

Visceral Synergy New Patient Letter

Ron Mariotti, ND, BI-D
Naturopathic Physician

Dear New Naturopathic Patient,

Welcome to Visceral Synergy, your partner in personalized natural health care! I am dedicated to bringing you the very best in natural medicine choices and am looking forward to helping you attain your health goals.

This letter will provide you with all the information you need for setting up an appointment with Dr. Mariotti. **Please read the entire letter. There is important information throughout.**

After you have secured your first office visit with me the next step is to go to the **“Patient Information and Forms”** page on my visceralsynergy.com website where you will find the following forms that will need to be downloaded and completely filled out: **Intake form, Consent form, and Nutritional Questionnaire.**

These forms need to be filled out completely prior to your consultation. I ask that you do this well in advance since some questions require information for which you may need some time to research the answers. This information will help guide me in selecting the appropriate care and guidance that is in your best interest.

Please take your time and fill this out in detail. On the day of your appointment, please bring your completed forms and arrive promptly. Your punctuality helps me to be on time with all of my patients.

My financial policy is simple:

- **In order to schedule and secure an initial appointment** you will need to pre-pay \$265 toward your first visit. **The total fee for an initial assessment is \$365.00 and will last for approximately 1 hour.** If you would like to reschedule to a different day you will need to notify me 4 days prior to your confirmed appointment date. If you need to cancel your appointment and would like a refund, you will need to cancel this appointment at least 4 days in advance. You will be given a refund of \$240 (the pre-payment minus a \$25 processing fee). Failure to change or cancel 4 days in advance results in a forfeiture of the full \$265.00, which will be used to cover the “missed appointment fee”.
- **The first follow-up office visit** will consist of the *Report of Findings* and will cost \$265.00 and last for about 45 minutes. If you require additional time there will be an additional fee.
- **Succeeding follow up visits** will be \$165.00 for a session lasting from 25-45 minutes and not to exceed an 45 minutes.
- **At the time of your first visit,** I MAY be conducting a Bioimpedance Analysis (BIA), which is included in the cost of your initial appointment (this applies to individuals above the age of 10 years old). Future BIAs will cost \$50. Please see the file *“BIA – What is it?”*

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- **I accept cash, personal checks, Mastercard and Visa, or Amex on my online store.** I ask that you pay my fees at the time of service.
- **I do not bill insurance plans;** however, I will provide you with the appropriate form for you to submit to your insurance company. Reimbursement will vary depending on your benefit package and it is up to you to check that out with your insurance company prior to your appointment. I do not get involved in insurance reimbursement conflicts.
- **After your initial office visit, if you need to cancel your appointment,** I ask that you call 48 hours in advance so that I may offer your time slot to another patient. Failure to cancel in 48 hours will result in a \$265 charge. The only exception is in the case of emergencies or sickness.
- **Failure to show up for your appointment** will result in a “no show” fee of \$265.00.
- **If you need to cancel an appointment** you will need to do so via email. Leaving a phone message or text message will not be sufficient. Failure to cancel an appointment via email may result in being charged for a missed appointment fee regardless of how far in advance the appointment is canceled. With email we will have documentation of the cancellation and there will be no confusion.

The following is a breakdown of what you might expect from my services:

- **I do not provide reminder calls for scheduled appointments.** If you miss your appointment you will be charged the “missed appointment fee”.
- **If you are coming in with an issue relating to chronic illness** your first session will be dominated by gathering data and performing of appropriate physical exams. In general, recommendations will not be given until your second visit, the Report of Findings visit.
- **At this first visit Dr. Mariotti** may recommend certain functional medicine labs to help in determining the best possible treatment plan for you. Please see my website and click on the page for “*Functional Medicine Labs*” for information on a few of the most useful labs Dr. Mariotti utilizes.
- **At your second visit** whether via email, phone or in person I will be discussing with you the results of the labs, my clinical thinking, and any pertinent information to help you implement the treatment plan, which will include things such as general information, education about your condition, your lab findings, diet, lifestyle, and nutrition related information, as well as a detailed treatment plan.
- **Please be aware that I often recommend functional medicine testing,** which is different from traditional blood testing as it provides comprehensive information about cellular function and not simply whether or not you have passed a rudimentary blood test. If you want to know more about the specific test I often utilize please go to my website to the following link: <http://www.visceralsynergy.com/functional-labs.html>. You will also read on this page that I charge a nominal fee for functional medicine testing. This "lab review fee" covers the significant amount of

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time and clinical experience I put into interpreting your functional medicine labs in order to design a treatment plan that is tailored to meet your specific health needs. It is typical that I will send my comments and the results to you via email, if this is okay with you. This “lab review fee” will also cover my initial email. Any further emails after the initial email will require an email fee. Please be advised that the "lab review fee" does not cover an office visit. If you desire an office visit to go over your labs the fee is based on the amount of time you spend consulting with me.

- **Follow up visits will be directed at monitoring, assessing, and making appropriate alterations** to your treatment based on your progress.

Please be aware that if you do not arrive to your appointment with your intake form completely filled out your appointment will be rescheduled and the \$265 pre-paid fee will be used for the “missed appointment”. As the intake form is 10 pages long please do not wait until the day of the session to fill this out.

In preparation for you BIA please abide by the following guidelines: No alcohol the night before your visit. No food 4 hours prior to your visit. No caffeine or exercise the morning of your visit, and drink 2 – 4 glasses of water 2-3 hours prior to your visit. Following these guidelines will ensure an accurate BIA reading.

You can reach me or leave a message at 206-524-4010 or you can email me. Email is a better means of communication for me. You will get a quicker response.

I am pleased that you have chosen Visceral Synergy to be your natural health care partner, and look forward to seeing you at your appointment.

With healthy regards,

Ron Mariotti, ND, BI-D

