



## PATIENT INFORMATION

Date \_\_\_\_\_

SS/HIC/Patient ID # \_\_\_\_\_

Patient Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Last Name \_\_\_\_\_  
First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Middle Initial \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Sex ☐ M ☐ F Age \_\_\_\_\_

Birthdate \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Married ☐ Widowed ☐ Single ☐ Minor  
☐ Separated ☐ Divorced ☐ Partnered for \_\_\_\_\_ years

Patient Employer/School \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

Employer/School Address \_\_\_\_\_

Employer/School Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Birthdate \_\_\_\_\_

SS# \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse's Employer \_\_\_\_\_

Whom may we thank for referring you? \_\_\_\_\_

## PHONE NUMBERS

Cell Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Best time and place to reach you \_\_\_\_\_

### IN CASE OF EMERGENCY, CONTACT

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

## INSURANCE INFORMATION

Who is responsible for this account? \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to Patient \_\_\_\_\_

Insurance Co. \_\_\_\_\_

Group # \_\_\_\_\_

Is patient covered by additional insurance? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Subscriber's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Birthdate \_\_\_\_\_ SS# \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to Patient \_\_\_\_\_

Insurance Co. \_\_\_\_\_

Group # \_\_\_\_\_

### ASSIGNMENT AND RELEASE

I certify that I, and/or my dependent(s), have insurance coverage with

\_\_\_\_\_ and assign directly to  
Name of Insurance Company(ies)

Dr. \_\_\_\_\_ all insurance benefits,  
if any, otherwise payable to me for services rendered. I understand that I am  
financially responsible for all charges whether or not paid by insurance. I authorize  
the use of my signature on all insurance submissions.

The above-named doctor may use my health care information and may disclose  
such information to the above-named Insurance Company(ies) and their agents for  
the purpose of obtaining payment for services and determining insurance benefits  
or the benefits payable for related services. This consent will end when my current  
treatment plan is completed or one year from the date signed below.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Patient, Parent, Guardian or Personal Representative

\_\_\_\_\_  
Please print name of Patient, Parent, Guardian or Personal Representative

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date Relationship to Patient

## ACCIDENT INFORMATION

Is condition due to an accident? ☐ Yes ☐ No Date \_\_\_\_\_

Type of accident ☐ Auto ☐ Work ☐ Home ☐ Other

To whom have you made a report of your accident?

☐ Auto Insurance ☐ Employer ☐ Worker Comp. ☐ Other

Attorney Name (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

## PATIENT CONDITION

Reason for Visit \_\_\_\_\_

When did your symptoms appear? \_\_\_\_\_

Is this condition getting progressively worse? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown

Mark an X on the picture where you continue to have pain, numbness, or tingling.

Rate the severity of your pain on a scale from 1 (least pain) to 10 (severe pain) \_\_\_\_\_

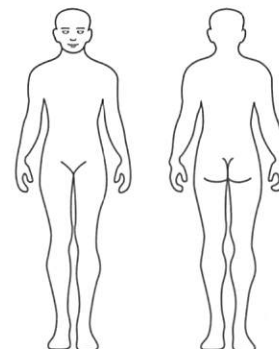
Type of pain: ☐ Sharp ☐ Dull ☐ Throbbing ☐ Numbness ☐ Aching ☐ Shooting  
☐ Burning ☐ Tingling ☐ Cramps ☐ Stiffness ☐ Swelling ☐ Other

How often do you have this pain? \_\_\_\_\_

Is it constant or does it come and go? \_\_\_\_\_

Does it interfere with your ☐ Work ☐ Sleep ☐ Daily Routine ☐ Recreation

Activities or movements that are painful to perform ☐ Sitting ☐ Standing ☐ Walking ☐ Bending ☐ Lying Down





# HEALTH HISTORY

What treatment have you already received for your condition? ☐ Medications ☐ Surgery ☐ Physical Therapy

☐ Chiropractic Services ☐ None ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Name and address of other doctor(s) who have treated you for your condition \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Last: Physical Exam \_\_\_\_\_ Spinal X-Ray \_\_\_\_\_ Blood Test \_\_\_\_\_

Spinal Exam \_\_\_\_\_ Chest X-Ray \_\_\_\_\_ Urine Test \_\_\_\_\_

Dental X-Ray \_\_\_\_\_ MRI, CT-Scan, Bone Scan \_\_\_\_\_

Place a mark on "Yes" or "No" to indicate if you have had any of the following:

AIDS/HIV	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Emphysema	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Migraine Headaches	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Sexually Transmitted Disease	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Alcoholism	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Epilepsy	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Miscarriage	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Stroke	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Allergy Shots	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Fractures	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Mononucleosis	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Suicide Attempt	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Anemia	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Glaucoma	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Multiple Sclerosis	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Thyroid Problems	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Anorexia	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Goiter	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Mumps	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Tonsillitis	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Appendicitis	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Gonorrhea	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Osteoporosis	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Tuberculosis	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Arthritis	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Gout	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Pacemaker	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Tumors, Growths	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Asthma	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Heart Disease	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Parkinson's Disease	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Typhoid Fever	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Bleeding Disorders	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Hepatitis	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Pinched Nerve	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Ulcers	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Breast Lump	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Hernia	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Pneumonia	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Vaginal Infections	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Bronchitis	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Herniated Disk	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Polio	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Whooping Cough	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Bulimia	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Herpes	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Prostate Problem	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Other _____	
Cancer	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	High Blood Pressure	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Prosthesis	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
Cataracts	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	High Cholesterol	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Psychiatric Care	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
Chemical Dependency	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Kidney Disease	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Rheumatoid Arthritis	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
Chicken Pox	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Liver Disease	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Rheumatic Fever	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
Diabetes	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Measles	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Scarlet Fever	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		

## EXERCISE

☐ None

☐ Moderate

☐ Daily

☐ Heavy

## WORK ACTIVITY

☐ Sitting

☐ Standing

☐ Light Labor

☐ Heavy Labor

## HABITS

☐ Smoking

☐ Alcohol

☐ Coffee/Caffeine Drinks

☐ High Stress Level

Packs/Day \_\_\_\_\_

Drinks/Week \_\_\_\_\_

Cups/Day \_\_\_\_\_

Reason \_\_\_\_\_

Are you pregnant? ☐ Yes ☐ No Due Date \_\_\_\_\_

Injuries/Surgeries you have had	Description	Date
Falls	_____	_____
Head Injuries	_____	_____
Broken Bones	_____	_____
Dislocations	_____	_____
Surgeries	_____	_____

## MEDICATIONS

## ALLERGIES

## VITAMINS/HERBS/MINERALS

Pharmacy Name \_\_\_\_\_

Pharmacy Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_



# CHIROPRACTIC NORTHWEST & Massage

Bus: 253-845-5358

Fax: 253-845-5753

## Notice of Privacy Practices of Chiropractic Northwest

Under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPPA), Chiropractic NW must take steps to protect the privacy of your protected health information (PHI). PHI includes information that we have created or received regarding your health or payments for your health. It includes both your medical records and personal information such as your name, social security number, address, and phone number.

Under federal law we are required to:

- Protect the privacy of your PHI. All of our employees are required to maintain the confidentiality of PHI and receive appropriate privacy training.
- Provide you with this Notice of Privacy Practices explaining our duties and practices regarding your PHI.
- Follow the practices and procedures set forth in this Notice.

Uses and disclosures of your protected health information by Chiropractic NW that **do not require your authorization**. Chiropractic NW uses and discloses PHI in a number of ways connected to your treatment, payment for your care and health care operations. Some examples of how we may use or disclose your PHI without your authorization are listed below.

### In relation to your health care and treatment:

- To Chiropractic NW employees involved in your care.
- To other health care providers who are not on our staff such as specialists or general practitioners.

### In relation to payment:

- To administer your health benefits policy or contract.
- To bill you for health care we provide.
- To pay others who provided care to you. To other organizations and providers for payment activities unless disclosure is prohibited by law.

### In relation to health care operations:

- To administer and support our business activities or those of other health care organizations (as allowed by law) including providers and plans. For example, we may use your PHI to review and improve the care you receive, to provide training, and to help decide what rates to charge.
- To other individuals (such as consultants and attorneys) and organizations that help us with our business activities. (Note: If we share your PHI with other organizations for this purpose, they must agree to protect your privacy.)

### For legal and/or governmental purposes in the following circumstances:

- Required by law – when we are required to do so by state and federal law, including workers' compensation laws.
- Public health and safety – to an authorized public health authority or individual to:
  - Protect public health and safety.
  - Prevent or control disease, injury or disability.
  - Investigate or track problems with prescription drugs and medical devices.
- Abuse or neglect – to government entities authorized to receive reports regarding abuse, neglect or domestic violence.

- Oversight agencies – to health oversight agencies for certain activities such as audits, examinations, investigations, inspections and licensures.
- Legal proceedings – in the course of any legal proceeding in response to an order of a court or administrative agency and, in certain cases, in response to a subpoena, discovery request, or other lawful process.
- Law enforcement – to law enforcement officials in limited circumstances for law enforcement purposes. (To identify or locate a suspect, witness or missing person; to report a crime; or to provide information concerning victims of crimes.)
- Military activity & national security – to the military and to authorize federal officials for national security and intelligence purposes or in connection with providing protective services to the president of the United States.

