

Dear Client,

Welcome to the ASHA Clinic!

ASHA is committed to graduating the best-trained, highest-qualified, most-marketable massage therapists in the country. In order to do this, we must provide them with an opportunity to put their skills to use by working with a diverse group of clients who offer a vast range of therapeutic learning experiences. The clinic experience offers students an opportunity to exercise, expand, and refine their clinical and professional skills. Thank you for helping to make this possible.

With a promise of excellence, ASHA is committed to its clientele by maintaining a safe, comfortable, healing environment that is conducive to learning, wellness and personal growth. Through our endeavors, we hope to shift the world's view of health care from "treating illness" to "creating wellness."

You will be receiving treatment from student therapists who will initially be practicing Swedish Massage Technique. All students working in the clinic have passed their Swedish massage class requirements and practical proficiency exams. As your student therapist progresses in their program, they will have an opportunity to utilize more advanced techniques such as Clinical Sports Technique and Neuromuscular Therapy.

## Who's Who?

On each clinic day, there will be a team of staff members working together to help make your clinic experience the best that it can be. If we can accommodate you in any way, please let us know.

The **Front Desk staff at ASHA** will call to confirm your appointment prior to and assist you on the day of your massage.

**The Clinic Supervisor** is a Licensed Professional Massage Therapist whose primary role is to ensure that every aspect of the clinic runs smoothly and effectively. He/she serves as an instructor throughout the day and will be evaluating each student therapist during each massage.

## What to Expect

Your student therapist will greet you in the lobby at your appointment time to ensure that the session gets underway on time. The massage session lasts about 50 minutes and with Swedish technique, is performed on the entire body. If there are areas of your body that you would like the student therapist to avoid, please let them know. The therapist will discuss with you how they plan to approach the session, and feel free to tell them about your personal preferences. The other 10 minutes in your hour are used at the start and end of the session.

While we strive to make each session personalized for the client, please understand that the students are required to follow a particular format as part of the learning process.

Also, please be advised that at some point during your session, a clinic supervisor will be coming into the treatment room to evaluate the student therapist's performance. This will be done quietly with minimal disruption to your session.

ASHA student therapists are required to use their own ASHA approved lotions, oils and creams. They are of professional grade and are hypoallergenic. Feel free to let your therapist know what your preference is.

Your modesty will never be compromised. You will be completely covered by the treatment linens and blankets throughout the session. The only time a body part will be exposed is when the therapist is applying treatment. How much clothing you choose to remove is entirely up to you. In most cases, clients remove all clothing, but feel free to leave your undergarments on if it provides extra security for you.

During a massage session, naturally there is extended close personal contact between you and your therapist. Because of this, personal hygiene is very important. We have asked our therapists to take extra care prior to your massage and to minimize the use of fragrance. We request that you also be mindful of the cleanliness of your feet as well as personal hygiene in general as a courtesy to your therapist. We kindly request your feedback if you observe any lack in this area.

When your session ends, your therapist will inform you of the checkout procedure and will also provide clinical recommendations based on their findings. If you have questions or concerns regarding these recommendations, please consult the supervisor on staff for clarification.

## **Massage Therapy in the Clinical Setting**

We are delighted that you have recognized Massage Therapy as a part of your personal maintenance or health care plan. Amongst all alternative therapies, Massage Therapy continues to lead in expansion and growth. ASHA is steadfast in promoting the clinical benefits of Massage Therapy. No longer is massage a luxury, nor is it merely regarded as a service.

The Georgia Board of Massage Therapy and the agency that approves massage schools for the state of Georgia do not permit us to convey gratuities to your student therapists. The highest compliment that you can pay us is to continue your patronage with us so that we can continue providing the highest quality Massage Therapy education in the southeast! Thank you again for your support!

Sincerely,



Dr. Stan Dawson,  
Clinic Director and Executive Director of ASHA