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INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF CHIROPRACTORS AND ORGANIZATIONS

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Accreditation Group Records Manager
National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity
Office of Post Secondary Education
United States Department of Secondary Education
1990 K Street NW
Room 8060
Washington, DC 20006

Attention: Dr. Rachael Shultz.

WRITTEN COMMENTS REGARDING THE COUNCIL ON CHIROPRACTIC EDUCATION

This letter represents the chiropractors and chiropractic organizations of the International Federation of Chiropractors and Organizations (IFCO), originally incorporated as the Federation of Straight Chiropractic Organizations (FSCO) in 1979. To this day it remains an association of chiropractors and organizations focused on serving the public by detecting and correcting vertebral subluxations.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit our comments to the National Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity (NACIQI) regarding the Council on Chiropractic Education's (CCE) petition for continued recognition. It is our belief that the 2012 Standards and Policies of the CCE are crafted to change the mission of chiropractic from that of a limited, portal of entry profession that contributes to patient health through the correction of vertebral subluxation to a primary care, plenary profession similar to allopathic and homeopathic medicine. The IFCO believes this approach is in direct conflict with state chiropractic practice acts, for they define chiropractic as a profession that is limited to a class of conditions that affect a limited portion of anatomy. Chiropractic, with its focus on the spine and spinal column and subluxated vertebrae in particular, is similar to dentistry and optometry.

The IFCO is concerned that CCE has failed to meet the Basic Eligibility Requirements according to:

602.13 Acceptance of the agency by others.

The agency must demonstrate that its standards, policies, procedures, and decisions to grant or deny accreditation are widely accepted in the United States by –

*(b) **Licensing bodies, practitioners, and employers in the professional or vocational fields for which the educational institutions or programs within the agency’s jurisdiction prepare their students.***

The CCE Accreditation Standards, January 2012, define primary health care as, “care that is provided by a health care professional in the patient’s first contact within a health care system that includes an examination and evaluation, diagnosis and health management. A Doctor of Chiropractic practicing primary health care is competent and qualified to provide independent, quality, patient-focused care to individuals of all ages and genders by: 1) providing direct access, portal of entry care that does not require a referral from another source; 2) establishing a partnership relationship with continuity of care for each individual patient; 3) evaluating a patient and independently establishing a diagnosis or diagnoses; and 4) managing the patient’s health care and integrating health care services including treatment, recommendations for self-care, referral, and/or co-management.”

An online review of chiropractic state practice acts as listed by the Federation of Chiropractic Licensing Boards (FCLB), see Attachment #1, via www.fclb.org on September 6-9, 2011 revealed that 41 states do not allow for chiropractors to serve the public in the broadly defined role of primary care physician as defined by the World Health Organization, the American Academy of Family Physicians, and the Institute of Medicine’s Committee on the Future of Primary Care, see Attachment #2. Those that allow for a broader scope of practice do not define chiropractors as being the coordinators in the public’s use of the entire health care system.

In addition, the recently adopted 2012 CCE Standards and Policies has eliminated the requirement for chiropractic programs to teach the vertebral subluxation, the focal point of chiropractic. The Board of Directors of the Association of Chiropractic Colleges (ACC), comprised of all Canadian and United States chiropractic college presidents, agreed to and signed the *ACC Chiropractic Paradigm* in July 1996 stating, “Chiropractic is concerned with the preservation and restoration of health, and focuses particular attention on the subluxation.” According to an online survey of chiropractic state practice acts via www.fclb.org on September 6-9, 2011, 18 states specifically define chiropractic as relating to the detection and correction of vertebral subluxation/subluxation complex. Seven additional states define chiropractic as having a focus on nerve transmission/energy, frequently used terminology when discussing subluxation. Specifically then, half of the United States chiropractic practice acts require that the skills, knowledge and abilities necessary for entry into the field of chiropractic include detection and correction of vertebral subluxation.

Furthermore, the Code of Federal Regulations specifies: “Medicare Part B pays only for a chiropractor's manual manipulation of the spine to correct a subluxation if the subluxation has resulted in a neuromusculoskeletal condition for which manual manipulation is appropriate treatment.” (<http://cfr.vlex.com/vid/410-21-limitations-services-chiropractor-19805416>). Therefore the IFCO feels the core competencies that define an entry level chiropractor should include the detection and correction of vertebral subluxation, which the CCE has intentionally deleted from the 2012 standards.

The IFCO remains available for any questions you may have and can provide additional information on the political efforts of the CCE to reframe the knowledge, skills and attitude of the chiropractic profession upon request.

CCE appears to function as the educational arm of a trade association with the intent of morphing chiropractic into a primary care, plenary profession, and we hope that our comments will be considered by the NACIQI as third-party comments regarding CCE's petition for continued recognition.

International Federation of Chiropractors and Organizations
Attachment #1 State Laws
Accessed via www.fclb.org September 6-9, 2011

Alabama

Section 34-24-120

"Chiropractic" defined; authority of licensed chiropractor.

(a) The term "chiropractic," when used in this article, is hereby defined as the science and art of locating and removing without the use of drugs or surgery any interference with the transmission and expression of nerve energy in the human body by any means or methods as taught in schools or colleges of chiropractic which are recognized by the State Board of Chiropractic Examiners.

(b) Any chiropractor who has been certified and licensed by the State Board of Chiropractic Examiners may examine, analyze, and diagnose the human body and its diseases by the use of any physical, clinical, thermal, or radonic method, and the use of X-ray diagnosing, and may use any other general method of examination for diagnosis and analysis taught in any school of chiropractic recognized by the State Board of Chiropractic Examiners.

(c) Chiropractors certified and licensed by the State Board of Chiropractic Examiners may practice chiropractic as set forth in subsections (a) and (b) of this section and may also recommend the use of foods and concentrates, food extracts, and may apply first aid and hygiene, but chiropractors are expressly prohibited from prescribing or administering to any person any drugs included in materia medica, except as herein provided, from performing any surgery, from practicing obstetrics or from giving X-ray treatments or treatments involving the use of radioactive materials of any description.

(Acts 1959, No. 108, p. 612, §1; Acts 1989, No. 89-237, p. 321, §2.)

Alaska

Sec. 08.20.100. Practice of chiropractic. (a) A person may not practice chiropractic or use chiropractic core methodology in the state without a license.

(b) A person licensed under this chapter may

(1) analyze, diagnose, or treat the chiropractic condition of a patient by chiropractic core methodology or by ancillary methodology;

(2) accept referrals for chiropractic treatment;

(3) consult on chiropractic matters;

(4) refer patients to other health care professionals;

(5) sign

(A) within the scope of chiropractic practice, certificates of physical examinations for children before they enter school;

(B) reports for excuses from employment and from attendance at school or participation in sports activities; and

(C) authorizations for sick leave;

(6) perform preemployment and workplace health examinations;

(7) provide disability and physical impairment ratings; and

(8) provide retirement health and disability authorizations and recommendations.

(c) A person licensed under this chapter is not authorized to sign affidavits exempting school children from immunization requirements under AS 14.30.125 or to administer or interpret the results of infectious disease tests required by statute or regulation.

Arizona

32-925. Practice of chiropractic; limitations

A. A doctor of chiropractic is a portal of entry health care provider who engages in the practice of health care that includes:

1. The diagnosis and correction of subluxations, functional vertebral or articular dysarthrosis or neuromuscular skeletal disorders for the restoration and maintenance of health.
2. Physical and clinical examinations, diagnostic x-rays and clinical laboratory procedures that are limited to urine collection, finger pricks or venipuncture in order to determine the propriety of a regimen of chiropractic care or to form a basis for referral of patients to other licensed health care professionals, or both.

3. Treatment by:

- (a) Physical medicine modalities, therapeutic procedures and adjustment of the spine or bodily articulations.
- (b) Procedures related to the correction of subluxations and neuromuscular skeletal disorders.
- (c) Prescription of orthopedic supports.
- (d) Acupuncture.

B. A doctor of chiropractic licensed under this chapter shall not prescribe or administer medicine or drugs, perform surgery or practice obstetrics.