### Miscellaneous reasons we may disclose your PHI without your authorization:

- To a member of your family or a close friend – or any other person you identify who is directly involved in your health care – when you are either not present or unable to make a health care decision.
- To you, to remind you in writing, by phone or voice mail that you have an appointment with us.
- To communicate with you about treatment services, options, as well as health-related benefits or services that may be of interest to you.

### Uses and disclosures of your protected health information that require us to obtain your authorization.

*Except in the situations listed above, we will use and disclose your PHI only with your written authorization.*

### Your rights regarding your protected health information

*You have the right to:*

- Request restrictions by asking that we limit the way we use or disclose your PHI for treatment, payment or health care operations. All requests must be done in writing.
- Ask that we communicate with you by other means. For example, if you would like for us to communicate with you at a different address or phone number. All requests must be done in writing.
- Requesting a copy of your PHI. This request must be made in writing and we may charge a reasonable fee for the cost of producing and mailing the copies.
- Ask us to amend PHI about you that we use to make decisions about you. Your request for an amendment must be in writing and must provide the reason for your request.

*Chiropractic Northwest, Inc. may change the terms of this Notice at any time. The revised Notice would apply to all PHI that we maintain. If we change any of the practices described above, a revised Notice will be posted.*

Patient Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I choose to decline receipt of my clinical summary after every visit.

Patient Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Private Patient Health Insurance Verification Questionnaire

With federal mandated patient privacy in the ever-changing healthcare industry, it is no longer convenient or permissible for our office to verify your insurance benefits. We appreciate your assistance with this very important matter.

Please reference your health insurance handbook, website or phone your health insurance directly in order to accurately verify the benefits below. A “**co-pay**” is the dollar amount or percentage amount paid by you the patient. If a percentage amount is referenced in your handbook, it may also be referred to as a “**co-insurance**”. *Annual Deductible is the amount paid by you personally each plan year before insurance steps in to assist.*

1. Do I have an HSA (Health Savings Account) plan? Y or N
2. Do I have an employer sponsored FSA (Flexible Spending Account)? Y or N
3. Do I have an employer sponsored HRA (Health Reimbursement Account)? Y or N
4. My Annual Deductible is \$ \_\_\_\_\_ and begins every (Jan., July, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_
5. Has my Annual Deductible been met? Y or N How much is remaining? \$ \_\_\_\_\_
6. My co-pay amount for “**spinal adjustments or manipulations**” is (\$ or %) \_\_\_\_\_  
Are spinal adjustments or manipulations subject to the deductible? Y or N  
Is there a yearly visit limit on spinal adjustments or manipulations? \_\_\_\_\_
7. My co-pay amount for “**extremity adjustments or manipulations**” is (\$ or %) \_\_\_\_\_  
Are extremity adjustments subject to the deductible? Y or N  
Is there a yearly visit limit on extremity adjustments? \_\_\_\_\_
8. My co-pay amount for “**massage therapy**” is (\$ or %) \_\_\_\_\_  
Is massage therapy subject to the deductible? Y or N Is there a yearly visit limit on massage therapy? \_\_\_\_\_  
If a **Regence** plan, my in network massage therapy co-pay is (\$ or %) \_\_\_\_\_  
VERSUS my out of network co-pay is (\$ or %) \_\_\_\_\_
9. My co-pay amount for “**office visit**” exams is (\$ or %) \_\_\_\_\_. Are office visit exams subject to deductible? Y or N
10. My co-pay for x-rays is (\$ or %) \_\_\_\_\_ Are x-rays subject to deductible? Y or N
11. My co-pay amount for prescription orthotics usually referenced by “**durable medical device**” is (\$ or %) \_\_\_\_\_ Are durable medical devices subject to the deductible? Y or N
12. Does my plan require pre-authorization for Chiropractic and/or Massage? Y or N  
Thru which company? \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Staff Initials \_\_\_\_\_



# CHIROPRACTIC NORTHWEST *& Massage*

www.chiropracticnw.com

Bus: 253-845-5358

Fax: 253-845-5753

## **PATIENT CONSENT TO X-RAY**

I authorize the performance of diagnostic x-ray examination of myself which Chiropractic Northwest may consider necessary or advisable in the course of my examination and treatment.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## **CONSENT TO X-RAY A MINOR**

