

# **INFORMED PATIENT CONSENT**

## **AND THE DOCTOR-PATIENT RELATIONSHIP**

### **Chiropractic Care**

It is the premise of Chiropractic that the human body possesses the inherent potential to maintain itself in a natural state of homeostasis. A state of normal homeostasis allows the body to establish normal function, express appropriate adaptation, and employ its recuperative, health sustaining powers. The relationship between the spine and the nervous system may affect the conduction of the nerve impulses over the nervous system affecting that inherent potential. Therefore, chiropractic care focuses primarily on the chiropractic adjustment for the purpose of establishing proper spinal alignment thus allowing normal nerve conduction throughout the body. The success of chiropractic care often depends on the environment, underlying causes and the physical and spinal conditions of each individual patient.

### **Chiropractic Analysis**

The doctor will conduct a clinical analysis for the express purpose of determining the presence of the vertebral subluxation and the effects of the vertebral subluxation complex. If such is not detected, the patient will be informed and an attempt to refer the patient to an appropriate health care provider will be made.

### **Clinical Results**

The purpose of chiropractic care is to promote health through the correction of the vertebral subluxation complex. Since there are so many variables, it is difficult to predict the time schedule, degree of response, or the efficacy of the chiropractic adjustment for any given patient. However, the doctor may make recommendations for clinical management based upon known circumstances and clinical experience.

Due to the complexities of nature, and the many variables (both known and unknown) that can affect a patient's response, no doctor can promise specific results. The Doctor of Chiropractic is licensed to provide a specialized unique, non-duplicating health service. The Chiropractor is licensed in a special area of practice and is available to work with other providers in your health care regimen.

### **Medical Diagnosis**

Although Doctors of Chiropractic are experts in the analysis of the structural alignment of the human spine and its effects on the nervous system, they are not internal medical or surgical specialists. Therefore, every patient should be mindful of their own symptoms and should secure other opinions should they have any concerns as to the nature of any other symptoms or their total health picture. Your Doctor of Chiropractic may express an opinion as to whether or not further consultation is necessary, but the patient is responsible for the final decision and any subsequent action.

### **Contra-indications To Chiropractic Care**

Where vertebral subluxations are detected, the chiropractic adjustment is usually beneficial and seldom causes any adverse reactions. In rare cases, undetected physical defects, deformities, or pathologies may render the patient susceptible to such injuries as vascular accidents, fractures and disc injury. The doctor, of course, will not perform any procedures if there is awareness that such care may be contra-indicated. It is the responsibility of the patient to make it known if they are aware that they are suffering from: pathological conditions, illnesses, injuries, or deformities which may be known to the patient but have not otherwise come to the attention of this doctor. By signing below, the patient affirms that they have been open and truthful in disclosing their health history, and gives the doctor permission and authority to examine and care for them in accordance with recognized standards and acceptable chiropractic analytical and corrective procedures.

### **Patient Consent For Care**

*Please discuss any questions or problems with the doctor before signing this statement of understanding and consent for care.*

I have read and understand the foregoing. I hereby request and authorize the doctor to render chiropractic care to me:

\_\_\_\_\_ *Signature of Patient, Parent, or Guardian*

\_\_\_\_\_ *Date*