

June 2, 2019



To Whom It May Concern:

I have been a patient of Corrine Basch, M.D., since March, 2014. I came to her diagnosed with Rheumatoid Arthritis, Degenerative Disc Disease, multiple allergies including food allergies, multiple chemical sensitivity, gastrointestinal problems, as well as other physiological problems. I had had to retire early, due to illness.

My previous general practitioners had been uninterested in treating more than one of the above, or had misdiagnosed my symptoms, and thus treated these problems incorrectly. I had been without a General Practitioner for several years. Dr. Basch has persistently worked with me and my specialists to find ways of treating my chronic pain, even as the natural course of these conditions continues. Diet, exercise, PT and OT, and topicals have been at the forefront of her efforts to help me control pain, not narcotics. Despite setbacks, such as joint replacement surgeries and reactions to medications, Dr. Basch has continued to support my efforts to maintain functionality without resorting to opioids. For two years (since hip replacement surgery) I have taken nothing stronger than Ibuprofen for pain, in addition to several medications prescribed typically for Rheumatoid Arthritis, like Humira and Plaquinil.

Dr. Basch has been committed to seeing me holistically as a complex person whose medical conditions may be interrelated. Her patience with my reluctance to try her elimination diet system has been heroic. I eventually tried it, and the result is that I finally feel well enough to resume my private practice in psychotherapy.

Dr. Basch is the most dedicated, hard-working medical doctor I have ever worked with. She works around the clock to meet her patients' needs. Several times she has answered my e-mailed enquiries late at night on a weekend. She has found a way to see me with sudden or unusual needs. An MRI for a patient with claustrophobia is a serious problem for the patient, though it may seem minor to anyone else. Not to Dr. Basch.

Our rural community has a dearth of general practitioners and specialists. Many people do not have a family doctor, much less a qualified specialist. Our few doctors are inhumanly overworked. I have to drive to Santa Rosa for Orthopedic and Rheumatology specialists. Losing Dr. Basch will mean our few doctors will suddenly have to take on 1400 more special, high needs patients. I know there is an opioid crisis, but Dr. Basch is one of the doctors who is working to reduce that crisis, not contribute to it. Please allow her to continue seeing patients unhampered.

Respectfully,