Arkansas

(6) (A) 'Practice of chiropractic' means the engagement in the diagnosis and analysis of any interference with normal nerve transmission and expression, and the procedure preparatory to and complementary to the correction thereof by an adjustment of the articulations of the vertebral column, its immediate articulations, including spinal adjustments, spinal manipulations and spinal mobilizations, such as any type of pressure, force, thrust or passive movement, singular or plural, applied to the spinal vertebrae or their adjacent articulations by hand or mechanical device or by other incidental adjustments, for the restoration and maintenance of health. The practice of chiropractic includes therapy, the normal regimen, and rehabilitation of the patient for the purpose of removing any injury, deformity or abnormality of human beings without the use of drugs or surgery.

(B) The practice of chiropractic, as authorized under the provisions of this chapter, shall not include the performance of the duties of a midwife or obstetrician, therapy by the use of ionizing radiation, incisive surgery, prescribing for or administering to any person any drug to be taken internally, or puncturing the skin for the purpose of introducing any substance into the body. Nothing herein shall prevent puncturing the skin for routine blood analysis, including red blood count, white blood count, differential and serology, in the practice of chiropractic for diagnostic purposes;

California

§302. Practice of Chiropractic.

(a) Scope of Practice.

(1) A duly licensed chiropractor may manipulate and adjust the spinal column and other joints of the human body and in the process thereof a chiropractor may manipulate the muscle and connective tissue related thereto.

(2) As part of a course of chiropractic treatment, a duly licensed chiropractor may use all necessary mechanical, hygienic, and sanitary measures incident to the care of the body, including, but not limited to, air, cold, diet, exercise, heat, light, massage, physical culture, rest, ultrasound, water, and physical therapy techniques in the course of chiropractic manipulations and/or adjustments.

(3) Other than as explicitly set forth in section 10(b) of the Act, a duly licensed chiropractor may treat any condition, disease, or injury in any patient, including a pregnant woman, and may diagnose, so long as such treatment or diagnosis is done in a manner consistent with chiropractic methods and techniques and *so long as such methods and treatment do not constitute the practice of medicine* by exceeding the legal scope of chiropractic practice as set forth in this section.

(4) A chiropractic license issued in the State of California does not authorize the holder thereof:

(A) to practice surgery or to sever or penetrate tissues of human beings, including, but not limited to severing the umbilical cord;

(B) to deliver a human child or practice obstetrics;

(C) to practice dentistry;

(D) to practice optometry;

(E) to use any drug or medicine included in materia medica;

(F) to use a lithotripter;

(G) to use ultrasound on a fetus for either diagnostic or treatment purposes; or

(H) to perform a mammography.

(5) A duly licensed chiropractor may employ the use of vitamins, food supplements, foods for special dietary use, or proprietary medicines, if the above substances are also included in section 4057 of the Business and Professions Code, so long as such substances are not included in materia medica as defined in section 13 of the Business and Professions Code.

The use of such substances by a licensed chiropractor in the treatment of illness or injury must be within the scope of the practice of chiropractic as defined in section 7 of the Act.

(6) Except as specifically provided in section 302(a)(4), a duly licensed chiropractor may make use of X-ray and thermography equipment for the purposes of diagnosis but not for the purposes of treatment. A duly licensed chiropractor may make use of diagnostic ultrasound equipment for the purposes of neuromuscular skeletal diagnosis.

(7) A duly licensed chiropractor may only practice or attempt to practice or hold himself or herself out as practicing a system of chiropractic. A duly licensed chiropractor may also advertise the use of the modalities authorized by this section as a part of a course of chiropractic treatment, but is not required to use all of the diagnostic and treatment modalities set forth in this section. *A chiropractor may not hold himself or herself out as being licensed as anything other than a chiropractor* or as holding any other healing arts license or as practicing physical therapy or use the term “physical therapy” in advertising unless he or she holds another such license.

Colorado

(1.7) "Chiropractic" means that branch of the healing arts that is based on the premise that disease is attributable to the abnormal functioning of the human nervous system. It includes the diagnosing and analyzing of human ailments and seeks the elimination of the abnormal functioning of the human nervous system by the adjustment or manipulation, by hand or instrument, of the articulations and adjacent tissue of the human body, particularly the spinal column, and the use as indicated of procedures that facilitate the adjustment or manipulation and make it more effective and the use of sanitary, hygienic, nutritional, and physical remedial measures for the promotion, maintenance, and restoration of

health, the prevention of disease, and the treatment of human ailments. "Chiropractic" includes the use of venipuncture for diagnostic purposes. "Chiropractic" does not include colonic irrigation therapy. "Chiropractic" includes treatment by acupuncture when performed by an appropriately trained chiropractor as determined by the Colorado state board of chiropractic examiners. Nothing in this section shall apply to persons using acupuncture not licensed by the board.

Connecticut

Sec. 20-24. Definitions. As used in this chapter:

(1) *The practice of chiropractic means the practice of that branch of the healing arts consisting of the science of adjustment, manipulation and treatment of the human body in which vertebral subluxations and other malpositioned articulations and structures that may interfere with the normal generation, transmission and expression of nerve impulse between the brain, organs and tissue cells of the body, which may be a cause of disease, are adjusted, manipulated or treated.*

(2) The terms "chiropractic", "doctor of chiropractic", "chiropractor" and "chiropractic physician" are synonymous, and mean a practitioner of chiropractic as defined in subdivision (1) of this section.

(3) The term "accredited chiropractic college or colleges" means only those institutions which are at the time of the applicant's graduation, either (A) accredited by the Council on Chiropractic Education or other specialized accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department of Education or (B) if located outside the United States, deemed by said council to meet its educational standards.

(1949 Rev., S. 4386; P.A. 76-83, S. 1; P.A. 80-358, S. 1; P.A. 84-100; P.A. 94-174, S. 6, 12.)

History: P.A. 76-83 restated definition of chiropractic practice and added Subsec. (b) defining practitioners; P.A. 80-358 added Subsec. (c) defining chiropractic colleges; P.A. 84-100 amended Subsec. (c) to require an accrediting agency of a chiropractic college to be a "specialized" accrediting agency; P.A. 94-174 made technical changes and added Subdiv. (3)(B) re standards for institutions located outside the United States, effective June 6, 1994.

Cited. 211 C. 508. Cited. 220 C. 86.

Delaware

§ 701. Chiropractic defined; limitation of chiropractic license.

(a) "Chiropractic" means a drugless system of health care based on the principle that interference with the transmission of nerve impulses may cause disease.

(b) The practice of chiropractic includes, but is not limited to, the diagnosing and locating of misaligned or displaced vertebrae (subluxation complex), using x-rays and other diagnostic test procedures. Practice of chiropractic includes the treatment through manipulation/adjustment of the spine and other skeletal structures and the use of adjunctive procedures not otherwise prohibited by this chapter.

(c) Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, the practice of chiropractic does not include the use of drugs, surgery or obstetrical or gynecological examinations or treatment.

(d) All examinations performed by chiropractors shall be in accordance with the protocol and procedures as taught in the majority of accredited chiropractic colleges.

41 Del. Laws, c. 261, § 8; 24 Del. C. 1953, § 701; [70 Del. Laws, c. 514, § 2.](#);

District of Columbia

(3) (A) "Practice of Chiropractic" means the detecting and correcting of subluxations that cause vertebral, neuromuscular, or skeletal disorder, by adjustment of the spine or manipulation of bodily articulations for the restoration and maintenance of health; the use of x-rays, physical examination, and examination by noninvasive instrumentation for the detection of subluxations; and the referral of a patient for diagnostic x-rays, tests, and clinical laboratory procedures in order to determine a regimen of chiropractic care or to form a basis or referral of patients to other licensed health care professionals. "Practice of Chiropractic" does not include the use of drugs, surgery, or injections, but may include, upon certification by the Board, counseling about hygienic and other noninvasive ancillary procedures authorized by rules issued pursuant to this chapter.

