Attention: Chair

John Doherty to: natboards 20/05/2010 12:34 PM

History: This message has been forwarded.

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Firstly I would like to support the excellent submission and points raised by Mark Postles.

My general concerns about the CBA guidelines document include.

1) This document has not been written with chiropractic in mind.
It fails to appreciate the general philosophy of chiropractic, and the diverse scope of chiropractic practice.
2) Chiropractic is not medicine and the guidelines should not be approached with a medical model in mind.
We are not under medicare, consequently we are not obligated to it.
3) It includes issues that are irrelevant to chiropractic. Eg. We do not prescribe medication, so why is this even discussed.
4) It is hypocritical in its approach: Imposing restrictions and conditions on chiropractors that it does not impose on other professions.
The guidelines suggest we need to communicate with medical practitioners, which is good, but are they obliged to communicate with us?
Quite often the patient sees the chiropractor more frequently than their GP, thus it would seem the obligation is on the GP to communicate with the chiropractor.
Many conditions that patients approach GPs for would be better served by chiropractic. Doctors should be obliged to refer to chiropractors, but they are not.
In fact they regularly tell patients not to see a chiropractor.
5) The guidelines are in the patients interest. If I believe and have evidence to suggest a drug is harmful, I will tell them. If a vaccination is harmful I will tell them. If a procedure or surgery is dangerous I will tell them. I will not be gagged!
6) There are many restrictions on advertising and marketing which would be illegal if challenged in court. Furthermore I believe it is our duty as chiropractors to promote chiropractic. To educate the public about alternatives to drugs and surgery.

The guidelines need to be completely revised with consideration to protect the public and to protect chiropractic. Not pander to the medical profession.

Sincerely
John Doherty B.Med.Sc.,M.Chiro
CHIROPRACTOR