

## Naturopathic Medicine Disclosure

A naturopathic physician is defined by the U.S. Department of Labor as one who may “Diagnose, treat, and help prevent diseases using a system of practice that is based on the natural healing capacity of individuals. May use physiological, psychological or mechanical methods. May also use natural medicines, prescription or legend drugs, foods, herbs, or other natural remedies.”

Individuals holding a Naturopathic Doctorate degree (ND) undergo an intensive four-year doctoral program that includes clinical training. The degree prepares the students for board licensing exams and the general practice of naturopathic medicine, and makes them eligible to sit for licensing exams in those jurisdictions that license naturopathic physicians. Dr. Quinn is a Board-certified naturopathic doctor.

Naturopathic physicians are licensed on a state-by-state basis. Currently twenty-five states, the District of Columbia, five Canadian provinces, and two United States territories license naturopathic physicians. Michigan does not currently license naturopathic physicians to practice medicine. Because Michigan does not currently license naturopathic medicine, Dr. Quinn maintains a license in the state of Vermont.

Michigan law defines the practice of medicine as “diagnosis, treatment, prevention, cure, or relieving of a human disease, ailment, defect, complaint, or other physical or mental condition, by attendance, advice, device, diagnostic test, or other means.” To practice medicine in Michigan, an individual must be licensed by the Michigan Board of Medicine. Dr. Quinn is not licensed to practice in Michigan, her practice is therefore exclusively consultative. She counsels her patients on the naturopathic approach to health. In the process of consultation, Dr. Quinn will discuss the expected benefits and risks associated with different naturopathic approaches to maintaining health. When specific conditions and therapeutic techniques are involved, information regarding potential risks and benefits will be provided. To the extent that any of these practices constitute the practice of medicine, Dr. Quinn will refer to a licensed physician.

In her consultative practice, Dr. Quinn works with the following therapeutic modalities:

- Botanical Medicine- use of plant substances
- Clinical Nutrition- use of diet, natural foods, fasting and nutritional supplements
- Homeopathic Medicine- based on the principle that “like cures like,” homeopathy gently acts to promote health on the physical, mental and spiritual levels.
- Mind/Body Medicine- counseling, nutritional balancing, stress management, hypnotherapy, biofeedback, and other therapies that help create psychological foundations for health.

The scope of naturopathic medical practice does not include major surgery, radiation therapy or the use of many synthetic drugs. This does not mean that naturopathic medicine rejects these

treatment methods or discourages them in all cases. The benefits and risks associated with conventional medical techniques not used by naturopathic physicians are considered when appropriate and referrals to other professional health disciplines are made when appropriate.

The human body, mind and spirit are very subtle and complicated systems and no specific result can be promised or guaranteed from any consultation. Although serious risks are not typically associated with naturopathic treatment modalities, they may not be entirely free of adverse effects. These adverse effects will be discussed in the consultation, and if you have any concerns or questions about possible adverse effects, please do not hesitate to raise them.

### **Informed Consent for Consultation**

\_\_\_\_\_ I have read the "Naturopathic Medicine Disclosure" and have been informed of the general philosophy, benefits and risks of naturopathic medicine, and understand that it may employ techniques that are not necessarily accepted by the conventional medical practitioners.

\_\_\_\_\_ I have been informed that many alternative treatment options are available and have their own risks and benefits. These options include conventional medical treatment, complementary and alternative medicine (which includes naturopathic medicine), and a combination of both approaches.

\_\_\_\_\_ I have been informed that conventional diagnostic or interventional tools and conventional therapies may be recommended in keeping with standard of care beyond the scope for this consultation.

\_\_\_\_\_ I have been informed that although serious risks are not typically associated with naturopathic treatment modalities, they may not be entirely free of adverse effects. After being properly informed of specific options, I may consent to or forgo any options presented to me.

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand that the holistic nature of complementary alternative medicine is such that some of its therapeutic benefits may occur on levels not readily accessible by quantitative measurements.

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand that the human body, mind and spirit are very subtle and complicated systems and no specific result can be promised or guaranteed.

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand that Dr. Quinn provides consultative services and does not provide primary care or medical treatment. I understand that Dr. Quinn does not provide after-hours on-call services.

Name (print) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name (sign) \_\_\_\_\_