To:
Cc:
Bcc:
Subject: National Chiropractic Guidelines

Attention:
Chair,
Chiropractic Board of Australia

Dear Sir/Madam,
Thank you for listening to my concerns in relation to the first draft of the National Chiropractic Guidelines. I appreciate that my submission amongst others was considered.
The second draft is much better worded and I am happy with most of the content. However, I remain concerned about some of the issues listed below:

1. Page 13, 9.11 Conflicts of interest, clauses d) and e): Irrelevant in this document. References to pharmaceutical marketing and marketing drugs do not belong in the chiropractic code. As we Chiropractors do not prescribe pharmaceutical products. These clauses must be removed
2. Page 13, 9.12 Financial and commercial dealings Clause c): Flowers and chocolates. This is extremely proscriptive and unnecessary. A requirement to make a file note or to tell a colleague about every box of chocolates or bottle of wine a chiropractor receives from patients at Christmas is impractical and offensive to us. Just look around and see how we as Australian society believe in giving occasional gifts to our service providers. This includes nurses, postman and even our hair dressers. So, an occasional gift from our patients should not be a reportable matter.
As a matter of fact, we give gifts to our patients on occasion. This should be just a part of relationship building in a family practice like mine and many more.
3. Page 4, 2.2 Good Care part o.): The words "accepted evidence base" should be removed and replaced with the words "currently accepted by peers."
Given that there is no evidence that practitioners who utilise evidence based therapies have better outcomes than anyone else the inclusion of this clause has no basis.
4. Page 11, 9.2 Professional Boundaries clause c): "are often" should be replaced with "may be". If a chiropractor has a sufficient cooling off period before starting a relationship with a patient after ceasing care he or she should not be under the spectre of being judged as being in an inappropriate relationship.
5. Page 13, 9.10 Investigations Clause b): There must be a definition of "anyone entitled to ask". This is an example oft poor drafting and leaves a chiropractor open to all sorts of legal issues, particularly in relation to privacy.

I respectfully submit above amendments and will be happy to discuss it further if required.

With Kind Regards

Sultan Lalani
Chiropractor

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