Florida

(9)(a) "Practice of chiropractic medicine" means a noncombative principle and practice consisting of the science, philosophy, and art of the adjustment, manipulation, and treatment of the human body in which vertebral subluxations and other malpositioned articulations and structures that are interfering with the normal generation, transmission, and expression of nerve impulse between the brain, organs, and tissue cells of the body, thereby causing disease, are adjusted, manipulated, or treated, thus restoring the normal flow of nerve impulse which produces normal function and consequent health by chiropractic physicians using specific chiropractic adjustment or manipulation techniques taught in chiropractic colleges accredited by the Council on Chiropractic Education. No person other than a licensed chiropractic physician may render chiropractic services, chiropractic adjustments, or chiropractic manipulations.

(b) Any chiropractic physician who has complied with the provisions of this chapter may examine, analyze, and diagnose the human living body and its diseases by the use of any physical, chemical, electrical, or thermal method; use the X ray for diagnosing; phlebotomize; and use any other general method of examination for diagnosis and analysis taught in any school of chiropractic.

(c) 1. Chiropractic physicians may adjust, manipulate, or treat the human body by manual, mechanical, electrical, or natural methods; by the use of physical means or physiotherapy, including light, heat, water, or exercise; by the use of acupuncture; or by the administration of foods, food concentrates, food extracts, and items for which a prescription is not required and may apply first aid and hygiene, but chiropractic physicians are expressly prohibited from prescribing or administering to any person any legend drug except as authorized under subparagraph 2., from performing any surgery except as stated herein, or from practicing obstetrics.

2. Notwithstanding the prohibition against prescribing and administering legend drugs under subparagraph 1. or s. [499.01\(2\)\(m\)](#), pursuant to board rule chiropractic physicians may order, store, and administer, for emergency purposes only at the chiropractic physician's office or place of business, prescription medical oxygen and may also order, store, and administer the following topical anesthetics in aerosol form:

a. Any solution consisting of 25 percent ethylchloride and 75 percent dichlorodifluoromethane.

b. Any solution consisting of 15 percent dichlorodifluoromethane and 85 percent trichloromonofluoromethane.

However, this paragraph does not authorize a chiropractic physician to prescribe medical oxygen as defined in chapter 499.

Georgia

(2) "Chiropractic" means the adjustment of the articulations of the human body, including ilium, sacrum, and coccyx, and the use of X-ray, provided that the X-ray shall not be used for therapeutical purposes. The term "chiropractic" shall also mean that separate and distinct branch of the healing arts whose science and art utilize the inherent recuperative powers of the body and the relationship between the musculoskeletal structures and functions of the body, particularly of the spinal column and the nervous system, in the restoration and maintenance of health. Chiropractic is a learned profession which teaches that the relationship between structure and function in the human body is a significant health factor and that such relationships between the spinal column and the nervous system are most significant, since the normal transmission and expression of nerve energy are essential to the restoration and maintenance of health. However, the term "chiropractic" shall not include the use of drugs or surgery. The adjustment referred to in this paragraph and subsection (b) of Code Section 43-9-16 may only be administered by a doctor of chiropractic authorized to do so by the provisions of this chapter; provided, however, that the provisions of this Code section shall not prevent any other health care provider from administering techniques authorized within their scope of practice.

Hawaii

§442-1 Chiropractic defined. Chiropractic is defined to be the science of palpating and adjusting the articulations of the human spinal column by hand; provided that the practice of chiropractic as contemplated and set forth in this chapter may include the use of necessary patient evaluation and management procedures of the human spinal column, hot or cold packs, whirlpool, therapeutic and rehabilitative exercise, traction, electrical and electromechanical stimulation, therapeutic ultrasound, myofascial release, diathermy, infrared, and chiropractic spinal manipulative treatment and extraspinal evaluations for the diagnosis and treatment of neuromusculoskeletal conditions related to the human spinal column, subject to the restrictions contained in this chapter; and provided further that the practice of chiropractic as contemplated and set forth in this chapter shall not include the practice of lomilomi or massage. For the purposes of this section, spinal refers to the five spinal regions: cervical region (includes atlanto-occipital joint); thoracic region (includes costovertebral and costotransverse joint); lumbar region; sacral region; and pelvic (sacro-iliac joint) region.

Idaho

54-704. Chiropractic practice. Chiropractic practice and procedures which may be employed by physicians are as follows:

(1) The system of specific adjustment or manipulation of the articulations and tissues of the body; the investigation, examination and clinical diagnosis of conditions of the human body and the treatment of the human body by the application of manipulative, manual, mechanical, physiotherapeutic or clinical nutritional methods and may include the use of diagnostic X-rays.

(a) "Adjustment" means the application of a precisely controlled force applied by hand or by mechanical device to a specific focal point on the anatomy for the express purpose of creating a desired angular movement in skeletal joint structures in order to eliminate or decrease interference with neural transmission and correct or attempt to correct subluxation complex; "chiropractic

adjustment" utilizes, as appropriate, short lever force, high velocity force, short amplitude force, or specific line-of-correction force to achieve the desired angular movement, as well as low force neuromuscular, neurovascular, neuro-cranial, or neuro-lymphatic reflex technique procedures.

(b) "Manipulation" means an application of a resistive movement by applying a nonspecific force without the use of a thrust, that is directed into a region and not into a focal point of the anatomy for the general purpose of restoring movement and reducing fixation.

federal or state law regulation to be dispensed on prescription only or is restricted to use by practitioners only.

(3) Chiropractic practice, as herein defined is hereby declared *not to be the practice of medicine* within the meaning of the laws of the state of Idaho defining the same, and physicians licensed pursuant to this chapter shall not be subject to the provisions of [chapter 18, title 54](#), Idaho Code, nor liable to any prosecution thereunder, when acting within the scope of practice as defined in this chapter.

Illinois

1.5. "Chiropractic physician" means a person licensed to treat human ailments without the use of drugs and without operative surgery. Nothing in this Act shall be construed to prohibit a chiropractic physician from providing advice regarding the use of non-prescription products or from administering atmospheric oxygen. Nothing in this Act shall be construed to authorize a chiropractic physician to prescribe drugs.

Indiana

IC 25-10-1-1

Definitions

Sec. 1. As used in this article:

(1) "Chiropractic" means the diagnosis and analysis of any interference with normal nerve transmission and expression, the procedure preparatory to and complementary to the correction thereof by an adjustment of the articulations of the vertebral column, its immediate articulation, and includes other incidental means of adjustments of the spinal column and the practice of drugless therapeutics. However, chiropractic does not include any of the following:

(A) Prescription or administration of legend drugs or other controlled substances.

(B) Performing of incisive surgery or internal or external cauterization.

(C) Penetration of the skin with a needle or other instrument for any purpose except for the purpose of blood analysis.

(D) Use of colonic irrigations, plasmatics, ionizing radiation therapy, or radionics.

(E) Conducting invasive diagnostic tests or analysis of body fluids except for urinalysis.

(F) The taking of x-rays of any organ other than the vertebral column and extremities.

(G) The treatment or attempt to treat infectious diseases, endocrine disorders, or atypical or abnormal histology.

Iowa

151.1 "Chiropractic" defined.

For the purpose of this subtitle the following classes of persons shall be deemed to be engaged in the practice of chiropractic:

1. Persons publicly professing to be chiropractors or publicly professing to assume the duties incident to the practice of chiropractic.
2. Persons who treat human ailments by the adjustment of the neuromusculoskeletal structures, primarily, by hand or instrument, through spinal care.
3. Persons utilizing differential diagnosis and procedures related thereto, withdrawing or ordering withdrawal of the patient's blood for diagnostic purposes, performing or utilizing routine laboratory tests, performing physical examinations, rendering nutritional advice, utilizing chiropractic physiotherapy procedures, all of which are subject to and authorized by [section 151.8](#).
[C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §2555; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §151.1]
83 Acts, ch 83, §1, 2; 99 Acts, ch [141](#), [§27](#)

Kansas

65-2871. Persons deemed engaged in practice of chiropractic. For the purpose of this act the following persons shall be deemed to be engaged in the practice of chiropractic: (a) Persons who examine, analyze and diagnose the human living body, and its diseases by the use of any physical, thermal or manual method and use the X-ray diagnosis and analysis taught in any accredited chiropractic school or college and (b) persons who adjust any misplaced tissue of any kind or nature, manipulate or treat the human body by manual, mechanical, electrical or natural methods or by the use of physical means, physiotherapy (including light, heat, water or exercise), or by the use of foods, food concentrates, or food extract, or who apply first aid and hygiene, but chiropractors are expressly prohibited from prescribing or administering to any person medicine or drugs in materia medica, or from performing any surgery, as hereinabove stated, or from practicing obstetrics.

