Submission to the Chiropractic Board of Australia

Regarding the Consultation Draft Code of Conduct for Chiropractors
Released by the Chiropractic Board of Australia on 7th May 2010

Comments from Dr Ben Schutte, Chiropractor
Canberra

This draft is greatly improved. I am no word smith and would concur with much of Peter Cowie's concerns. Non the less some of mine are high lighted below

Page 4, 2.2 Good Care part o). practising in accordance with the current and
accepted evidence base of the chiropractic profession, including clinical outcomes. Techniques may be empirical and yet effective. It is only recently for example that Neuro-emotional technique has published papers in peer reviewed journals. I have been using NET for 10 years. Lack of published evidence did not stop me using this technique

Page 6 3.7 b). ensuring informed consent to provide care for children
involves the patient's parent and/or guardian being provided with clinically relevant information for chiropractic management of certain conditions in children What is clinically relevant information. Subluxations in infants and children can present as very subtle entities.

Page 7 3.7 f). ensuring that X-rays of children are obtained only
where there are clinical indications for the procedure
(see also Appendix 2 - Guideline Radiology/
Some techniques require X-ray analysis. Dr Beiderman (a Reknown Belgian medical practitioner) uses x-ray analysis. Upper cervical techniques require radiological analysis also. There may not be any overt clinical indicators for x-rays, yet radiological analysis points out to the practitioner what to adjust and what to avoid.

Page 8 3.12 b). working with the person to resolve the issue where
possible
My experience is that insurance companies may not cover you for professional indemnity if the practitioner gets involved as you suggest

c). providing a prompt, open and constructive response
including an explanation and if appropriate an apology
My experience is that insurance companies advise against this

Page 12 9.6 a). complying with the Board's Guidelines on Advertising
which can be found at: www.chiropracticboard.gov.au
and relevant State and Territory legislation
Why don't you include that here?

Ben Schutte