

### **APPENDIX 13. Allergen immunotherapy informed consent**

- Documentation that informed consent has been obtained.
- Informed consent is a process by which a patient and physician discuss various aspects of a proposed treatment. Although many allergists use a written consent form before starting immunotherapy, a reasonable alternative is simply to document the consent process in the medical record. The consent process usually consists of the following:
  - what the treatment is and alternatives to the treatment;
  - potential benefits to be expected from the treatment;
  - potential risks, including a fair description of how frequently they are likely to occur, if known, including the possibility of death;
  - costs associated with immunotherapy and who pays for them;
  - the anticipated duration of treatment; and
  - any specific office policies that affect treatment.
- Since the informed consent process is complex and details might vary from state to state, each allergist/immunologist should decide how they should document informed consent. Legal advice might be useful.