History: L. 1957, ch. 343, [◆](#) 71; L. 1976, ch. 273, [◆](#) 32; Feb. 13.

Kentucky

312.015 Definitions for chapter.

As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires:

(2) Subject to the limitations of subsection (4) of this section "chiropractic" means the science of diagnosing and adjusting or manipulating the subluxations of the articulations of the human spine and its adjacent tissues;

(3) Subject to the limitations of subsection (4) of this section "chiropractor" means one qualified by experience and training and licensed by the board to diagnose his patients and to treat those of his patients diagnosed as having diseases or disorders relating to subluxations of the articulations of the human spine and its adjacent tissues by indicated adjustment or manipulation of those subluxations and by applying methods of treatment designed to augment those adjustments or manipulation. The terms "chiropractic," "doctor of chiropractic," and "chiropractor" shall be synonymous, and shall be construed to mean a practitioner of chiropractic as defined in this section.

(5) The practice of chiropractic shall not include the practice of medicine or osteopathy as defined in KRS 311.550, the practice of podiatry as defined in KRS 311.380, the practice of dentistry as defined in KRS 313.010, the practice of optometry as defined in KRS 320.210, the practice as a nurse as defined in KRS 314.011, or the practice of pharmacy by persons licensed and registered under KRS 315.050.

Effective: July 14, 1992

History: Amended 1992 Ky. Acts ch. 252, sec. 1, effective July 14, 1992. -- Amended 1988 Ky. Acts ch. 426, sec. 4, effective July 15, 1988. -- Amended 1976 Ky. Acts ch. 359, sec. 1, effective June 19, 1976. -- Created 1962 Ky. Acts ch. 179, sec. 1, effective June 14, 1962.

Louisiana

§2801. Definitions

As used in this Chapter:

(3)(a) "Practice of chiropractic" means holding one's self out to the public as a chiropractor and as being engaged in the business of, or the actual engagement in, the diagnosing of conditions associated with the functional integrity of the spine and treating by adjustment, manipulation, and the use of the physical and other properties of heat, light, water, electricity, sound, massage, therapeutic exercise, mobilization, mechanical devices, and other physical rehabilitation measures for the purpose of correcting interference with normal nerve transmission and expression. A chiropractor may also make recommendations relative to personal hygiene and proper nutritional practices for the rehabilitation of the patient. A chiropractor may also order such diagnostic tests as are necessary for determining conditions associated with the functional integrity of the spine.

(c) The practice of chiropractic does not include the right to prescribe, dispense, or administer medicine or drugs, or to engage in the practice of major or minor surgery, obstetrics, X-ray therapy, radium therapy, or nuclear medicine. For purposes of this Chapter, the terms "medicine" and "drugs" shall not include orthotic devices, vitamin, mineral, and nutritional supplements, therapeutic devices, postural modification equipment, exercise equipment, or homeopathic remedies. Any chiropractor applying to practice acupuncture shall comply with the provisions of R.S. 37:1358.

Added by Acts 1974, No. 39, §1. Amended by Acts 1979, No. 390, §1; Acts 1986, No. 77, §1; Acts 1991, No. 1047, §§1 and 3; Acts 1997, No. 990, §1; Acts 1999, No. 648, §1.

Maine

§451. Definitions

1. Chiropractic. "Chiropractic" means the art and science of identification and correction of subluxation and the accompanying physiological or mechanical abnormalities. The term subluxation, as utilized within the chiropractic health care system, means a structural or functional impairment of an intact articular unit. "Chiropractic" includes chiropractic acupuncture. Chiropractic recognizes the inherent recuperative capability of the human body as it relates to the spinal column, musculo-skeletal and nervous system.

[1999, c. 214, §1 (AMD) .]

1-A. Chiropractic acupuncture. "Chiropractic acupuncture" means the insertion of acupuncture needles through the skin at specific points. It is a chiropractic methodology used for the correction of the soft tissue components contributing to subluxation and the accompanying physiological or mechanical abnormalities. Except as provided in section 502, chiropractic acupuncture may only be practiced by a licensee who has received a chiropractic acupuncture certification from the board.

[1999, c. 214, §2 (NEW) .]

2. Chiropractic doctors. "Chiropractic doctors" are health care providers functioning within their scope of practice as provided by this chapter.

[1983, c. 113, §1 (NEW) .]

3. Chiropractic methodologies. "Chiropractic methodologies" utilized for the identification or correction of subluxation and the accompanying physiological or mechanical abnormalities include

diagnostic, therapeutic, adjustive or manipulative techniques utilized within the chiropractic profession, excluding prescriptive medication or surgery.
[1983, c. 113, §1 (NEW) .]

Maryland

§3-101. Definitions.

- (c) "Chiropractor" means an individual who practices chiropractic.
- (d) "License" means, unless the context requires otherwise, a license issued by the Board:
 - (1) To practice chiropractic; or
 - (2) To practice chiropractic with the right to practice physical therapy.
- (e) "Licensed chiropractor" means, unless the context requires otherwise, a chiropractor who is licensed by the Board to practice chiropractic or to practice chiropractic with the right to practice physical therapy.
- (f)
 - (1) "Practice chiropractic" means to use a drugless system of health care based on the principle that interference with the transmission of nerve impulses may cause disease.
 - (2) "Practice chiropractic" includes the diagnosing and locating of misaligned or displaced vertebrae and, through the manual manipulation and adjustment of the spine and other skeletal structures, treating disorders of the human body.
 - (3) Except as otherwise provided in this title, "practice chiropractic" does not include the use of drugs or surgery, or the practice of osteopathy, obstetrics, or any other branch of medicine.
 - (4) The definition of "practice chiropractic" does not prohibit a chiropractor from selecting diet and hygiene measures for an individual.

Massachusetts

"**Chiropractic**", the science of locating, and removing interference with the transmission or expression of nerve force in the human body, by the correction of misalignments or subluxations of the bony articulation and adjacent structures, more especially those of the vertebra column and pelvis, for the purpose of restoring and maintaining health. It shall exclude operative surgery, prescription or use of drugs or medicines, the practice of obstetrics, the treatment of infectious diseases, and internal examinations whether or not diagnostic instruments are used except that the X-ray and analytical instruments may be used solely for the purposes of **chiropractic** examinations. Nothing in this definition shall exclude the use of supportive procedures and therapy, including braces, traction, heat, cold, sound, electricity, and dietary and nutritional advice, as treatment supplemental to a **chiropractic** adjustment.

Michigan

333.16401 Definitions; scope; principles of construction.

Sec. 16401.

- (1) As used in this part:

(a) "Chiropractor", "chiropractic physician", "doctor of chiropractic", or "d.c." means an individual licensed under this article to engage in the practice of chiropractic.

(b) "Dislocation" means complete disruption in the normal relationship of 2 bones forming a joint resulting in no contact of the articular surfaces. A dislocation does not include a subluxation.

(c) "Joint dysfunction" means a joint that is impaired so that it does not function properly.

(d) "Musculoskeletal system" means the system of muscles, tendons, ligaments, bones, joints, and associated tissues that moves the body and maintains its form.

(e) "Practice of chiropractic" means that discipline within the healing arts that deals with the human nervous system and the musculoskeletal system and their interrelationship with other body systems. Practice of chiropractic includes the following:

(i) The diagnosis of human conditions and disorders of the human musculoskeletal and nervous systems as they relate to subluxations, misalignments, and joint dysfunctions. These diagnoses shall be for the purpose of detecting and correcting those conditions and disorders or offering advice to seek treatment from other health professionals in order to restore and maintain health.

