

# FINANCIAL POLICY AND AGREEMENT

## BETTER LIFE CHIROPRACTIC, LLC

I, the undersigned, in consideration of the Office's services, agree to the following terms:

**Definitions.** In this Agreement, "Office" and "Clinic" shall refer to Better Life Chiropractic, LLC, doing business Dr. Candace J. Thomas, located at 235 Wadsworth Drive, North Chesterfield, VA 23236. "Financial Policy" or "Agreement" shall refer to this document.

**Personal Responsibility for My Charges.** I understand that I remain personally responsible for my Charges and that at any time, I can request a copy of my total Charges from the Office. Except where provided otherwise by law or by contract, I agree to pay the full amount of my Charges to the Office promptly upon its demand. I understand that the Office's Assignment does not constitute an agreement by the Office to await payment of my Charges. Unless otherwise mutually agreed to in writing on a form provided by the Office, I agree that (1) any delay by the Office in making demand for payment, any delay in paying the full amount of my Charges, and any partial payments received by the Office towards my Charges, shall not constitute acceptance of any installment payment plan, shall not constitute a waiver of the Office's right to receive payment-in-full promptly upon demand, and shall not constitute an "accord and satisfaction" of my Charges, regardless of any such terms or restrictions indicated on, or included with, any payments, and (2) any delay in paying the full amount of my Charges beyond fourteen (14) calendar days of demand shall be construed as a "default" of my obligation.

**Personal Responsibility for Verifying the Limitations in My Coverage; Financial Responsibility for Non-Covered Charges.** I understand that in any given situation, a Payer may initially refuse to make payment to the Office, may delay payment for an indefinite or unreasonable amount of time, or may actually request a refund from the Office after making payment, and do so either in whole or in part with respect to any given Charge incurred at the Office (collectively, "Deny Payment"). For example (without limiting this Agreement), I understand that a Payer may Deny Payment, stating that the Charge is "not a covered benefit" under its policy or exceeds some other limitation. I further understand that a Payer may Deny Payment stating that the individual provider who actually renders the treatment or procedure is out-of-network. I also understand that a Payer may claim, based on internal criteria, that a particular Charge is or was not medically necessary or was not sufficiently documented, and should therefore be denied or downloaded. I also understand that a Payer may require certain Charges to be pre-certified or pre-authorized. I understand that there may be many other situations where a Payer may Deny Payment based on a particular contractual term applicable to me or to the Office (collectively, "Terms of Non-Coverage"). To the extent permitted by law or by contract, I agree that I am solely and exclusively responsible for verifying all Terms of Non-Coverage prior to incurring any Charges at the office. I agree that if I have any questions about the Terms of Non-Coverage, I can ask to see copies of the Office's verification (e.g., eligibility, pre-authorization) forms to gain further understanding. I further agree that should the Office assist me in any way in the verification, pre-authorization, or billing process, I assume the risk that the Payer and/or the Office may in my opinion not accurately understand and/or communicate the Terms of Non-Coverage and/or bill my Charges to my Payers. Should any Payer Deny Payment, or should any Payer be likely to Deny Payment as determined by the Office in its sole discretion, I agree that I am personally, fully, and immediately responsible for the portion of my Charges denied or likely to be denied. In no event shall I hold the Office responsible or liable in any of the foregoing instances.

**Direction to the Office to Apply the Lowest Mandatory Fee Reduction When Two or More Payers Are Involved.** Unless otherwise agreed to in writing, I authorize the Office to submit my Charges, as well as a copy of the Assignment & Lien, to any and all Payers, not including in accident cases my health benefit plan or Medicare. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the event that the Office determines in its sole discretion that it has any reasonable basis for either submitting or not submitting my Charges and/or other documentation to a Payer, I hereby authorize the Office to take such action without condition or restriction. I understand that some or all of these Payers may utilize fee schedules which (a) the Office has agreed to accept, directly with said Payers in writing, or (b) law expressly imposes on the Office to accept (collectively, "Mandatory Fee Reductions"). I further understand that the Mandatory Fee Reductions imposed on the Office with respect to one Payer may exceed the Mandatory Fee Reductions imposed on the Office with respect to another Payer. In such an event, I hereby authorize and direct the Office insofar as permitted by law to apply the lower of the two Mandatory Fee Reductions to its Charges. I further agree that in the special event that Mandatory Fee Reductions are imposed on the Office by virtue of laws which regulate or restrict "balance billing," I hereby waive the application of such laws. In the event that no Mandatory Fee Reductions are actually imposed on the Office with respect to a Payer, I authorize and direct the Office to collect up to its full Charges from such Payer.

**Authorization to Sign My Name on Payments; Transfer of Credit Balances.** I authorize the Office to endorse or sign my name on any and all payments listing me as a payee which are received by the Office for payment of Charges incurred by me, my spouse or my dependents. In such cases, my printed name, followed by the phrase, "(by [Name of Office])," shall serve as a properly authorized endorsement. I further authorize the Office to apply any credit balances on my Charges to any other outstanding Charges still owed by me, my spouse, or my dependents, regardless of whether these other Charges are related to my condition.

**Miscellaneous Provisions.** Except as provided in this paragraph, this Agreement shall not be modified or revoked without the expressed, written consent of the Office. I hereby revoke, with the Office's consent, the terms of any previously signed documents, but only to the extent those terms conflict with the terms of this Agreement. I agree that each and every provision of this Agreement is reasonably necessary. However, should any provision of this Agreement be found to be invalid, illegal or unenforceable, or for any reason cease to be binding on any party hereto, all other portions and provisions of this Agreement shall, nevertheless, remain in full force and effect. This Agreement shall be governed under the laws of the state where the Office is located, and is performable in the county where the Office is located. In any action based upon this Agreement, I hereby consent to personal jurisdiction and venue of any court in said county and waive all objections based on improper jurisdiction, venue, or forum inconvenience. I further waive any statute of limitations which may apply in any action based upon this Agreement. I have reviewed the Office's "Assignment & Lien" and Health Insurance Election forms and further agree to the terms and definitions set forth in these documents. Said documents are incorporated herein by reference. In the event that my condition is related to an accident, including without limit automobile accident, I understand that there will be an administrative fee necessary to cover the costs of verifying multiple Payers, filing and terminating liens, and submitting notices of same to Payers.

I have read, understood, and agree to the terms of this Agreement.

Patient Name (print): \_\_\_\_\_

Patient Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Name of Custodial Parent or Legal Guardian, on Behalf of the Patient (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_