



MADISON UPPER CERVICAL CENTER

Informed Consent For Chiropractic Care

When a patient seeks chiropractic health care and we accept a patient for such care, it is essential for both to be working towards the same objective. Chiropractic has only one goal. It is important that each patient understand both the objective and the method that will be used to attain it. This will prevent any confusion or disappointment.

ADJUSTMENT: An adjustment is the specific application of forces to facilitate the body's correction of vertebral subluxation. Our chiropractic method of correction is by specific adjustments of the spine.

HEALTH: A state of optimal physical, mental, and social well-being, not merely the absence of disease or infirmity.

VERTEBRAL SUBLUXATION: A misalignment of one or more of the 24 vertebra in the spinal column which causes alteration of nerve function and interference to the transmission of mental impulses, resulting in a lessening of the body's innate ability to express its maximum health potential.

We do not offer to diagnose or treat any disease or condition other than a vertebral subluxation. However, if during the course of chiropractic spinal examination, we encounter non-chiropractic or unusual findings, we will recommend that you seek the services of a health care provider who specializes in that area. Regardless of what the disease is called, we do not offer to treat it. Nor do we offer advice regarding treatment prescribed by others. Our only practice objective is to eliminate a major interference of the expression of the body's innate wisdom. Our only method is specifically adjusting to correct vertebral subluxations. The chiropractic adjustments are beneficial and seldom cause any problems. In rare cases, underlying physical defects, deformities, or pathologies may render the patient susceptible to injury. The doctor, or course, will not give any treatment or health care if she is aware that such care may be contraindicated.

Other treatments options for your condition and the material risks inherent in such options and the probability of such risks occurring include:

- Self-administered, over-the-counter analgesics and rest: overuse of OTC medications produces undesirable side effects. If complete rest is impractical, premature return to work and household chores may aggravate the condition and extend recovery time. The probability of such complications arising is dependent upon the patient's general health, severity of the patient's discomfort, pain tolerance and self-discipline in not abusing any medication. The pharmacokinetic properties of multiple medications in the human body are unknown. Professional literature describes highly undesirable effects from both short and long term use of OTC medicines.
- Medical care with prescription drugs such as anti-inflammatories, muscle relaxants, painkillers, etc.: muscle relaxants and painkillers can produce undesirable side effects and patient dependence. The risk of such complications arising is dependent upon the patient's general health, severity of the patient's discomfort, pain tolerance, self-discipline in not abusing any medication and professional supervision. Such medications generally entail very significant risks, some with rather high probabilities.
- Hospitalization with traction: hospitalization in conjunction with other care bears the additional risk of exposure to communicable disease, iatrogenic (doctor induced) mishap and expense. The probability of iatrogenic mishap is remote, expense is certain, exposure to communicable disease is likely with adverse result from such exposure dependent upon unknown variables.
- Surgery: the risks inherent in surgery include adverse reaction to anesthesia, iatrogenic (doctor induced) mis-hap, adhesions, decreased range of motion, all those of hospitalization, and an extended convalescent period. The probability of those risks occurring varies according to many factors.

Remaining untreated allows the formation of adhesions, leading to degenerative arthritis, and reduces mobility which sets up a pain reaction further reducing mobility. Over time, this process may complicate treatment making it more difficult to treat and less effective the longer it is postponed. The probability that non-treatment will complicate a later rehabilitation is very high.

DO NOT SIGN UNTIL YOU HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THE ABOVE.

I, _____ have read and fully understand the above statements.
(Print Name)

All questions regarding the doctor's objective pertaining to my care in this office have been answered to my complete satisfaction.

By signing below, I state that I have weighed the risks involved in undergoing treatment and have decided that it is in my best interest to undergo the treatment recommended. I therefore accept chiropractic care on this basis.

(Signature)

(Date)