(ii) The evaluation of conditions or symptoms related to subluxations, misalignments, and joint dysfunction through any of the following:

(A) Physical examination.

(B) The taking and reviewing of patient health information.

(C) The performance, ordering, or use of tests. The performance, ordering, or use of tests in the practice of chiropractic is regulated by rules promulgated under section 16423.

(D) The performance, ordering, or use of x-ray.

(E) The performance, ordering, or use of tests that were allowed under section 16423 as of December 1, 2009.

(iii) The chiropractic adjustment of subluxations, misalignments, and joint dysfunction and the treatment of related bones and tissues for the establishment of neural integrity and structural stability.

(iv) The use of physical measures, analytical instruments, nutritional advice, rehabilitative exercise, and adjustment apparatus regulated by rules promulgated under section 16423.

(2) The practice of chiropractic does not include any of the following:

(a) The performance of any procedure that cuts or punctures the skin.

(b) The dispensing or prescribing of drugs or medicine.

(c) Except for diagnostic purposes only, the use of x-ray.

(d) The performance of an invasive procedure involving a body orifice or cavity unless allowed by rules promulgated under section 16423 and limited to examinations involving the ears, nose, and throat.

(e) The treatment of fractures or dislocations.

(f) The performance or ordering of non-x-ray diagnostic imaging tests that were not allowed under section 16423 as of December 1, 2009.

History: 1978, Act 368, Eff. Sept. 30, 1978 ;-- Am. 2002, Act 734, Imd. Eff. Dec. 30, 2002 ;-- Am. 2009, Act 223, Imd. Eff. Jan. 5, 2010

Compiler's Notes: For transfer of powers and duties of certain health-related functions, boards, and commissions from the Department of Licensing and Regulation to the Department of Commerce, see E.R.O. No. 1991-9, compiled at MCL 338.3501 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

Popular Name: Act 368

Minnesota

148.01 CHIROPRACTIC.

Subdivision 1. For the purposes of sections 148.01 to 148.10:

(1) chiropractic is defined as the science of adjusting any abnormal articulations of the human body, especially those of the spinal column, for the purpose of giving freedom of action to impinged nerves that may cause pain or deranged function.

(2) animal chiropractic diagnosis and treatment" means treatment that includes identifying and resolving vertebral subluxation complexes, spinal manipulation, and manipulation of the extremity articulations of nonhuman vertebrates. Animal chiropractic diagnosis and treatment does not include:

(i) performing surgery;

(ii) dispensing or administering of medications; or

(iii) performing traditional veterinary care and diagnosis.

Subd. 3. Inclusions.

Chiropractic practice includes those noninvasive means of clinical, physical, and laboratory measures and analytical x-ray of the bones of the skeleton which are necessary to make a determination of the presence or absence of a chiropractic condition. The practice of chiropractic may include procedures which are used to prepare the patient for chiropractic adjustment or to complement the chiropractic adjustment. The procedures may not be used as independent therapies or separately from chiropractic adjustment. No device which utilizes heat or sound shall be used in the treatment of a chiropractic condition unless it has been approved by the Federal Communications Commission. No device shall be used above the neck of the patient. Any chiropractor who utilizes procedures in violation of this subdivision shall be guilty of unprofessional conduct and subject to disciplinary procedures according to section [148.10](#).

Subd. 2. The practice of chiropractic is not the practice of medicine, surgery, or osteopathy.

Subd. 3. Chiropractic practice includes those noninvasive means of clinical, physical, and laboratory measures and analytical X-ray of the bones of the skeleton which are necessary to make a determination of the presence or absence of a chiropractic condition. The practice of chiropractic may include procedures which are used to prepare the patient for chiropractic adjustment or to complement the chiropractic adjustment. The procedures may not be used as independent therapies or separately from chiropractic adjustment. No device which utilizes heat or

sound shall be used in the treatment of a chiropractic condition unless it has been approved by the Federal Communications Commission. No device shall be used above the neck of the patient. Any chiropractor who utilizes procedures in violation of this subdivision shall be guilty of unprofessional conduct and subject to disciplinary procedures according to section 148.10.

Mississippi

SECTION 1. SECTION 73-6-1, Mississippi Code of 1972, is amended and reenacted as follows:

73-6-1. (1) The practice of chiropractic involves the analysis of any interference with normal nerve transmission and expression, and the procedure preparatory to and complementary to the correction thereof, by adjustment and/or manipulation of the articulations of the vertebral column and its immediate articulations for the restoration and maintenance of health without the use of drugs or surgery.

(2) The chiropractic adjustment and/or manipulation of the articulations of the human body may include manual adjustments and/or manipulations and adjustments and/or manipulations by means of electrical and/or mechanical manual devices. Chiropractors licensed under this chapter may also use in conjunction with adjustments and/or manipulations of the spinal structures electrical therapeutic modalities which induce heat or electrical current beneath the skin, including therapeutic ultrasound, galvanism, diathermy and electromuscular stimulation and other procedures taught by a chiropractic college approved by the Council on Chiropractic Education, its successor or an equivalent accrediting agency.

(3) Chiropractors licensed under this chapter may utilize those electric therapeutic modalities described in subsection (2) of this section only after the chiropractor has completed a course of study containing a minimum of one hundred twenty (120) hours of instruction in the proper utilization of those procedures in accordance with the guidelines set forth by the Council on Chiropractic Education, its successor, or an equivalent accrediting agency, and is qualified and so certified in that proper utilization.

(4) Chiropractors shall not prescribe or administer medicine to patients, perform surgery, practice obstetrics or osteopathy. Chiropractors shall be authorized to recommend, dispense or sell vitamins or food supplements.

(5) Chiropractors shall not use venipuncture, capillary puncture, acupuncture or any other technique which is invasive of the human body either by penetrating the skin or through any of the orifices of the body or through the use of colonics.

Missouri

Practice of chiropractic, definition.

331.010. 1. The "practice of chiropractic" is defined as the science and art of examination, diagnosis, adjustment, manipulation and treatment both in inpatient and outpatient settings, by those methods commonly taught in any chiropractic college or chiropractic program in a university which has been accredited by the Council on Chiropractic Education, its successor entity or approved by the board. It shall not include the use of operative surgery, obstetrics, osteopathy, podiatry, nor the administration or prescribing of any drug or medicine nor the practice of medicine. The practice of chiropractic is declared not to be the practice of medicine and operative surgery or osteopathy within the meaning of chapter 334 and not subject to the provisions of the chapter.

2. The practice of chiropractic may include meridian therapy/acupressure/acupuncture with certification as required by the board.

(RSMo 1939 § 10051, A.L. 1969 H.B. 85, A.L. 1982 S.B. 520, A.L. 1995 S.B. 69, et al., A.L. 2004 H.B. 1246, A.L. 2007 H.B. 780 merged with S.B. 308)

Prior revision: 1929 § 13546

Montana

37-12-101. Definitions -- practice of chiropractic. Unless the context requires otherwise, in this chapter, the following definitions apply:

- (1) "Board" means the board of chiropractors provided for in [2-15-1737](#).
- (2) "Department" means the department of labor and industry provided for in Title 2, chapter 15, part 17.
- (3) "Chiropractic" is the system of specific adjustment or manipulation of the articulations and tissues of the body, particularly of the spinal column, for the correction of nerve interference and includes the use of recognized diagnostic and treatment methods as taught in chiropractic colleges but does not include surgery or the prescription or use of drugs.

History: (1)En. 66-501.1 by Sec. 46, Ch. 350, L. 1974; Sec. 66-501.1, R.C.M. 1947; (2)En. initiative measure, Nov. 1918; effective under governor's proclamation, Dec. 28, 1918; re-en. Sec. 3144, R.C.M. 1921; re-en. Sec. 3144, R.C.M. 1935; amd. Sec. 1, Ch. 579, L. 1977; Sec. 66-507, R.C.M. 1947; R.C.M. 1947, 66-501.1, 66-507(1); amd. Sec. 3, Ch. 274, L. 1981; amd. Sec. 121, Ch. 483, L. 2001.

