21 May 2010

Dr Phillip Donato
Chair Chiropractic Board of Australia
Attention Chair: natboards@dhs.vic.gov.au

RE: National Registration Guidelines

Dear Dr Donato

I wish to make a submission regarding the second draft 'consultation paper on codes and guidelines' concerning the chiropractic profession.

I am concerned at the lack of professional thought that has gone into what appears to be a document that insults every chiropractor in practice. It is tainted with the thoughtlessness of a type of "spanish inquisition". I concur with my colleagues that it conveys the impression of a document that is poorly constructed and lacks any evidence of consultative process.

Rather than repeat the countless objections and overtones of a document that is tainted with disdain for our profession I wish to make it known that I have read and support the following submissions already sent to your office. There are many other submissions yet these submissions covey my concerns.

I fully support the submissions from Drs Michael McKibbin, Scott Charlton, Christopher Hume-Phillips, Peter Cowie and Mark Postles.

In addition to the concerns raised by the above chiropractors I am particularly concerned about –

1. The demeaning language in the document.
2. No minimum standard of training required for medical doctors or physiotherapists to perform spinal manipulative techniques such as already exists. No other profession has this in their code of conduct.
3. Why have you used the General Chiropractic Council (UK) as your guideline without giving acknowledgement to them?
4. Spinal screenings. This section of the draft is unnecessary and reflects the experience of poor complaints and communication within the profession.

Yours faithfully

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