



INFORMED CONSENT DOCTOR-PATIENT RELATIONSHIP IN CHIROPRACTIC

CHIROPRACTIC

It is important to acknowledge the differences between the health care specialists of chiropractors, 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, physical and spinal conditions. It is important to understand what to expect from chiropractic health services.

ANALYSIS

A doctor of chiropractic conducts a clinical analysis for the express purpose of determining whether there is evidence of Vertebral Subluxation (VSS) or Vertebral Subluxation Complex (VSC). When such VSS and VSC complexes 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, the VSS and VSC, they are not internal medical specialists. Every chiropractic patient should be mindful of his/her own symptoms and should secure other opinions if he/she has any concern as to 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.

INFORMED CONSENT FOR CHIROPRACTIC CARE

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 course, will not give a chiropractic adjustment, or health care, if he/she is aware that such care may be contraindicated. 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, 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 diagnostic 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. The patient is responsible for updating the doctor up to date on his/her medical history.

RELEASE OF CARE

There are three stages of chiropractic care. The 3 stages are the Initial Intensive Care stage, the Corrective Care stage and the Wellness stage. Our doctors will create specialized treatment goals for your specific condition, however you decide which type of care fits your health goals. How long you decide to benefit from chiropractic care is always up to you. If you decide to stop treatment before the doctor's recommendations, we ask that you schedule a release of care appointment. The appointment will allow the doctor to perform a final exam, provide you with home exercises and helpful ergonomic tips and allow you a time to ask the doctor any questions.

RESULTS

The purpose of chiropractic services is to promote natural health through the reduction of the VSS or VSC. 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 differently to the same chiropractic care. Many medical failures find quick relief through chiropractic. In turn, we must admit that conditions which do not respond to chiropractic care may come under the control 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 problems. Both have made great strides in alleviating pain and controlling disease.

MASSAGE THERAPY SERVICES

I understand that the massage therapist is providing massage therapy services within their scope of practice as defined by the Massage Therapist Association of California. I hereby consent for my therapist to treat me with massage therapy for the above noted purposes including such assessments, examinations and techniques, which may be recommended, by my therapist.

I acknowledge that the therapist is not a physician and does not diagnose illness or disease or any other physical or mental disorder. I clearly understand that massage therapy is not a substitute for a medical examination. It is recommended that I attend my personal physician for any ailments that I may be experiencing. I acknowledge that no assurance or guarantee has been provided to me as to the results of the treatment. I acknowledge that with any treatment there can be risks and those risks have been explained to me and I assume those risks.

I acknowledge and understand that the therapist must be fully aware of my existing medical conditions. I have completed my medical history form as provided by my therapist and disclosed to the therapist all of those medical conditions affecting me. It is my responsibility to keep the massage therapist updated on my medical history. The information I have provided is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

I authorize my therapist to release or obtain information pertaining to my condition(s) and/or treatment to/from my other caregivers or third party payers. I have read the above noted consent and I have had the opportunity to question the contents and my therapy. By signing this form, I confirm my consent to treatment and intend this consent to cover the treatment discussed with me and such additional treatment as proposed by my therapist from time to time, to deal with my physical condition and for which I have sought treatment. I understand that at any time I may withdraw my consent and treatment will be stopped.

TO THE PATIENT

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

Signature: _____ Date: _____