Nebraska

38-805. Practice of chiropractic, defined. (1) Practice of chiropractic means one or a combination of the following, without the use of drugs or surgery:

- (a) The diagnosis and analysis of the living human body for the purpose of detecting ailments, disorders, and disease by the use of diagnostic X-ray, physical and clinical examination, and routine procedures including urine analysis; or
- (b) The science and art of treating human ailments, disorders, and disease by locating and removing any interference with the transmission and expression of nerve energy in the human body by chiropractic adjustment, chiropractic physiotherapy, and the use of exercise, nutrition, dietary guidance, and colonic irrigation.

(2) The use of X-rays beyond the axial skeleton as described in subdivision (1)(a) of this section shall be solely for diagnostic purposes and shall not expand the practice of chiropractic to include the treatment of human ailments, disorders, and disease not permitted when the use of X-rays was limited to the axial skeleton.

Source: Laws 1927, c. 167, § 76, p. 474; C.S.1929, § 71-1101; R.S.1943, § 71-177; Laws 1983, LB 142, § 1; Laws 1990, LB 348, § 1; R.S.1943, (2003), § 71-177; Laws 2007, LB463, § 246. Operative date December 1, 2008.

38-806. Chiropractic practice; persons excepted.

Nevada

CHIROPRACTIC SCOPE OF PRACTICE

" 'Chiropractic' is defined to be the science, art and practice of palpating and adjusting the articulations of the human body by hand, the use of physiotherapy, hygienic, nutritive and sanitary measures and all methods of diagnosis."

New Hampshire

316-A:1 Definition. – The science of chiropractic deals with the analysis of any interference with normal nerve transmission and expression, the procedure preparatory to, and complementary to the correction thereof, by an adjustment of the articulations of the vertebral column and its immediate articulations for the restoration and maintenance of health; it includes the normal regimen and rehabilitation of the patient using the procedures which are currently taught in accredited chiropractic colleges at the time of matriculation without the use of drugs, surgery, or colonic irrigation. The term analysis is construed to include physical examination, the use of x-ray and other analytical instruments generally used in the practice of chiropractic. The terms adjustment, manipulation, and subluxation are primary to the practice of chiropractic and shall therefore be specifically defined in rules adopted by the board of chiropractic examiners.

Source. 1988, 87:2. 1999, 173:1, eff. Aug. 30, 1999.

New Jersey

13:44E-1.1 Scope of Practice

- (a) The practice of chiropractic is that patient health care discipline whose methodology is the adjustment and/or manipulation of the articulations of the spine and related structures. During the initial consultation and before commencing chiropractic care, a licensee shall identify and document a clinical condition warranting chiropractic care. Nothing herein contained shall be deemed to prohibit a licensee from caring for chiropractic subluxation as determined by chiropractic analytical procedures. Chiropractic analysis which identifies the existence of a subluxation may be the basis for chiropractic care even in the absence of a subjective complaint or other objective findings.
- (b) A chiropractic diagnosis or analysis shall be based upon a chiropractic examination appropriate to the presenting patient. Should the examination indicate abnormality not generally recognized as amendable to chiropractic care, a licensee shall refer the patient to an appropriate health care provider. Nothing herein contained shall preclude a licensee from rendering concurrent and/or supportive chiropractic care to any patient so referred.

New Mexico

16.4.1.7 DEFINITIONS:

A. "Chiropractic" means the science, art and philosophy of things natural, the science of locating and removing interference with the transmissions or expression of nerve forces in the human body by the correction of misalignments or subluxations of the articulations and adjacent structures, more especially those of the vertebral column and pelvis, for the purpose of restoring and maintaining health for treatment of human disease primarily by, but not limited to, adjustment and manipulation of the human structure. It shall include, but not be limited to, the prescription and administration of all natural agents in all forms to assist in the healing act, such as food, water, heat, cold, electricity, mechanical appliances, herbs, nutritional supplements, homeopathic remedies and any necessary diagnostic procedure, excluding invasive procedures, except as provided by the board by rule and regulation. It shall exclude operative surgery and prescription or use of controlled or dangerous drugs.

New York

§6551. Definition of practice of chiropractic.

1. The practice of the profession of chiropractic is defined as detecting and correcting by manual or mechanical means structural imbalance, distortion, or subluxations in the human body for the purpose of removing nerve interference and the effects thereof, where such interference is the result of or related to distortion, misalignment or subluxation of or in the vertebral column.
2.
 - a. A license to practice as a chiropractor shall not permit the holder thereof to use radio-therapy, fluoroscopy, or any form of ionizing radiation except X-ray which shall be used for the detection of structural imbalance, distortion, or subluxations in the human body.
 - b. The requirements and limitations with respect to the use of X-ray by chiropractors shall be enforced by the state commissioner of health and he is authorized to promulgate rules and regulations after conferring with the board to carry out the purposes of this subdivision.
3. A license to practice chiropractic shall not permit the holder thereof to treat for any infectious diseases such as pneumonia, any communicable diseases listed in the sanitary code of the state of New York, any of the cardio-vascular-renal or cardio-pulmonary diseases, any surgical condition of the abdomen such as acute appendicitis, or diabetes, or any benign or malignant neoplasms; to operate; to reduce fractures or dislocations; to prescribe, administer, dispense or use in his practice drugs or medicines; or to use diagnostic or therapeutic methods involving chemical or biological means except diagnostic services performed by clinical laboratories which services shall be approved by the board as appropriate to the practice of chiropractic; or to utilize electrical devices except those devices approved by the board as being appropriate to the practice of chiropractic. Nothing herein shall be construed to prohibit a licensed chiropractor who has successfully completed a registered doctoral program in chiropractic, which contains courses of study in nutrition satisfactory to the department, from using nutritional counseling, including the dispensing of food concentrates, food extracts, vitamins, minerals, and other nutritional supplements approved by the board as being appropriate to, and as a part of, his or her practice of chiropractic. Nothing herein shall be construed to prohibit an individual who is not subject to regulation in this state as a licensed chiropractor from engaging in nutritional counseling.

North Carolina

90-143. (Effective July 1, 1993) Definitions of chiropractic; examinations; educational requirements.

- a. "Chiropractic" is herein defined to be the science of adjusting the cause of disease by realigning the spine, releasing pressure on nerves radiation from the spine to all parts of the body, and allowing the nerves to carry their full quota of health current (nerve energy) from the brain to all parts of the body.

North Dakota

2. "The practice of chiropractic" includes:

- a. The examination, evaluation, and diagnosis by means including x-ray, other appropriate diagnostic imaging, clinical laboratory procedures, or pertinent examinations taught by chiropractic colleges accredited by the council on chiropractic education or its successor;
- b. The treatment of patients by means of the adjustment or manipulation of the spinal column, the vertebral articulations, the appendicular skeleton not excluding the skull, and of any displaced tissue of any kind or nature;
- c. The practice of physiotherapy, electrotherapy, or hydrotherapy;
- d. All other procedures taught by chiropractic colleges accredited by the council on chiropractic education or its successor; and
- e. The rating and reporting of any permanent impairment of function and the providing of professional opinions regarding any matter included in this definition of practice of chiropractic as set out herein.

The practice of chiropractic does not include prescribing for or administering to any person any medicine or drug to be taken internally which is now or hereafter included in materia medica, nor performing any surgery, except as is provided in this section,

nor practicing obstetrics.

Ohio

Chapter 4734: CHIROPRACTORS

4734.01 Practice of chiropractic defined.

As used in this chapter, the "practice of chiropractic" means utilization of the relationship between the musculo-skeletal structures of the body, the spinal column, and the nervous system in the restoration and maintenance of health, in connection with which patient care is conducted with due regard for first aid, hygienic, nutritional, and rehabilitative procedures and the specific vertebral adjustment and manipulation of the articulations and adjacent tissues of the body.

Effective Date: 04-10-2001

Oklahoma

140:1-1-2. Definition

"Chiropractic" means the science and art that teaches health in anatomic relation and disease or abnormality in anatomic disrelation, and includes hygienic, sanitary and therapeutic measures incident thereto in humans.

Oregon

No definition found:

From *Chiropractic in Oregon* Brochure on state website

What is chiropractic care?

