormonal benefits of placenta encapsulation.
- The process begins with a health check of the placenta and a gentle rinse of blood clots. The placenta is sliced into small pieces and placed in a dehydrator for about 24 hours. Raw is processed with as little interference as possible to keep all of the nutrients and hormones in for you to ingest. Once completely dry, the pieces are ground up into powder and packed into vegetarian capsules. Raw method is said to provide a quick burst of energy and hormone balance and yields more capsules.

\$200

Additional Services

- **Flavored Capsules** - Now offering clients the option of adding berry, lime, or orange flavored gelatin capsules to encapsulation services. The fruity flavor is more attractive and helps to hide the earthy smell and aftertaste of the placenta powder. Please note: these capsules are NOT vegetarian. (+\$15)
- **Placenta Tincture** - Fresh placenta is soaked in high-proof, pure alcohol (vodka), which extracts the medicinal properties of the placenta. Care is taken to keep it stirred in a dark, cool place for six weeks, then strained into a glass dropper bottle. The resulting liquid is a beautiful clear orange color and has a surprisingly organic, earthy aroma. The tincture comes in a 4oz amber glass bottle with instructions on care and intake. (+\$40)
- **Placenta Balm** - Placenta balm is a healing body salve created from organic coconut oil, shea butter, beeswax, vitamins, herbs, essential oils and some of your placenta powder. This all-purpose ointment is excellent for healing C-section incisions (after wounds have closed), stretch marks and scar healing, hemorrhoids, perineal tearing, diaper rash, eczema, general skincare. Comes in a 4oz tin. (+\$40)

Add both, healing balm and tincture, for \$70

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