



## INTEGRATIVE PSYCHIATRY OF NY, PC

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### ADVICE TO PATIENTS REGARDING SUBSTANCE USE

#### ADVICE TO PATIENTS REGARDING THE USE OF ALCOHOL AND NON-PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

The use of non-prescription drugs (including marijuana) and/or alcohol is strongly contraindicated during treatment for depression, mania, panic, anxiety, obsessive-compulsive disorder or eating disorder.

The regular use of the above mentioned substances can be medically dangerous and may seriously hamper psychiatric treatment. Drugs and alcohol can interact with the medications used to treat these conditions and cause overdose, toxicity or other medical complications.

All patients should be aware that I cannot accept responsibility for their care and treatment if they do not comply with this policy regarding the use of prescription medications, which includes refraining from the use of alcohol and non-prescription drugs. In order to ensure safe treatment with anti-depressants or Lithium and other psychotropic drugs, patients MUST undergo a toxicology test of serum or urine. If the doctor believes that there is a problem with the use of these drugs, these tests will be a requirement for continued treatment and you will be asked to sign an agreement prior to prescribing a treatment program.

If you are concerned about an apparent need for alcohol, marijuana, cocaine or other such substances, please discuss them with the doctor for assistance. If you have questions regarding this policy, please speak with your doctor immediately and you will be advised in further detail.

Successful treatment begins with patient understanding and cooperation!