Chiropractic health care is an alternative to conventional, or allopathic, medicine. Partnering the chiropractic physician's knowledge of the human body and its optimal function with the patient's desire for improved health, an individual treatment plan will assist the patient to attain more normalized nerve, joint and physiological balance.

Along with specific, careful “adjustments” to spinal and/or other joint “subluxations”, your chiropractor’s treatment plan may include diet, exercise, psychosocial and ergonomic recommendations. Many treatment options are available and these may be discussed with your chiropractic physician.

What conditions does the Doctor of Chiropractic treat?

Common conditions and complaints often treated by chiropractors include:

Headaches, muscle spasms, neuralgia, rib and chest pain, sciatica, most disc disorders, numbness, low back pain, tendon pain, scoliosis, shoulder, neck and arm pain, some stress disorders, some asthma and allergy disorders. In addition, chiropractors also treat ankles, knees, wrists and elbows, addressing conditions such as: ankle sprains, carpal tunnel syndrome, tennis elbow, jumper’s knee, rotator cuff injuries, cranial dysfunction, TMJ.

Since adjustments normalize nerve function, chiropractors may give care simply to enhance overall health.

Pennsylvania

Section 102. Definitions.

“Chiropractic.” A branch of the healing arts dealing with the relationship between the articulations of the vertebral column, as well as other articulations, and the neuro-musculo-skeletal system and the role of these relationships in the restoration and maintenance of health. The term shall include systems of locating misaligned or displaced vertebrae of the human spine and other articulations; the examination preparatory to the adjustment or manipulation of such misaligned or displaced vertebrae and other articulations; the adjustment or manipulation of such misaligned or displaced vertebrae and other articulations; the furnishing of necessary patient care for the restoration and maintenance of health; and the use of board-approved scientific instruments of analysis, including X-ray. The term shall also include diagnosis, provided that such diagnosis is necessary to determine the nature and appropriateness of chiropractic treatment; the use of adjunctive procedures in treating misaligned or dislocated vertebrae or articulations and related conditions of the nervous system, provided that, after January 1, 1988, the licensee must be certified in accordance with this act to use adjunctive procedures; and nutritional counseling, provided that nothing herein shall be construed to require licensure as a chiropractor in order to engage in nutritional counseling. The term shall not include the practice of obstetrics or gynecology, the reduction of fractures or major dislocations, or the use of drugs or surgery.

Rhode Island

§ 5-30-1 "Chiropractic medicine" defined. – For the purpose of this chapter, the practice of "chiropractic medicine" is defined as the science and art of mechanical and material healing as follows: the employment of a system of palpating and adjusting the articulations of the human spinal column and its appendages, by hand and electro-mechanical appliances, and the employment of corrective orthopedics and dietetics for the elimination of the cause of disease; provided, that chiropractic physicians may not write prescriptions for drugs for internal medication nor practice major surgery as defined in chapter 37 of this title.

History of Section.

(G.L. 1923, ch. 159, § 14; P.L. 1927, ch. 1067, § 1; P.L. 1931, ch. 1781, § 1; G.L. 1938, ch. 275, § 14; G.L. 1956, § 5-30-1; P.L. 2000, ch. 347, § 1.)

South Carolina

Section 40-9-10

(a) "Chiropractic" is defined as that science and art which utilizes the inherent recuperative powers of the body and deals with the relationship between the nervous system and the spinal column, including its immediate articulations and the role of this relationship in the restoration and maintenance of health.

(b) "Chiropractic practice" is defined as the spinal analysis of any interference with normal nerve transmission and expression, and by adjustment to the articulations of the vertebral column and its immediate articulations for the restoration and maintenance of health and the normal regimen and rehabilitation of the patient without the use of drugs or surgery.

(c) "Analysis" is defined as physical examination, the use of x-ray and procedures generally used in the practice of chiropractic.

South Dakota

36-5-1. Scope of practice--Limitations--Inapplicability to physicians. Chiropractic is the science of locating and removing the cause of any abnormal transmission of nerve energy including diagnostic and applied mechanical measures incident thereto. Integral to chiropractic is the treating of specific joints and articulations of the body and adjacent tissues, to influence joints or neurophysiological functions of the body, or both, including the use of examination and treatment by manipulation, adjustment, and mobilization of a joint. No chiropractor may practice obstetrics or treat communicable diseases. The requirements of this section do not apply to those licensed pursuant to chapter 36-4.

Source: SDC 1939, §§ 27.0501, 27.0510; SL 1939, ch 101, § 8; SDC Supp 1960, § 27.0508; SL 2007, ch 209, § 1.

Tennessee

0260-02-.02 SCOPE OF PRACTICE.

(2) The scope of practice of chiropractic physicians shall be as set forth in T.C.A. §63-4-101.

(3) Spinal manipulation / Spinal adjustment

(a) Training must be performed in chiropractic institutions or institutions that specialize in spinal manipulative therapy. Spinal manipulation is a highly skilled maneuver that requires adequate training. Four hundred (400) hours of classroom instruction and eight hundred (800) hours of supervised clinical training are considered a minimum level of education to properly administer the techniques.

(b) Spinal manipulation must be performed by hand or with the use of instruments such as Activator, Grostic, Pettibon, or Sweat instrumentation.

(c) Manipulation moves the spinal segments beyond their normal range of motion for the correction of nerve interference and articular dysfunction, but without exceeding the limits of anatomical integrity.

(d) A chiropractic diagnosis is necessary to properly establish the indications and contraindications before the administration of the spinal manipulation procedure.

(4) Acupuncture – Any licensed chiropractic physician who practices acupuncture shall, prior to commencing such practice, complete two hundred and fifty (250) hours of an acupuncture course accredited by an agency or entity acceptable to the Board and pass the National Board of Chiropractic Examiners Acupuncture Exam.

Texas

Sec. 201.002. PRACTICE OF CHIROPRACTIC. (a) In this section:

(b) A person practices chiropractic under this chapter if the person:

(1) uses objective or subjective means to analyze, examine, or evaluate the biomechanical condition of the spine and musculoskeletal system of the human body;

(2) performs nonsurgical, nonincisive procedures, including adjustment and manipulation, to improve the subluxation complex or the biomechanics of the musculoskeletal system;

(3) represents to the public that the person is a chiropractor; or

(4) uses the term "chiropractor," "chiropractic," "doctor of chiropractic," "D.C.," or any derivative of those terms or initials in connection with the person's name.

(c) The practice of chiropractic does not include:

(1) incisive or surgical procedures;

(2) the prescription of controlled substances, dangerous drugs, or any other drug that requires a prescription; or

(3) the use of x-ray therapy or therapy that exposes the body to radioactive materials.

Acts 1999, 76th Leg., ch. 388, Sec. 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1999.

UTAH

(9) "Practice of chiropractic" means a practice of a branch of the healing arts:

(a) the purpose of which is to restore or maintain human health, in which patient care or first aid, hygienic, nutritional, or rehabilitative procedures are administered;

(b) which places emphasis upon specific vertebral adjustment, manipulation, and treatment of the articulation and adjacent tissues of the spinal column, musculoskeletal structure of the body, and nervous system;

(c) that involves examining, diagnosing, treating, correcting, or prescribing treatment for any human disease ailment, injury, infirmity, deformity, pain, or other condition, or the attempt to do so, in accordance with Section 58-73-601;

(d) that involves diagnosing, prescribing treatment, or making a

determination of treatment necessity for another person's condition by means of:

- (i) a physical examination of the person; or
- (ii) a determination based upon or derived from information supplied directly or indirectly by a third person; and
- (e) the practice described in this Subsection (9) on an animal to the extent permitted by:
 - (i) Subsection 58-28-307(12);
 - (ii) the provisions of this chapter; and
 - (iii) division rule.

