



SSRI - INFORMED CONSENT FOR MEDICATION

<u>Medication Category:</u> Antidepressant/Anti- Obsessive Compulsive Disorder Medication, Anti-Anxiety.	<u>Medications in this Category:</u> fluoxetine (Prozac), paroxetine (Paxil); sertraline (Zoloft), fluvoximine (Luvox), citalopram (Celexa), Lexapro.
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Anticipated dosage range:_____

About Your Medicine: The above medications are used to treat depression and anxiety. These medications are felt to work by adjusting the regulation of serotonin in the brain and thus are referred to as SSRI's (selective serotonin re-uptake inhibitors). These medications take several weeks to become maximally effective.

Side Effects: Every drug is capable of producing side effects. The frequency and severity of side effects depend on many factors including dose, duration of therapy and individual susceptibility. Many antidepressant users experience little or no side effects.

Possible Side Effects Include:

Most common: Headache, nausea, nervousness, insomnia, drowsiness, lack of drive and interest, anxiety, decreased sexual drive or sexual dysfunction including ejaculation problems, impotence and inability to orgasm, diarrhea, dryness of the mouth, loss of appetite, upset stomach, sore throat, excessive sweating.

Precautions: These medications are dangerous when combined with another type of antidepressant of the class MAOI's. They should never be used in combination with this medication class. If you develop a rash or hives on the medication the medication should be discontinued and your prescriber notified. Rarely, patients who have developed a rash have gone on to develop other serious problems. Should you have any breathing problems or anything that would suggest an allergic difficulty, contact your doctor immediately and discontinue the medication. **Note studies suggest a possible increase in suicidal ideation or behavior. Patients being treated with antidepressants should be observed closely for clinical worsening and suicidality, especially at the beginning of a course of drug therapy, or at the time of dose changes, either increases or decreases.**

Caution needs to be exercised in patients with heart disease, kidney disease, liver disease, and diabetes. If you have any of these difficulties be sure to let your doctor know. Inform your

doctor if you plan to take any prescription or over-the-counter medications or alcohol. This medication should not be used in pregnant women, nursing mothers, and safety and effectiveness of use in automobile until you are certain the medication isn't adversely affecting your ability to do so. The above medication should not be used in combination with Tryptophan, as it can cause serious and adverse reactions.

By my signature below, I give consent for the above-named medication to be administered and for a change of medication within this medication category. My signature also indicates that I am aware of, have read and discussed the reasons for the use of this medication, and its potential risks and benefits.

Client Signature: _____ Date Signed: _____

Witness Signature: _____ Date Signed: _____