



## SEAMIST MEDSPA

### WHAT MIGHT OCCUR AFTER PELLET INSERTION FOR WOMEN

A significant hormonal transition will occur in the first four weeks after the insertion of your hormone pellets. Therefore, certain changes might develop that can be bothersome.

- **INFECTION:** Is possible with any type of procedure. Infection is uncommon with pellet insertion and occurs in <0.5-1%. If redness appears and seems to worsen (rather than improve), is associated with severe heat and/or pus, please contact the office. Warm compresses are helpful, but a prescription antibiotic may also be needed.
- **PELLET EXTRUSION:** Pellet extrusion is uncommon and occurs in <5% of procedures. If the wound becomes sore again after it has healed, begins to ooze or bleed, or has a blister-type appearance, please contact the office.
- **ITCHING or REDNESS:** Itching or redness in the incision and pellet placement area is common. If you have a reaction to the tape, please apply hydrocortisone 2-3 times per day to the rash. If redness becomes firm or starts to spread after a few days, contact the office.
- **FLUID RETENTION/WEIGHT GAIN:** Testosterone stimulates the muscle to grow and retain water which may result in a weight change of 2-5 pounds. This is temporary. This happens frequently with the first insertion, especially during hot, humid weather.
- **SWELLING of the HANDS & FEET:** This is common in hot and humid weather. It may be treated by drinking lots of water, reducing salt intake, or taking a mild diuretic, which the office can prescribe.
- **ELEVATED RED CELL COUNT:** (most common in men) Testosterone may stimulate growth in the bone marrow of the red blood cells. This condition is called erythrocytosis. Erythrocytosis may also occur in some patients independent of any treatments or medications. If your blood count goes too high, you may be asked to see a blood specialist called a hematologist to make sure there is nothing worrisome found. If there is no cause, the testosterone dose may have to be decreased.
- **MOOD SWINGS/IRRITABILITY/ANXIETY:** These may occur if you were quite deficient in hormones. These symptoms usually improve as hormone levels improve. 5HTP can be helpful for this temporary symptom and can be purchased at many health food stores.
- **BREAST TENDERNESS or SWELLING:** This usually occurs most commonly in the first round of pellets but does not usually continue. DIM 1 capsule daily is helpful in preventing this, but dose may be increased to 2-3 daily, if needed. Evening primrose oil or Iodine+ can be helpful if this occurs.
- **FACIAL BREAKOUT:** Some pimples may arise if the testosterone levels are either too low or rise rapidly. This lasts a short period and can be handled with a good face cleansing routine, astringents, and toner. If these do not help, please call the office for suggestions.
- **HAIR LOSS:** Is rarely due to pellets but can occur in some patients who convert testosterone to DHT. Dosage adjustment generally reduces or eliminates the problem. Prescription medications may be necessary in rare cases. Workup for other causes may also be needed.
- **HAIR GROWTH:** Testosterone may stimulate some growth of hair on your chin, chest, nipples and/or lower abdomen. This tends to be hereditary. Fine, vellous hairs or "peach fuzz" often occurs but is not thick nor coarse. You may also have to shave your legs and arms more often. Dosage adjustment generally reduces or eliminates the problem.
- **UTERINE SPOTTING/BLEEDING/IRREGULAR PERIODS:** This may occur in the first few months after an insertion, especially if you have been prescribed progesterone and are not taking properly: i.e. missing doses, or not taking a high enough dose. Please notify the office if this occurs. Bleeding is not necessarily an indication of a significant uterine problem.

I ACKNOWLEDGE THAT I HAVE RECEIVED A COPY AND UNDERSTAND THE INSTRUCTIONS ON THIS FORM.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_