

Dr. Graeme Van Matre  
3501 Westfield Rd, Westfield, IN 46062  
PO Box 732, Westfield, IN 46074

## **INFORMED CONSENT FOR CHIROPRACTIC ADJUSTMENTS AND CARE**

To the patient (or their parent, legal guardian, court appointed conservator, or agent): Please read this entire form prior to signing it. It is important that you understand the information contained in this form. Please ask any questions prior to signing this form if you are unclear about anything in this form.

### **Chiropractic Adjustments-**

The primary treatment rendered by the Doctor of Chiropractic to you will be chiropractic adjustments, which are purposely intentioned movements of bones with the desired effect being to remove interferences to nerves, which then allows your body to use its innate ability to heal itself. Chiropractic adjustments also have the desirable effect of enabling muscles, tendons, and ligaments to properly function and heal, and also allows blood flow to properly occur. Chiropractic adjustments can be made by either the use of hands or mechanical instruments to any bone or joint in the body including both spinal and extremity bones. You may or may not hear an audible sound, which is just air being released from the joint space as bones are moved into their proper positions.

### **Other Procedures-**

There are a number of other procedures used by Doctors of Chiropractic that may be used on you. A physical examination will be performed to obtain a baseline level of functioning as well to partially determine an appropriate course of treatment and associated recommendations. The physical examination may include posture checks, range of motion testing, muscle strength testing, and various neurological and orthopedic testing. Treatment may include chiropractic adjustments and physical therapy ( such as ultrasound, interferential therapies, massage therapy, and exercise recommendations. Additionally, there may be referrals to other doctors as necessary and their treatment should involve the same informed consent with disclosure of risks and benefits as being done here.

### **Potential Benefits of Chiropractic and Associated Care-**

The vast majority of chiropractic patients tend to achieve good to excellent improvement in their physical conditions with chiropractic care. Improvement can be measured in many different ways, including reduction in pain, increased range of motion, less stiffness, and increased athletic performance. It must be remembered that different people get different results: different people have pre-existing conditions, and are of different ages and occupations (with different types of physical stress). Your situation is unique, and no guarantees are given. You will have to determine what results you get for yourself and report them to your Doctor of Chiropractic.

### **Material Risks Inherent with Chiropractic Adjustments and Other Treatment-**

As with any healthcare procedure, there are certain complications which may arise when chiropractic adjustments and other care/procedures are performed. These complications include but are not limited to fractures of bones, disc injuries, dislocations, muscle strains, cervical myelopathy, strokes, radiations exposure, costovertebral strains and separations, and burns. Some patients feel some stiffness and/or soreness following the first few days of treatments. The physical exam can temporarily worsen symptoms, but it is a necessary part of chiropractic care. The Doctor of Chiropractic will make every reasonable effort during the examination to screen for contraindications

to care, but remember it is your responsibility to inform the Doctor of Chiropractic of any conditions that would not otherwise come to their attention.

**Probability of Risks Occurring-**

Fractures are rare occurrences and generally result from some underlying weakness of bone. Even though a competent history, examination (which may include radiography) will be performed, it is still possible for some weakness of bone to be undetected. Extremely rare are strokes from vertebral artery dissection which also occur in about one person in 133,000 in general (not related to chiropractic), but are estimated to occur in between one in one million and one in five million cervical adjustments. Although discs are generally helped with chiropractic care, they can be worsened even to the point of requiring surgical care although this rarely occurs. Physical therapy can sometimes burn skin by irritating it, although this is unlikely to occur.

**DO NOT SIGN THIS FORM UNTIL YOU HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THIS FORM. UPON DOING SO, PLEASE COMPLETE THE INFORMATION AND SIGN THIS FORM**

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Patients Printed Name

# PATIENT INFORMATION

TODAY'S DATE \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

BIRTHDATE \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

WORK PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

CELL PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_