Attention', Chair, Chiropractic Board of Australia natboards@dhs.vic.gov.au

Submission to the Chiropractic Board of Australia Consultation Draft Code of Conduct for Chiropractors dated May7th 2010

20th May, 2010

Dear Chair,

I would like to make comment on several areas of the draft starting with;

2.2 Good care
o). practising in accordance with the current and accepted evidence base of the chiropractic
profession, including clinical outcomes.

I feel this section to be ambiguous and perhaps could be better explained with more specificity to our limitations. The limited research that the chiropractic profession has would limit us substantially in our practice. The draft code also states that;

2.2 Good Care
j) taking steps to alleviate the symptoms and distress of the patients, whether or not a cure is possible.

Which is considered more important in the chiropractic code of conduct; to only practice what the research says we can alleviate or offer alternatives that years of chiropractic anecdotal experience has shown to alleviate the distress and symptoms of patients.

I would also like to make comment on Section 6.4 Public Health. I have no query with a) however b) is ambiguous once again. What does participate in efforts to promote the health of the community? Does that require us to tout the benefits of disease prevention efforts such as vaccination and disease screening when this is not in our scope of practice. Should we not leave this to the medical profession and focus our education on chiropractic relevant health promotion.

I would like to make the overall comment that the whole document seems written by people who do not respect the education or intelligence of this profession. There were many pointless statements such as in Section 3.7 Children and young people a) placing the interests and wellbeing of the child or young person first. I would imagine this should be a part of the section 2.2 Good Care. Having completed my education in 2008 and being fairly up to date on the education of chiropractors in Australia I am unaware of any chiropractor's who can prescribe medication and as such the statement from section 10.2 Chiropractor Health, d)

should be removed.

I feel a little disappointed that it seems this Code of Conduct for chiropractors has been written so haphazardly and without any respect to our profession. I hope that there will be much more consultation and revision of this draft before it becomes the Code which 'seeks to assist and support chiropractors to deliver effective health services within an ethical framework'.

Regards

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