

# INFORMED CONSENT TO STERILIZATION

Michigan Department of Community Health

**NOTICE:** YOUR DECISION AT ANY TIME NOT TO BE STERILIZED WILL NOT RESULT IN THE WITHDRAWAL OR WITHHOLDING OF ANY BENEFITS PROVIDED BY PROGRAMS OR PROJECTS RECEIVING FEDERAL FUNDS.

## CONSENT TO STERILIZATION

I have asked for and received information about sterilization from \_\_\_\_\_  
(Doctor or Clinic). When I first asked for the

information, I was told that the decision to be sterilized is completely up to me. I was told that I could decide not to be sterilized. If I decide not to be sterilized, my decision will not affect my right to future care or treatment. I will not lose any help or benefits from programs receiving Federal funds, such as A.F.D.C. or Medicaid that I am now getting or for which I may become eligible.

I UNDERSTAND THAT THE STERILIZATION MUST BE CONSIDERED **PERMANENT AND NOT REVERSIBLE**. I HAVE DECIDED THAT I DO NOT WANT TO BECOME PREGNANT, BEAR CHILDREN OR FATHER CHILDREN.

I was told about those temporary methods of birth control that are available and could be provided to me which will allow me to bear or father a child in the future. I have rejected these alternatives and chosen to be sterilized.

I understand that I will be sterilized by an operation known as a \_\_\_\_\_. The discomforts, risks and benefits associated with the operation have been explained to me. All my questions have been answered to my satisfaction.

I understand that the operation will not be done until at least thirty days after I sign this form. I understand that I can change my mind at any time and that my decision at any time not to be sterilized will not result in the withholding of any benefits or medical services provided by federally funded programs.

I am at least 21 years of age and was born on \_\_\_\_\_  
(Month / Day / Year)

I, \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name of Individual Being Sterilized)

hereby consent of my own free will to be sterilized by \_\_\_\_\_

(Name of Doctor and Professional Degree)

by a method called \_\_\_\_\_.

My consent expires 180 days from the date of my signature below.

I also consent to the release of this form and other medical records about the operation to:

Representatives of the Department of Health and Human Services OR Employees of programs or projects funded by that Department but only for determining if Federal laws were observed. I have received a copy of this form.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of Person Giving Consent) Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Month / Day / Year)

You are requested to supply the following information, but it is not required: *Ethnicity and race designation (please check)*

- Ethnicity:* \_\_\_\_\_ *Race (mark one or more):* \_\_\_\_\_
- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic or Latino     | <input type="checkbox"/> American Indian or Alaska Native          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Not Hispanic or Latino | <input type="checkbox"/> Asian                                     |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> Black or African American                 |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> White                                     |

## INTERPRETER'S STATEMENT

If an interpreter is provided to assist the individual to be sterilized:

I have translated the information and advice presented orally to the individual to be sterilized by the person obtaining this consent. I have also read him/her the consent form in \_\_\_\_\_

language and explained its contents to him/her. To the best of my knowledge and belief he/she understood this explanation.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Interpreter's Signature) Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Month / Day / Year)

## STATEMENT OF PERSON OBTAINING CONSENT

Before \_\_\_\_\_ signed the  
(Name of Individual)  
consent form, I explained to him/her the nature of the sterilization operation \_\_\_\_\_, the fact that it is intended to be a final and irreversible procedure and the discomforts, risks and benefits associated with it.

I counseled the individual to be sterilized that alternative methods of birth control are available which are temporary. I explained that sterilization is different because it is permanent.

I informed the individual to be sterilized that his/her consent can be withdrawn at any time and that he/she will not lose any health services or any benefits provided by Federal funds.

To the best of my knowledge and belief the individual to be sterilized is at least 21 years old and appears mentally competent. He/she knowingly and voluntarily requested to be sterilized and appears to understand the nature and consequences of the procedure.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of person obtaining consent) \_\_\_\_\_ (Date)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Facility)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Facility Address)

## PHYSICIAN'S STATEMENT

Shortly before I performed a sterilization operation upon

\_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name of individual to be sterilized) (Date of sterilization)

I explained to him/her the nature of the sterilization operation \_\_\_\_\_, the fact that it is intended  
(specify type of operation)

to be a final and irreversible procedure and the discomforts, risks and benefits associated with it.

