PLEASE DIRECT TO THE CHAIRPERSON

Submission to Chiropractors Board of Australia
Re: Code of professional conduct for chiropractors 7th April 2010
By John Worrall B.App.Sc F.A.C.C. :Registered Chiropractor Queensland

I graduated from RMIT in Melbourne in 1984 and have serviced in many roles, on both state and federal executives of the ACA and then CAA, and a state registration board member and chairperson, a chiropractic board member, chairman of the chiropractic board and a practicing chiropractor and director of multi-practitioner practices for some 26 years..

I have been involved with many milestones, the amalgamation of the Australian Chiropractic Association (ACA) and the United Chiropractor Association (UCA) into the now Chiropractors Association of Australia (CAA).

I was heavily involved in the development and founding treasurer of the (CCEA).

Hence I have some understanding of the requirements placed upon the new board. They have an opportunity and a challenge to shape the profession over the next couple of decades and should commence the new era with an open palette to craft solutions.

The Code of Conduct for Registered Health Professionals is well written, articulate, open and positive in its framing and a chance to further our professional standards across all the health professions.

The Code of Professional Conduct for Chiropractors is poorly written, restrictive, insular and negative in it framework.

It is an amalgam of codes from many frustrated state boards working to remove rogue elements from the profession and its inclusion will only hamper the proper development of new and necessary guidelines as the challenges confronting the new Board, functioning under new legislation, become apparent. It will restrict the Board's ability to be creative, innovative and proactive in finding new solutions to old problems, and will in fact transfer many, diverse and at times incompatible old solutions on to the new board.

I would respectfully suggest that the entire Code of Professional Conduct for Chiropractors be removed and that the Code of Conduct for Registered Health Professionals be used as the basis for the development of a profession specific code if and when the new Board deems one to be necessary.

John Worrall B.App.Sc F.A.C.C
Chiropractor