Nitrous Oxide During Labor or other Procedures

I understand the risks and benefits of breathing nitrous oxide for labor or other procedures and I wish to use this form of controlled analgesia. I understand that this form of pain management may not remove all sensation or discomfort.

I understand that there are potential side effects of nitrous oxide, which most commonly include dizziness and nausea. If I use nitrous oxide I understand that I must have a support person present with me at all times. If I wish to stop using nitrous oxide at any time during labor or another procedure I may voluntarily discontinue use immediately. I will then inform the midwife of this decision.

I understand that there is a fee which will be charged to my account for the set-up of the nitrous equipment if I use this form of analgesia.

I understand that using nitrous oxide may make me feel unsteady for brief periods of time. If I need or want to change positions or walk around while using nitrous oxide, I will do so only with assistance from a support person, midwife or nurse. I also understand that if I am using nitrous oxide I may only use the birth pool with direct supervision by a staff member or a member of my support team.

I agree to hold the mask on my own and I will not allow others to hold the mask to my face or utilize any other form of external support (pillow, straps, etc.) to maintain the mask on my face.

I will not allow anyone other than myself to use the mask and understand that anyone observed attempting to, or using the mask will be asked to leave the room. Nitrous oxide would then no longer be available for my use.

I understand there could be theoretical risks to nitrous oxide, as well as other pain-relieving medications used during pregnancy. I understand that nitrous oxide has been used throughout the world for labor pain control for many decades and is considered safe.

I understand that signing this form means that this option is available to me, but does not obligate me to use this pain relief option.

I understand that use of nitrous oxide is on a first come/first serve basis. There is no guarantee that it will be available for my specific use.

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Client Printed Name                                      Signature                                      Date