Vermont

(3) "The practice of chiropractic" means the diagnosis of human ailments and diseases related to subluxations, joint dysfunctions, neuromuscular and skeletal disorders for the purpose of their detection, correction or referral in order to restore and maintain health, including pain relief, without providing drugs or performing surgery; the use of physical and clinical examinations, conventional radiologic procedures and interpretation, as well as the use of diagnostic imaging read and interpreted by a person so licensed and clinical laboratory procedures to determine the propriety of a regimen of chiropractic care; adjunctive therapies approved by the board, by rule, to be used in conjunction with chiropractic treatment; and treatment by adjustment or manipulation of the spine or other joints and connected neuromusculoskeletal tissues and bodily articulations.

Virginia

"Practice of chiropractic" means the adjustment of the 24 movable vertebrae of the spinal column, and assisting nature for the purpose of normalizing the transmission of nerve energy, but does not include the use of surgery, obstetrics, osteopathy or the administration or prescribing of any drugs, medicines, serums or vaccines.

Washington

RCW 18.25.005

"Chiropractic" defined.

(1) Chiropractic is the practice of health care that deals with the diagnosis or analysis and care or treatment of the vertebral subluxation complex and its effects, articular dysfunction, and musculoskeletal disorders, all for the restoration and maintenance of health and recognizing the recuperative powers of the body.

(2) Chiropractic treatment or care includes the use of procedures involving spinal adjustments and extremity manipulation. Chiropractic treatment also includes the use of heat, cold, water, exercise, massage, trigger point therapy, dietary advice and recommendation of nutritional supplementation, the normal regimen and rehabilitation of the patient, first aid, and counseling on hygiene, sanitation, and preventive measures. Chiropractic care also includes such physiological therapeutic procedures as traction and light, but does not include procedures involving the application of sound, diathermy, or electricity.

(3) As part of a chiropractic differential diagnosis, a chiropractor shall perform a physical examination, which may include diagnostic x-rays, to determine the appropriateness of chiropractic care or the need for referral to other health care providers. The chiropractic quality assurance commission shall provide by rule for the type and use of diagnostic

and analytical devices and procedures consistent with this chapter.

(4) Chiropractic care shall not include the prescription or dispensing of any medicine or drug, the practice of obstetrics or surgery, the use of x-rays or any other form of radiation for therapeutic purposes, colonic irrigation, or any form of venipuncture.

(5) Nothing in this chapter prohibits or restricts any other practitioner of a "health profession" defined in RCW [18.120.020](#)(4) from performing any functions or procedures the practitioner is licensed or permitted to perform, and the term "chiropractic" as defined in this chapter shall not prohibit a practitioner licensed under chapter [18.71](#) RCW from performing medical procedures, except such procedures shall not include the adjustment by hand of any articulation of the spine.

West Virginia

(4) "Chiropractic" is the science and art which utilizes the inherent recuperative powers of the body and the relationship between the neuromusculoskeletal structures and functions of the body, particularly of the spinal column and the nervous system, in the restoration and maintenance of health. The use of the designation doctor of chiropractic, chiropractor,

chiropractic physician or D.C., is the practice of chiropractic.

patients of the examining chiropractor. Further, the practice of chiropractic includes the review of information relating to the duration and necessity of chiropractic care that affects the course of care, the treatment plan or payment and reimbursement concerning chiropractic patients residing within the state of West Virginia.

The practices and procedures which may be employed by doctors of chiropractic are based on the academic and clinical training received in and through chiropractic colleges accredited by the council of chiropractic education or its successors and as determined by the board. These include the use of diagnostic, analytical and therapeutic procedures specifically including the adjustment and manipulation of the articulations and adjacent tissues of the human body, particularly of the spinal column, including the treatment of intersegmental disorders. Patient care and management is conducted with due regard for environmental and nutritional factors, as well as first aid, hygiene, sanitation, rehabilitation and physiological therapeutic procedures designed to assist in the restoration and maintenance of neurological integrity and homeostatic balance;

Wisconsin

(2) "Practice of chiropractic" means:

(a) To examine into the fact, condition, or cause of departure from complete health and proper condition of the human; to treat without the use of drugs as defined in s. [450.01 \(10\)](#) or surgery; to counsel; to advise for the same for the restoration and preservation of health or to undertake, offer, advertise, announce or hold out in any manner to do any of the aforementioned acts, for compensation, direct or indirect or in expectation thereof; and

(b) To employ or apply chiropractic adjustments and the principles or techniques of chiropractic science in the diagnosis, treatment or prevention of any of the conditions described in s. [448.01 \(10\)](#).

History: [1975 c. 383](#); [1977 c. 418 s. 929 \(41\)](#); [1985 a. 146 s. 8](#); [2009 a. 28](#).

Cross-reference: See also s. [Chir 4.01](#), Wis. adm. code.

A physician, subject to certain limitations, may advise a patient whether or not continued chiropractic care is necessary without engaging in the unauthorized practice of chiropractic. [68 Atty. Gen. 316](#).

Physical therapists and massage therapists are not prohibited from performing the activities that are within their respective scopes of practice, even if those activities extend in some degree into the field of chiropractic science. [OAG 1-01](#).

Wyoming

33-10-101. ♦ Chiropractic defined.

Chiropractic is the system of specific adjustment or manipulation of the joints and tissues of the body and the treatment of the human body by the application of manipulative, manual, mechanical, physiotherapeutic or clinical nutritional methods for which those persons licensed under this chapter are trained and may include the use of diagnostic x-rays. ♦ A chiropractor may examine, diagnose and treat patients provided, however, chiropractors shall not perform surgery, direct the use of or administer drugs required by law to be dispensed on prescription only, practice obstetrics or prescribe or administer x-ray therapy.

International Federation of Chiropractors and Organizations

Attachment #2: Definitions of primary health care/primary care physician.

The World Health Organization (WHO) defines primary health care in the Declaration of Alma Ata as “essential health care based on practical, scientifically sound and socially acceptable methods and technology made universally accessible to individuals and families in the community through their full participation and at a cost that the community and country can afford to maintain at every stage of their development in the spirit of self reliance and self-determination. It forms an integral part both of the country’s health system, of which it is the central function and main focus, and of the overall social and economic development of the community. It is the first level of contact of individuals, the family and community with the national health system bringing health care as close as possible to where people live and work, and constitutes the first element of a continuing health care process.”¹ According to this definition, primary health care “includes at least: education concerning prevailing health problems and the methods of preventing and controlling them; promotion of food supply and proper nutrition; an adequate supply of safe water and basic sanitation; maternal and child health care, including family planning; immunization against the major infectious diseases; prevention and control of locally endemic diseases; appropriate treatment of common diseases and injuries; and provision of essential drugs.”¹ Primary care is prescriptive of drugs and vaccines and thus clearly outside the scope of chiropractic practice.

The American Academy of Family Physicians defines primary care physician as “a generalist physician who provides definitive care to the undifferentiated patient at the point of first contact and takes continuing responsibility for providing the patient’s care.” Furthermore, “primary care physicians devote the majority of their practice to providing primary care services to a defined population of patients. The style of primary care practice is such that the personal primary care physician serves as the entry point for substantially all of the patient’s medical and health care needs - not limited by problem origin, organ system, or diagnosis. Primary care physicians are advocates for the patient in coordinating the use of the entire health care system to benefit the patient.”² The term *physician* requires a primary care physician to serve “as the entry point for substantially all of the patient’s medical and health care needs” and limits the term *physician* “only to doctors of medicine (M.D.) and osteopathy (D.O.) .”² State chiropractic practice acts clearly do not allow for chiropractic to fill this niche.

The definition of primary care adopted by the Institute of Medicine Committee on the Future of Primary Care states, “primary care is the provision of integrated, accessible health care services by clinicians who are accountable for addressing a large majority of personal health care needs, developing a sustained partnership with patients, and practicing in the context of family and community.”³ State laws governing chiropractic do not define chiropractic as a profession *addressing a large majority of personal health care needs*, but rather one with a limited area of interest.

1. Declaration of Alma Ata. International Conference on Primary Health Care, Alma-Ata, USSR, Sept. 6-12, 1978.
2. American Academy of Family Physicians. Definition of primary care.
3. *Primary Care. America’s Health in a New Era*. Donaldson MS, Yordy KD, Lohr KN, Vanselow NA, editors. National Academies Press.