

# Treatment Consent Form

Please read carefully, initial on each page, sign and date on the last page.

## Services Offered

### Psychiatric Assessment

The first appointment is an initial consultation only and does not necessarily establish an ongoing physician-patient relationship. At this initial visit, a thorough review of your current problem and of your background. By the end of the initial visit, you will be offered a preliminary impressions and discuss treatment options. Sometimes non-medication interventions, such as psychotherapy alone, will suffice. In those cases the physician will make recommendations for other mental health professionals who you can contact for treatment. In addition, If by the end of evaluation it becomes clear that the physician cannot adequately treat the condition for which you are seeking help or if the physician thinks you will be better served by another provider, the physician will notify you as such and provide you with information about other treatment providers who may be able to more adequately meet your needs.

### Medication Management

Medications may be indicated when your symptoms are not responsive to psychotherapy alone. When symptoms markedly impacts your ability to work, maintain interpersonal relationships or properly care for your basic needs, medication may offer much needed relief. If it was agreed that medications are indicated, the physician will discuss with you the medication options that are available to treat your current condition. The physician will present information in language that you can understand. You will learn how the medication works, its dosage, and frequency, its expected benefits, possible side effects, drug interaction, and any withdrawal effects you may experience if you stop taking the medication abruptly. By the end of the discussion you will have all the information you need to make a rational decision as to which medication is right for you.

You may be receiving psychotherapy from a therapist, and referred to the physician for medication management. In this case the physician will make a strong effort to coordinate care with your therapist with your consent. Communication between mental health professionals and other healthcare providers is key to providing effective care.

Not everyone is a good candidate for medication therapy. Such therapy requires adherence to dosage and frequency, close follow up, and sometimes regular blood tests. Your ability to adhere to medication treatment will be taken into consideration in making the decision to start such therapy. Treatment that considers your biological status, genetics, psychological development, and social issues together will yield the best chance for success in achieving your goals.

## Frequency and Durations of Visits

At the initial psychiatric assessment, the physician and you will decide together on the structure of your treatment. If medication is started or changed, a 25-minute follow up appointment will be scheduled in two weeks. This is necessary to ensure proper administration, and minimize any side effects you experience. If your symptoms improve, follow up visits can be spaced out further. Alternate treatment structure may be discussed depending on the circumstances.

## Prescription Policy

Prescription medication may be prescribed for mental health conditions. When new medications are started or changed, a follow up appointment is required to assess effectiveness and monitor for side effects.

Depending on the medication, monitoring through urine and blood may be needed. It's the patient's responsibility to report intolerable side effects. An appointment may be needed to manage side effects or change medications.

Insurance companies will sometimes require prior authorization of medications. Due to the amount of time required to complete prior authorizations, the patient may need to schedule an appointment.

In case of appointments need to be rescheduled, most prescriptions will generally be written for enough well past scheduled appointment. Certain medications, such as buprenorphine, will only be prescribed to next appointment. Requested prescription refills by patient or pharmacy will only be authorized when a patient has a scheduled appointment.

## Fees

Élan Psychiatry does not accept any form of health insurance, including commercial, Medicare, Medicaid, or Tricare. Each person is responsible for payment in full at the time of each visit. Balances due will not be carried from one appointment to the next appointment.

Fees are as follows:

Initial Psychiatric Evaluation	\$370
Follow up Appointment 25 minutes	\$185
Follow up Appointment 50 minutes	\$370
Follow up Buprenorphine Appointment	\$185
Outside of appointment, clinical attention required	\$90/15 minutes

Early refill or replacement prescription for controlled medicationnnn \$60

Time required for requested letters and/or completing paperwork needed for work, disability, jury duty, insurance prior authorization for prescribed medication, insurance appeals, coordination of appointments with secretaries or personal assistants, etc. that cannot be covered during regular appointments.

\$85/15 minutes

Copies of clinical record	Pages 1-21	\$1/page
	Pages 22-500	\$0.50/page
	Pages 501-end	\$0.25/page
	+ \$20 handling fee	

There are fees incurred if a physician is requested or mandated to be deposed or appear in a court of law or regulatory board or agency on your behalf.

Forms of payment accepted include cash and credit card (Visa, MasterCard, American Express, and Discover). Third party checks from insurance companies or other entities “signed over” are not accepted. Any check mailed to Élan Psychiatry from an insurance company will be mailed back to the insurance company and not “signed over” to you.

