

## **SPECIAL CONSENT FOR BREAST MASSAGE**

As of 2017, WAC 246-830-555 requires LMTs to have a special consent for breast massage on file. Please remember that special consent, and the education of patients that goes along with it, protects both patients and therapists. To minimize your risk of complaints from patients or third parties (friends, partners or family), consider following these steps:

1. Before the first breast massage treatment, explain to the client what you are planning to do and why.
2. Discuss draping options: Are they comfortable with their breast being uncovered? Would they prefer touch through a sheet or other covering? Would they prefer touch through their clothes?
3. If you plan to work on the areola, you need to discuss this specifically.
4. Get written consent for the client to receive breast massage, what draping option they prefer and if the areola will be included in the treatment sessions.
5. Inform your client that they have the right to withdraw their consent at any time during the treatment or in the future.

At future appointments, ask for verbal consent before uncovering and/or touching the breast and document in your chart notes.