

## **Private Membership Association (PMA) Fact Sheet**

### **Why must I become a member of your ParaWellness Research PMA?**

Membership places us together under the protection of the 1<sup>st</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> amendments to the Constitution to conduct our business in the full protection of privacy. In order to understand privacy let us examine the opposite: the public arena.

Regular medical labs, insurance companies, hospitals and most doctors and practitioners are doing business in the PUBLIC arena. There is nothing wrong with this. However federal, state, county and local governments will regulate what is done, how it is done and they will have the right to all your health information in whatever form it is in (known as HIPPA). The doctors will have to follow their guidelines for ordering and doing tests or suffer penalties and fines.

In a PRIVATE situation you and I are legally removing ourselves from the public sector so that I am able to run the types of parasite tests that otherwise would be prohibited by federal and state regulations. Furthermore, the results of testing are not provided to the government or other third party and I would need your permission to do so. The exception would be your doctor or practitioner.

### **How do I become a member of the ParaWellness PMA?**

You read and sign the membership agreement and provide a nominal one-time fee of ten dollars (\$10). Your name is recorded in our membership log.

### **Who may become a member?**

Individuals 18 years of age or older may sign for themselves. Those younger than 18, or those under the care of a parent or guardian will need the parent or guardian to sign for them. The name of the individual is placed on the line on the first page. The last page has spaces for the necessary information and signature.

### **I have several children less than 18 years of age. How does this work?**

A separate membership agreement is needed for each child. The nominal ten-dollar (\$10) one-time fee is required for each membership agreement.

### **I have signed a "Request to Become a Research Associate" in the past. Will I be considered a member under this new agreement?**

The Research Associate program ended on December 31, 2017. You will need to become a member of the ParaWellness Research PMA going forward as outlined above. There are still a few test kits with the older paperwork. We will honor the Research Associate form from these test kits. But once the testing is done on them any future testing will require the PMA membership agreement to be completed as outlined above.

### **If after reading the membership agreement I decide not to sign it and become a member, will I still be able to obtain a parasite test from ParaWellness Research?**

This will not be possible. Any fees you have paid in advance will be refunded. I have assured the Division of Laboratory Services of the US Government that I will not conduct public testing of any kind. As long as we have entered into a private association contract they will not interfere.

**Where do I find the Membership Agreement?**

A Membership Agreement is included with each new test kit.

The retest kits do not have one. If you have formerly signed the Research Associate form, you may download the membership agreement from the PWR website, complete it, enclose the \$10 one-time fee and mail it in with your retest specimens.