

Informed Consent for Care

Chiropractic

It is important to acknowledge the difference between the health care specialties of Chiropractic, Osteopathy and Medicine. Chiropractic health care seeks to restore health through natural means without the use of medicine or surgery. This gives the body maximum opportunity to utilize its inherent recuperative powers. The success of the Chiropractor's procedures often depends on environment, underlying causes, physical and spinal conditions. It is important to understand what to expect from Chiropractic health care services.

Analysis

A Chiropractor conducts a clinical analysis for the express purpose of determining whether there is evidence of Vertebral Subluxation Complex (VSC) and functional and structural subluxation. When VSC and functional and structural subluxations are found, Chiropractic adjustments and ancillary procedures may be given in an attempt to restore spinal integrity. It is the Chiropractic premise that spinal alignment allows nerve transmission throughout the body and gives the body an opportunity to use its inherent recuperative powers. Due to the complexities of nature, no doctor can promise you specific results. This depends upon the inherent recuperative powers of the body.

Diagnosis

Although Doctors of Chiropractic are experts in Chiropractic diagnosis, they are not internal medicine specialists. Every Chiropractic patient should be mindful of his/her own symptoms and should secure other opinions if he/she has concern as the nature of his/her total condition. Your Doctor of Chiropractic may express an opinion as to whether or not you should take this step, but you are responsible for the final decision.

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A patient, in coming to the Doctor of Chiropractic, gives the Doctor permission and authority to care for the patient in accordance with the Chiropractic tests, diagnosis, and analysis. The Chiropractic adjustment or other clinical procedures are usually beneficial and seldom cause any problem. In rare cases, underlying physical defects, deformities or pathologies may render the patient susceptible to injury. The doctor of Chiropractic will not give a Chiropractic adjustment, or health care intervention, if he/she is aware that such care may be contra-indicated. Again, it is the responsibility of the patient to make it known or to learn through health care procedures whatever he/she is suffering from: latent pathological defects, illness, or deformities which would otherwise not come to the attention of the Doctor of Chiropractic. The patient should look to the correct specialist for the proper diagnosis and clinical procedures, The Doctor of Chiropractic provides a specialized, non-duplicating health service. The Doctor of Chiropractic is licensed in a special practice and is available to work with other types of providers in your health care regime.

In very rare instances, there has been controversial data that has suggested chiropractic adjustment of the cervical spine with extreme twisting or rotation may cause a stroke. The evidence has been inconclusive and the actual data suggests the likelihood of this occurring is about 1 in 5 million adjustments. Other side effects can be mild muscle soreness and or stiffness and sometimes a brief period of increased pain in the area of original complaint or a new area may develop. Usually, these side effects are transitory and pass very quickly. There is no risk to life from chiropractic adjustments and there has never been any conclusive evidence that suggests Chiropractic adjustments pose any risks to children, infants, or neonates.

Special procedures are used for children and babies and elderly to assure they have appropriate care.

PATIENT SIGNATURE (GUARDIAN) _____

DATE _____

