21 May 2010

Attention: Chair, Chiropractic Board of Australia.

Please recognise and submit my objection to these parts of the proposed Code of Conduct for Chiropractors.

Objections

3.6

h). that agreements should not extend beyond 3 months or 12 visits whichever is the greatest, unless there is clear and appropriate justification to support a longer period of agreement.

There is no basis to make this type of restriction on the practice of care and there are plenty of studies that represent the necessity for care well beyond 3 months. This consideration is unnecessary, and potentially counter intuitive to the stated purpose of the proposed code of conduct which reads... "Chiropractors have a responsibility to protect and promote the health of individuals and the community." There are numerous situations where care beyond 3 months protect and promote the health of the individual. For this reason this 3.6H is inappropriate and should be removed from the code of conduct.

Appendix 1: Guideline in relation to Public Spinal Screening

c) providing the participant with a business card at their request, but should not include obtaining contact information from participants or the making of appointments at the time of the screening

There is no basis for this restriction. Helping individuals take positive actions toward their health on the spot is one of the most valuable community services that a chiropractor could be providing to "...protect and promote the health of individuals and the community." This section C of the Guideline Appendix 1 is unnecessary, restrictive in helping the community and should be removed from the code of conduct.

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