## INFORMED CONSENT Regarding Nutritional & Herbal Supplements



Technically, vitamins, minerals, trace elements, amino acids, herbs, or homeopathic remedies are not classified as drugs. However, these substances can have significant effects on physiology, and must be used rationally. In this office, we provide nutritional counseling and make individualized recommendations regarding use of these substances, in order to upgrade the quality of foods in a patient's diet, and to supply nutrition to support the physiological and biomechanical processes of the human body. Although these products may also be suggested with a specific therapeutic purpose in mind, their use is chiefly designed to support given aspects of metabolic function. Use of nutritional supplements may be safely recommended for patients already using pharmaceutical medications (drugs), but some potentially harmful interactions may occur. For this reason, it is important to keep all of your health care providers fully informed about all medications and nutritional supplements, herbs, or hormones you may be taking.

## Sale of Nutritional Supplements at HealthSource Integrative Medical Centre

You are under <u>no obligation</u> to purchase nutritional supplements at our clinic.

As a service to you, we make nutritional supplements available in our office. We purchase these products only from manufacturers who have gained our confidence through considerable research and experience. We determine quality by considering:

- 1) the quality of science behind the product
- 2) the quality of the ingredients themselves
- 3) the quality of the manufacturing process
- 4) the synergism among product components.

The brands of supplements that we carry in our facility are those that meet our high standards and tend to produce predictable results.

While these supplements may come at a higher financial cost than those found on the shelves of pharmacies or health food stores, the value must also include assurance of their purity, quality, bio-availability (ability to be properly absorbed and utilized by the body), and effectiveness. The chief reason we make these products available is to ensure quality. You are not guaranteed the same level of quality when you purchase your supplements from the general marketplace. We are not suggesting that such products have no value; however, given the lack of stringent testing requirements for dietary supplements, product quality varies widely.

If you have concerns about this issue, please discuss with your Naturopathic Doctor.

OUR CLINIC POLICY: You may pick up supplements at the clinic if you run out before your next visit. Please call ahead to ensure the product(s) are available for your convenience.

I, (print name)	<i>_</i>
have read and understand the above statement on	(date).
Signature	
Witnessed by,	(date).