Submission to the Registration board in relation to the Draft Code of Conduct for Chiropractors.

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21st May 2010

I wish to submit my disagreements with the draft code of conduct for chiropractors. There are several points that I disagree with and in the following document I will outline which ones they are and why.

1.1 Use of the Code

"… within an ethical framework"

Comment: This needs to be defined as to what ethics this is referred to. This phrase is demeaning.

1.2 Professional values and qualities

"While individual chiropractors have their own personal beliefs and values, there are certain professional values on which all chiropractors are expected to base their practice".

Comment: What are these "values"??

2.1

e) "recognizing the limits to a chiropractors own skill and competence and referring a patient to another practitioner when this is in the best interests of the patients"

I submit that this subsection be deleted

2.2

o). "practicing in accordance with the current and accepted evidence base of the chiropractic profession, including clinical outcomes"

I submit that this sub-section is deleted

2.6

"A chiropractor's decision about access to care needs to be free from bias and discrimination"

3.3 Effective communication

d) discussing with patients…."

Comment: chiropractors (nor any other health care practitioner) are not qualified to discuss "available health care options, including their nature, purpose, possible positive and adverse consequences, limitations…". Chiropractors can discuss the chiropractic options.

I submit that you delete this sub-section

3.6 Informed financial consent – fees

f) “ensuring the amount, time and quality of care delivered does not differ for those patients (with similar conditions) on a pre paid financial agreement to those who are not”.

Comment: This is unnessecary and cannot be tracked. We cannot keep a record of how long we spend with every patient down to the last second.

I submit that this sub-section is deleted

3.7 Children and young people

“caring for children and young people brings additional responsibilities for chiropractors”

Comment: This is un just and un fare. Children are no extra responsibility and we should this should be removed.

I submit that you delete this entire section with the exception of 3.7 d) as amended below

d) refers to the age of consent. If you want to vary the age of consent then state it rather than forcing chiropractors to decide and then challenging them in court on their decision.

I submit that you state the age of consent

3.15 Working with multiple patients

Comment: This is a duplication of the Confidentiality and Privacy section.

I submit that this section is deleted

6.1 Introduction

“chiropractors have a responsibility to contribute to the effectiveness and efficiency of the health care system”

I submit that this section is deleted

9.12 Financial and commercial dealings

c) “not accepting gifts…”

I submit to you that this sub-section be deleted

I submit that the Chiropractic Board of Australia amends the revised code to reflect the aforementioned changes.

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Chiropractor