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PRIVATE-PAY MEDICARE OPT-OUT SERVICES CONTRACT

I, Pete Morones, Ph.D. (NPI # 1992844575), have chosen to continue opting out of Medicare as permitted by the Balance Budget Act of 1997 of the Social Security Act of 1997. This law permits licensed health care providers, including psychologists, that have opted out of Medicare to enter into a private contract with Medicare beneficiaries. My current opt-out period was renewed starting January 1, 2024, and ends January 1, 2026. Because I opted out, Medicare requires that I have you sign a private-pay health services contract before beginning therapy.

WHO PAYS FOR SERVICES? You are responsible for payment based on the terms and fees outlined in the separate Fee Agreement & Policies document.

ARE THERE CHARGE LIMITS? No, Medicare charge limits do not apply to products or services you receive from me through this private-pay medical services contract. Charges are based on the fees outlined in the separate Fee Agreement & Financial Policies document.

WILL MEDICARE HELP PAY? No, Medicare will not help pay your bill. Because I am not a Medicare provider, it is against the rules *for you to send a bill to Medicare for my services or my office send the bill to Medicare for you.*

BUT ISN'T THIS A MEDICARE-COVERED SERVICE? Yes and no. Yes, Medicare may pay for the same service from a provider who is contracted with Medicare. No, Medicare will not pay for my services to you because I have opted out of Medicare.

WHAT OPTIONS DO I HAVE? You have the right to receive service from a provider contracted with Medicare. It is important to know that if you chose to receive services from me, that you are still eligible to obtain services and products from providers contracted with Medicare. These providers are not required to have you sign private-pay medical services contracts.

WHAT IF I AM HAVING A MEDICAL EMERGENCY? This contract does not cover emergency or urgent care services. If you have an emergency or urgent medical need, ask me for help. It is against Medicare rules for me to have you sign a private-pay medical services contract for emergency or urgent medical services.

WILL MY MEDIGAP OR OTHER SUPPLEMENTAL PLANS HELP PAY? No, Medigap and/or other Medicare associated insurance will not help pay for products or services rendered from me.

WILL MEDICARE SERVICES/CMS GET A COPY OF THE CONTRACT? I, the provider, will supply a copy of this contract in the event CMS requests a copy.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT: By signing* below, I agree that I have had read and agree to this Medicare Opt-Out Contract and have had the opportunity to discuss any related questions with Dr. Morones and/or with any other individual or representative of my choosing permitting me to make an informed decision before signing this contract.

*Please note that should you decide to utilize electronic signatures for any forms associated with Dr. Morones' practice, such signatures will be considered as valid and legally binding.

CLIENT SIGNATURE OR LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE DATE

CLIENT / REPRESENTATIVE PRINTED NAME

PROVIDER SIGNATURE DATE