

## INFORMED CONSENT

State law requires our office to obtain your informed consent prior to examination and treatment. The purpose of this form is to inform you, not to alarm you. What you will be asked to sign is simply a confirmation of what you have been informed.

### Examinations

**X-RAYS:** This office uses highly sensitive x-ray film, intensifying screens and filters to provide high quality x-rays with lowest possible x-ray exposure. The only noteworthy risk with taking x-rays deals with pregnancy. If there is any possibility that you are pregnant, inform us prior to any x-ray examination. If there is no possibility of this condition, the inherent risks are so rare that we have no available statistics to quantify their probability.

### Treatment

**Chiropractic adjustments/manipulation:** The doctor will use his hands or mechanical device upon your body in such a way to move your joints in various directions. This procedure may cause the audible "pop" or "click" to be heard coming from your joints, which is not a cause for alarm. There are some material risks involved in doing these procedures and they are as follows:

**Pain:** Chiropractic treatments may result in temporary increased soreness in the area receiving treatment.

**Rib Fractures:** Fractures caused by chiropractic treatments are rare. They occur most frequently in patients with osteoporosis or weakened bones. Evidence of osteoporosis can be noted under x-rays, and if detected, the most appropriate gentle treatments are used, minimizing the possibility of fracture to the ribs.

**Disc Injury:** Chiropractic treatments appropriate for treatment of many kinds of back problems, including some disc problems.(1) Occasionally, chiropractic treatments may aggravate or cause a problem in the disc is in severely weakened state. However, this occurs so rarely the statistics to quantify the probability are unavailable, but estimates place the risk of serious injury at about one serious complication per 100 million low back manipulations (2).

**Stroke:** The overall incidence of stroke in the general population is about 2 per 1000 people (3). Although chiropractic adjustments/manipulations has been implicated as a possible cause of stroke, this possibility is extremely rare. The best available data suggest that stroke secondary to chiropractic adjustments/manipulation may occur in one per 3 million (4), a rate well below the average risk in the general population. In comparison, the overall average risk of death from taking non-steroidal and anti-inflammatory drugs (aspirin, ibuprofen, naproxen sodium, etc) is 4 per 100,000 patients (5). The risk of serious complication or death from spinal surgeries of the back is 11.25 per 1000 patients (5). As you can see, the risk of stroke from chiropractic treatment is much lower than the other common medical treatments. Even though risk is small, we have implemented procedures and tests that will likely reduce the potential for stroke even more.

Chiropractic care is a system of health care delivery. As with many health care delivery systems we cannot promise a cure for any symptom, disease, or condition as a result of treatment in this office. We will always give you our best efforts, but if results are not acceptable, we will refer you to another healthcare provider who you feel with assist in your situation.

If you have any questions regarding the above information, please ask your doctor. When you have full understanding, please sign and date this form below.

I have been informed of the most likely complications of, and the possible undesired results of Chiropractic examination and treatment in this office and I understand them.

I hereby authorize Dr. Ronald Manoni and his associates to provide such services as they deem reasonable and necessary.

I hereby state that I have read—or have had someone read to me—this consent form.

Patient's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Patient's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Guardian's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Guardian's Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_

Witness' Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Witness' Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_

### References

1. Troyanovich SI, Harrison DE: low back pain in the lumbar intervertebral disc: Clinical considerations for the doctor of Chiropractic. Manipulative Physical Ther 1999; 22(2): 96-104
2. Shekelle PG. Spine Update: Spinal Manipulation. Spine 1994; 854-861
3. Clayman CB. The American Medical Association Home Medical Encyclopedia. New York; Random House; 1989: 947-948.
4. Dablos V. Launciri WJ. Risk assessment of cervical manipulation vs. been its NSAIDS for the treatment of back pain. J Manipulative Physical Ther 1995; 13; 530-536.
5. Horwick EL, Alter PD, Adams AH, Meeker WC, Shekelle PG. Manipulation and mobilization of the cervical spine A systematic review of the literature. Spine 1996; 21:1746-1760.