Proposed New Guidlines For Chiropractors

drlazar@iinet.net.au to: natboards 09/04/2010 12:01 PM

Dear Sir/Madame,

I have read through the new proposed guidelines for chiropractors and find them restrictive, dangerous and rather insulting to me as a practicing chiropractor for the last 37 years.

It implies that as a chiropractor I don't have the knowledge or integrity to make judicious use of chiropractic care to the general public.

Of particular concern are the x-ray guidelines. As we are working with the spine and see all sorts of individuals with different issues, it is imperative in most cases that x-rays be taken to evaluate not only whether there appears to be a pathological condition but also whether there are congenital anomalies, malformations, degenerative changes, etc., as well as information about spinal distortion. A number of techniques including upper cervical work necessitate precise x-ray evaluation.

Because as chiropractors we are putting adjustive forces into the spine, it is imperative that we can see the structure rather than be "guessing". That does not mitigate the need for safe x-ray procedures and minimizing exposure when we can. I have seen countless cases over the years where if I had not taken x-rays I could have done serious harm to a patient without that knowledge.

Your proposals also speak of inappropriate use of diagnostic procedures. Who is the expert in what sort of technique one is to use? There are many differing techniques in chiropractic and I resent that a board that does not have a live individual in front of them can judge whether or not this technique or that is appropriate. Of course any ethical chiropractor would use what is in the best interests of his or her patient.

It seems that these new regulations are all about more and more control of the profession and tying the hands of chiropractors.

I consider the proposals unsatisfactory.

Yours truly,

Dr Ely Lazar B.Sc., D.C.