If requested, Élan Psychiatry can provide a statement of services for your records. If you choose to file a statement of service with your insurance company and they require additional paperwork or information (phone calls, filling out forms, treatment plan updates, etc) to process payment for an appointment visit, understand that Élan Psychiatry does not provide these services. It is your responsibility to be aware of the coverage you have and what will be required should you attempt to file an insurance.

Over time, fees are subject to change. Patients will be notified in advance.

## Cancellations and Missed Appointments

If you cancel or reschedule an appointment, Élan Psychiatry requires at least 24-hour notice (weekends not included). If your appointment is on a Monday, the cancellation must be made by the same hour on the preceding Friday. Cancellations that occur with less 24-hour notice or failure to show to an appointment will be charged the full fee for the appointment.

## Confidentiality

Any disclosure of your treatment to others will require your written consent. Basic information about your treatment need to be disclosed to your insurance company for purposes of prior authorization, if necessary. If you do not want any information disclosed to your insurance company, please notify Élan Psychiatry of this at your initial visit.

There are exceptions to this confidentiality, where disclosure is mandatory. These include following:

- If there is a threat the safety of others, the physician will be required by law to take protective measures including reporting the threat to the potential victim, notifying law enforcement, and arranging hospitalizations.
- When there is a threat of harm to yourself, the physician is required to assess for hospitalization, and will seek the aid of family members or friends to ensure your safety.
- In legal hearings, you do have the right to refuse the physician's involvement in the hearing. There are rare circumstances, however, in which the physician will be required by a judge to testify on your emotional or cognitive condition.
- In situations where a dementing illness, epilepsy, or other cognitive dysfunction prevents you from operating a motor vehicle in a safe manner, the physician will be required to report this to Office of Motor Vehicles.
- If a mental illness prevents you from providing for your own basic needs such as food, water, or shelter, the physician will be required to disclose information to assess for and possibly arrange for hospitalization.
- If certain infectious diseases are discovered, this information is required to be reported to the Office of Public Health.

These situations rarely occur in an outpatient setting. If they do arise, the physician will discuss the situation with you before taking action. In rare circumstances, the physician may find it helpful to consult with other professional specialized in such situations (without disclosing your identity to them)

## My Practice

Élan Psychiatry is not part of a group practice. If you are referred to another therapist or physician, it will be useful to collaborate and coordinate your care. Your written consent will be required. Any clinician you are referred to by Élan Psychiatry will be responsible for the care they provide to you.

## Contact Information

If you need to contact Élan Psychiatry between appointments and you agree to electronic communications consent, please send a text message to 985-231-2444 during business hours.

If you do have the ability to send a text message or do not agree to electronic communication consent, please call 985-231-2444 and leave a voicemail message during business hours. Please understand that questions or concerns after hours will be answered the next business day.

If there is a clinically urgent matter, please indicate that in text message or voice mail.

If you have clinical emergency requiring immediate response, call 911 or go to the nearest emergency room.

Charges may result if the purpose of the text or call takes a significant amount of time or for excessive and inappropriate texting or calling.

If you choose to contact Élan Psychiatry via text messaging or email, please be aware that this is not a secure means of communicating sensitive mental health information. Élan Psychiatry does not check email regularly so it is not appropriate way of contacting in an emergency.

You may mail a letter to office address:

Élan Psychiatry  
Nicholas Fluitt, MD  
111 North Causeway Blvd, Suite 222  
Mandeville, LA 70448

Fax Number: 847-221-6785

## Vacations

When the physician is out of town, on vacation, on medical leave, or not available due to other circumstances, another psychiatrist may be available for emergency coverage. Information will be left on Élan Psychiatry's phone message. By agreeing to these office policies you are also consenting for Élan Psychiatry to release your medical information with other psychiatrist providing coverage. In addition you are consenting to the release of information, as needed, to others to reschedule appointments or contact you in an emergency situation

## Treatment Consent

By signing below, you certify that you have read and understand the terms stated in the Treatment Consent Form. You indicate that you understand the scope of services, appointment structure, prescription policy, fees, cancellation/no-show policies, payment policy, insurance reimbursement, confidentiality, the nature of practice, contact information, and you agree to abide by the terms stated above during the course of our therapeutic relationship.

Your name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Your signature: \_\_\_\_\_