

BELLEVUE CHIROPRACTIC CENTRE



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“Improving Function, Improving Life”

Informed Consent in Doctor-Patient Relationship

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 chiropractic doctor's procedures often depends on environment, underlying causes, and physical and spinal conditions.

Analysis

A doctor of chiropractic conducts a clinical analysis for the express purpose of determining whether there is evidence of spinal conditions. When spinal conditions are found, chiropractic adjustments and/or ancillary procedures may be given in an attempt to restore spinal integrity. It is the chiropractic premise that spinal alignment and motion allows nerve transmission throughout the body and gives the body an opportunity to use its recuperative powers. Due to the complexities of nature, no doctor can promise you specific results.

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 s/he has any concerns as to the nature of their 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.

Informed Consent for Chiropractic Care

A patient, in coming to a 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 and or other clinical procedures are usually beneficial and seldom cause any problem. In rare cases, underlying physical deficits, deformities, or pathologies may render the patient susceptible to injury. The doctor, of course, will not give a chiropractic adjustment, or health care, if s/he is aware that such care may be contraindicated. It is the responsibility of the patient to make it known or to learn through health care procedures whatever s/he is suffering from: latent pathological defects, illnesses, 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.

Results

The purpose of chiropractic services is to promote natural health through the care and correction of spinal function. Since there are so many variables, it is difficult to predict the time schedule or efficacy of the chiropractic procedures. Sometimes the response is phenomenal. In most cases, there is a more gradual, but quite satisfactory response. Occasionally, the results are less than expected. Two or more similar conditions may respond different to the same chiropractic care. Many medical chiropractic cases may be controlled or be helped through medical science. The fact is that the science of chiropractic and medicine may never be so exact as to provide definite answers to all the problems. Both have made great strides in alleviating pain and controlling disease.

Please discuss any questions or problems with the doctor before signing this statement of policy. I have read and understand the foregoing.

Patient Signature

Date

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