I counseled the individual to be sterilized that alternative methods of birth control are available which are temporary. I explained that sterilization is different because it is permanent.

I informed the individual to be sterilized that his/her consent can be withdrawn at any time and that he/she will not lose any health services or benefits provided by Federal funds.

To the best of my knowledge and belief the individual to be sterilized is at least 21 years old and appears mentally competent. He/she knowingly and voluntarily requested to be sterilized and appeared to understand the nature and consequences of the procedure.

**(Instructions for use of alternative final paragraphs:** Use the first paragraph below except in the case of premature delivery or emergency abdominal surgery where the sterilization is performed less than 30 days after the date of the individual's signature on the consent form. In those cases, the second paragraph below must be used. Cross out the paragraph which is not used.)

(1) At least thirty days have passed between the date of the individual's signature on this consent form and the date the sterilization was performed.

(2) This sterilization was performed less than 30 days but more than 72 hours after the date of the individual's signature on this consent form because of the following circumstances (check applicable box and fill in information requested):

- |  |
|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Premature delivery<br>Individual's expected date of delivery: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency abdominal surgery: _____<br>(describe circumstances)      |

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of Physician and Professional Degree) Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Month / Day / Year)

AUTHORITY: Title XIX of the Social Security Act  
COMPLETION: Is Voluntary, but is required if Medical Assistance program payment is desired.

The Michigan Department of Community Health is an equal opportunity employer, services and programs provider.

## INSTRUCTIONS TO COMPLETE INFORMED CONSENT TO STERILIZATION FORM

1. Name of the physician or clinic giving information to the beneficiary. The "M.D." or "D.O." designation must be included.
2. Name of the sterilization procedure to be performed (e.g., Tubal Ligation or Vasectomy).
3. Beneficiary's complete birth date (month, day, and year). The beneficiary must be 21 years of age at the time they sign the form.
4. Beneficiary's full name. If a name change is indicated on the Medicaid card by the time surgery is performed, both names must be indicated.
5. Name of physician performing the sterilization. If the physician is unknown, "doctor on call" may be indicated.
6. Name of surgery to be performed (e.g., Tubal Ligation or Vasectomy).
7. Beneficiary's handwritten signature. A beneficiary who cannot write should sign with an "X." The "X" signature must be witnessed. The witness' handwritten signature must appear below item 7.
8. Date the consent form was signed (month, day and year). This date must be more than 30 days and less than 180 days before the date the sterilization is performed. If it is less than 30 days, see instructions for "alternative final paragraphs."
9. Race and ethnicity designation is optional.
10. Interpreter's Statement. This information is only required if the beneficiary is unable to understand English. The language used for interpretation must be specified (e.g., Spanish). The interpreter's handwritten signature and date must appear. The date must be the same date the beneficiary signed the form.
11. Name of beneficiary.
12. Name of sterilization procedure (e.g., Tubal Ligation or Vasectomy).
13. The handwritten signature of the person obtaining consent.
14. Date consent is taken (month, day and year). This date must be before the date sterilization is performed (#18).
15. Name of provider or clinic (e.g., office of John Doe, M.D., doctor's office, ABC Clinic, XYZ Hospital).
16. Street address, city, state, and zip code. No P.O. boxes allowed.
17. Beneficiary's full name.
18. Date of sterilization (month, day, and year). The surgery date must be the same as indicated on the claim.
19. Name of sterilization procedure (e.g., Tubal Ligation, Vasectomy).
20. Instructions for use of alternative final paragraphs.
21. If at least 30 days have passed since the date the beneficiary signed the consent form and the date of sterilization, paragraph "1" applies and paragraph "2" should be crossed out.
22. If the date the sterilization was performed is less than 30 days and more than 72 hours of the beneficiary signing the consent form, paragraph "2" applies and paragraph "1" should be crossed out. The applicable box should be checked.
23. For premature delivery, the expected date of delivery must be given.
24. Physician's signature. This can be a stamped signature if counter initialed.
25. Date physician signed the consent form. This date must be on or after the date of surgery. This can be typed or stamped.

If abdominal surgery was performed, the circumstances must be explained and operative notes submitted with the claim.

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