I am the parent or legal representative of \_\_\_\_\_, who is a minor, \_\_\_\_\_ years of age. I authorize the performance of diagnostic x-ray examination of this child or ward which Chiropractic Northwest may consider necessary or advisable in the course of examination or treatment.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## **FEMALES: REGARDING POSSIBILITY OF PREGNANCY**

This is to certify that, to the best of my knowledge, I am not pregnant, and Chiropractic Northwest has my permission to perform diagnostic x-ray examination. I have been advised that certain x-ray examination, particularly those involving the pelvis, can be hazardous to an unborn child.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## **FEMALES: CONSENT TO X-RAY DURING PREGNANCY**

This is to certify that I am or may be pregnant and that Chiropractic Northwest has my permission to perform diagnostic x-ray examination involving my cervical spine (neck) or extremities (arms or legs), on the condition that lead shielding be utilized over the trunk of my body. I have been advised that certain x-ray examinations, particularly those involving the pelvis, can be hazardous to an unborn child.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_





# CHIROPRACTIC NORTHWEST & Massage

Bus: 253-845-5358

Fax: 253-845-5753

## Massage Therapy Appointment Policy

Thank you for scheduling your therapeutic massage appointment in our office. Massage therapy plays a vital role in your long-term health and vitality. You are a valued patient and it is very important to us that you receive the best care while you are here!

In order for us to best help you, our patient, we need you to help us by:

- Arriving on time for YOUR appointments.
- Giving 24 hours notice to re-schedule or cancel YOUR appointment. (This allows the one hour massage reservation to be re-filled for a patient that needs it)
- Writing down YOUR appointment date & time and NOT relying strictly on text reminders. (Text reminders are not 100% reliable as they are an automated service)

If you are not able to give the 24 hour notice for cancelling or re-scheduling your appointment that you scheduled, we will charge you, not your insurance company, the \$20 fee to assist in covering the loss for the reserved, one hour appointment time. No exceptions.

Thank you for your cooperation and we look forward to assisting you with your healthcare needs.

*I have read and understand the above listed policy and know that it is MY responsibility to arrive on time to my appointments and to call 24 hours prior to cancelling or re-scheduling my appointments or I will be charged a \$20 fee.*

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Patient's Full Name

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Patient to Sign

---

Today's Date

**PLEASE DO NOT SIGN THIS FORM UNTIL AFTER YOUR TREATMENT PLAN HAS BEEN  
REVIEWED WITH YOU BY YOUR DOCTOR**

Please answer the following questions to help us determine possible risk factors:

QUESTION	YES	DOCTOR'S COMMENTS
<b>GENERAL</b>		
Have you ever had an adverse (i.e. bad) reaction to or following chiropractic care?	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>BONE WEAKNESS</b>		
Have you been diagnosed with osteoporosis?	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Do you take corticosteroids (e.g. prednisone)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Have you been diagnosed with a compression fracture(s) of the spine?	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Have you ever been diagnosed with cancer?	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Do you have any metal implants?	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>VASCULAR WEAKNESS</b>		
Do you take aspirin or other pain medication on a regular basis?	<input type="checkbox"/>	
If yes, about how much do you take daily? _____		
Do you take warfarin (coumadin), heparin, or other similar "blood thinners"?	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Have you ever been diagnosed with any of the following disorders/diseases?		
• Rheumatoid arthritis	<input type="checkbox"/>	
• Reiter's syndrome, ankylosing spondylitis, or psoriatic arthritis	<input type="checkbox"/>	
• Giant cell arteritis (temporal arteritis)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
• Osteogenesis imperfecta	<input type="checkbox"/>	
• Ligamentous hypermobility such as with Marfan's disease, Ehlers-Danlos syndrome	<input type="checkbox"/>	
• Medial cystic necrosis (cystic mucoid degeneration)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
• Bechet's disease	<input type="checkbox"/>	
• Fibromuscular dysplasia	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Have you ever become dizzy or lost consciousness when turning your head?	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>SPINAL COMPROMISE OR INSTABILITY</b>		
Have you had spinal surgery?	<input type="checkbox"/>	
If yes, when? _____		
Have you been diagnosed with spinal stenosis?	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Have you been diagnosed with spondylolithesis?	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Have you had any of the following problems?		
• Sudden weakness in the arms or legs?	<input type="checkbox"/>	
• Numbness in the genital area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	
• Recent inability to urinate or lack of control when urinating?	<input type="checkbox"/>	

I have read the previous information regarding risks of chiropractic care and my doctor has verbally explained my risks (if any) to me and suggested alternatives when those risks exist. I understand the purpose of my care and have been given an explanation of the treatment, the frequency of care, and alternatives to this care. All of my questions have been answered to my satisfaction. I agree to this plan of care understanding any perceived risk(s) and alternatives to this care.

