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FW: Draft Code of Professional Practice for Chiropractors in Australia

D Crouch/PR to natboards 09/04/2010 01:53 PM

To Whom It May Concern:,

Re: Draft Code of Professional Practice for Chiropractors in Australia

I would like to take a moment to respond to the National Chiropractic Board guidelines recently presented.

As I read through the guidelines I find that they are very much the same as the previous draft by the Victorian Board. As I attended the extraordinary meeting in Melbourne discussing these similar guidelines and the unanimous vote from the Chiropractic profession showing no support for these new guidelines. I wonder why would the National Board put the same guidelines up for a "vote" and expect a different result to that in Melbourne?

There is a lot of talk about evidence based practice and I for one support that, however the problem is that there is not enough funding going into research to further investigate the positive effects of Chiropractic care. I am presently part of the ALIGN study, a study by the Monash University investigating low back pain and practitioner's attitudes towards management. There have been many studies into low back pain and I think we can safely say that Chiropractic has a positive benefit in managing pain. I would be more interested in research into the "side effects" of Chiropractic care, more wellness studies.

It is interesting to me that everyone else including the government and medical doctors are moving towards a wellness model of health care, yet with these new guidelines you are effectively forcing Chiropractors to practice in a non wellness model of health care. The thing that I don't understand is that you claim that you want to protect the public but what you are doing is forcing them into taking more harmful drugs and surgeries that could perhaps be avoided.

There has been no consultation with the major stakeholders except for this attempt to give a three week window of opportunity for replies. Why is it that the proposed guidelines are so restrictive? There have been some issues with a few Chiropractors and those problems were addressed by the board as the complaints came in.

No other National Professional Board has seen fit to include such broad-ranging restrictions and defining guidelines on their specific professions as has the Chiropractors Board of Australia. Why does the Chiropractic board propose such tight regulation on the profession where other professional boards do not?

These new guidelines do not serve the public in the way that you intended. It does not serve the Chiropractic profession but you seem less interested in that by the way things are done. **I personally reject these proposed guidelines and it deeply**

concerns me in the direction you are taking our noble profession.

Best Regards,

Dr. Oskar Lindback
Chiropractor

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