

PATIENT INFORMED CONSENT TO TREATMENT

The Nature Of Chiropractic Treatment: The doctor will use his hands or mechanical devices in order to move your joints and mobilize soft tissues (e.g. muscles, ligaments). A “crack” or “pop” sound is inherent in some of the joint manipulation procedures, and is a natural effect of joint movement. Various other procedures, including hot packs, electric stimulation, therapeutic ultrasound, exercises, massage or other soft tissue therapies may also be used. Physical examination is physical! It involves mechanically challenging your joints and testing your muscle strengths and it can possibly lead temporary soreness or worsening of your pain.

Possible Risks and Side Effects: As soon as ANY doctor intervenes with your healthcare there is risk of side effects and complications. The risk of serious complications from chiropractic treatment has been described as “rare,” and in one study was estimated at about 200,000 complications over a 5-year period. While complications are possible from chiropractic treatment, most are highly unlikely, but could include fractures, sprains, dislocations of joints, injury to intervertebral discs, nerves or spinal cord, or you can experience worse symptoms or new symptoms. Cerebrovascular accident such as a stroke is remotely possible and has been calculated between one in a million to one in forty million odds, about the same odds of a stroke from having your hair washed in a salon (“beauty parlor syndrome”) or being struck by lightning. Usually, side effects of treatment include transient muscular stiffness or soreness. Some people report it as feeling like they exercised new muscles for the first time. Some procedures (e.g. hot packs or massage) could produce skin irritation, burns or bruises.

Other Treatment Options Which Could Be Considered (Just To Put Things In Perspective): Over-the-counter analgesics, prescription medicines, surgical procedures, and hospitalization all have significant risk of side effects and serious complications which are far greater than that which is encountered in a chiropractic office.

Risks Of Remaining Untreated: While it is possible that your symptoms can go away with no treatment at all, delay of treatment may lead to impaired function and lesson your chance for complete recovery.

I have read the explanation above regarding chiropractic treatment. I have had the opportunity to have questions answered to my satisfaction. I freely decided to undergo the recommended treatment, and hereby give full consent to treatment.

Patient or Parent/Guardian

Date

Witness