To:
Cc:
Bcc:
Subject: Fw: Draft code of professional practice for chiropractors

Dear Sir,

Having read the document entitled Draft code of professional practice for chiropractors, I felt compelled to write to you to voice my concern.

There are many areas of this document that I feel are redundant (covered by other legislation or the cross-professional code), unreasonable (not required by any other profession), demeaning to the profession in general and appear to involve little consultation with the profession as a whole. In fact a 3 week consultation does not in my opinion reflect “wide ranging consultation”.

Some examples are:

"frequent chiropractic checks or treatment of children without symptoms or signs has not been supported by current available evidence and is currently not recommended..." 2.10.7
The majority of procedures used in health professions have insufficient evidence of a gold standard nature. The lack of support for regular children’s checks from current evidence is not sufficient to have such an oppressive statement in the guidelines.

"practitioners ensure that all staff have undertaken a basic training course in suicide intervention skills or appropriate interventions for the particular type of risk" 5.2.1
How can chiropractors ensure that all staff are trained in suicide prevention? Other professions do not have this requirement, what justification does the NCB have for inflicting this requirement on chiropractors?

"The need for X-rays is supported in cases where “red flags” (suspected pathology) are elicited from the clinical history and examination" 2.6.2
If the National Board is going to adopt guidelines for radiology/ radiography it should adopt guidelines that have substantial professional input and broad acceptance around the world. Not a policy that assumes that the profession is out to rip off the consumer

My recommendation is that the National Chiropractors Board removes the Code of professional Practice for Chiropractors in Australia from consideration.

This document is not mandatory, nor does it appear that there was wide-ranging consultation about its content as is required.

Sincerely,

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