PATIENT (or PARENT/GUARDIAN) SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

INTERN SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

DOCTOR'S SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

## Informed Consent Form Chiropractic

The doctor of chiropractic evaluates the patient using standard examination and testing procedures. A chiropractic adjustment involves the application of a quick, precise force directed over a very short distance to a specific vertebra or bone. There are a number of different techniques that may be used to deliver the adjustment, some of which utilize specially designed equipment. Adjustments are usually performed by hand but may also be performed by hand-guided instruments. In addition to adjustments, other treatments used by chiropractors include physical therapy modalities (heat, ice, ultrasound, soft-tissue manipulation), nutritional recommendations and rehabilitative procedures.

Chiropractic treatments are one of the safest interventions available to the public demonstrated through various clinical trials and indirectly reflected by the low malpractice insurance paid by chiropractors. While there are risks involved with treatment, these are seldom great enough to contraindicate care. Referral for further diagnosis or management to a medical physician or other health care provider will be suggested based on history and examination findings.

Listed below are summaries of both common and rare side-effects/complications associated with chiropractic care:

### Common <sup>1,2</sup>

- Reactions most commonly reported are local soreness/discomfort (53%), headaches (12%), tiredness (11%), radiating discomfort (10%), dizziness, the vast majority of which resolve within 48 hours

### Rare <sup>3,4</sup>

- Fractures or joint injuries in isolated cases with underlying physical defects, deformities or pathologies
- Physiotherapy burns due to some therapies
- Disc herniations
- Cauda Equina Syndrome <sup>(3)</sup> (1 case per 100 million adjustments)
- Compromise of the vertebrobasilar artery (i.e. stroke) (range: 1 case per 400,000 to 1 million cervical spine adjustments [manipulations]). This associated risk is also found with consulting a medical doctor for patients under the age of 45 and is higher for those older than 45 when seeing a medical doctor.

Please indicate to your doctor if you have headache or neck pain that is the worst you have every felt<sup>(3)</sup>

I understand that there are beneficial effects associated with these treatment procedures including decreased pain, improved mobility and function, and reduced muscle spasm. I also understand that my condition may worsen and referral may be necessary if a course of chiropractic care does not help or improve my condition.

Reasonable alternatives to these procedures have been explained to me including prescription medications, over-the-counter medications, possible surgery, and non-treatment. Listed below are summaries of concern with the associated alternative procedures.

- Long-term use or overuse of medication carries some risk of dependency with the use of pain medication the risk of gastrointestinal bleeding among other risks
- Surgical risks may include unsuccessful outcome, complications such as infection, pain, reactions to anesthesia, and prolonged recovery<sup>5</sup>.
- Potential risks of refusing or neglecting care may result in increased pain, restricted motion, increased inflammation, and worsening of my condition<sup>6</sup>

Neck and back pain generally improve in time, however, recurrence is common. Remaining active and positive improve your chances of recovery.

1. Thiel HW, Bolton JE, Docherty S, Portlock JC. Safety of chiropractic manipulation of the cervical spine: a prospective national survey. *Spine*. Oct 1 2007;32(21):2375-2378; discussion 2379.
2. Rubinstein SM, Leboeuf-Yde C, Knol DL, de Koekkoek TE, Pfeifle CE, van Tulder MW. The benefits outweigh the risks for patients undergoing chiropractic care for neck pain: a prospective, multicenter, cohort study. *J Manipulative Physiol Ther*. Jul-Aug 2007;30(6):408-418.
3. Cassidy JD, Boyle E, Cote P, et al. Risk of vertebrobasilar stroke and chiropractic care: results of a population-based case-control and case-crossover study. *Spine*. Feb 15 2008;33(4 Suppl):S176-183.
4. Boyle E, Cote P, Grier AR, Cassidy JD. Examining vertebrobasilar artery stroke in two Canadian provinces. *Spine*. Feb 15 2008;33(4 Suppl):S170-175.
5. Carragee EJ, Hurwitz EL, Cheng I, et al. Treatment of neck pain: injections and surgical interventions: results of the Bone and Joint Decade 2000-2010 Task Force on Neck Pain and Its Associated Disorders. *Spine*. Feb 15 2008;33(4 Suppl):S153-169.
6. Carroll LJ, Hogg-Johnson S, van der Velde G, et al. Course and prognostic factors for neck pain in the general population: results of the Bone and Joint Decade 2000-2010 Task Force on Neck Pain and Its Associated Disorders. *Spine*. Feb 15 2008;33(4 Suppl):S75-82.