



## Informed Consent Document

**PATIENT NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

To the Patient: Please read the entire document prior to signing it. It is Important that you understand the information contained in this document. Please ask questions before you sign if there is anything that is unclear.

### **The nature of the chiropractic adjustment.**

The Primary treatment used by Doctor of Chiropractic is spinal manipulative therapy. I will use that procedure to treat you. I may use my hands or a mechanical instrument upon your body in such a way as to move your joints. That may cause an audible "pop" or "click," much as you have experienced when you "crack" your knuckles. You may feel a sense of movement.

### **Analysis / Examination / Treatment**

As part of the analysis, examination, and treatment, you are consenting to the following procedures:

\_\_\_ spinal manipulative therapy \_\_\_ Complete Examination

\_\_\_ physical therapy modalities \_\_\_ Other (please explain)

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*Patient should initial each procedure they are consenting to.*

### **The risks inherent in chiropractic adjustment.**

As with any healthcare procedure, there are certain complications which may arise during chiropractic manipulation and therapy. These complications include but are not limited to: fractures, disc injuries, dislocations, muscle strain, cervical myelopathy, costovertebral strains and separations, and burns. Some types of manipulation of the neck have been associated with injuries to the arteries in the neck leading to or contributing to serious complications including stroke. Some patients will feel some stiffness and soreness following the first few days of treatment. The Doctor will make every reasonable effort during the exam to screen for contraindications to care; however, if you have a condition that would otherwise not come to the Doctor's attention it is your responsibility to inform the Doctor.

### **The Probability of those risks occurring.**

Fractures are rare occurrences and generally result from some underlying weakness of the bone which we check for during the taking of your history and during examination and X-ray. Stroke and /or arterial dissection caused by chiropractic manipulation of the neck has been the subject of ongoing



medical research and debate. The most current research on the topic is inconclusive as to a specific incident of this complication occurring. If there is a casual relationship at all it is extremely rare and remote. Unfortunately, there is no recognized screening procedure to identify patients with a neck pain who are at risk for arterial stroke.

**The availability and nature of other treatment options.**

Other treatment options for your condition may include:

- Self-administered, over-the-counter analgesics and rest
- Medical care and prescription drugs such as anti-inflammatory, muscle relaxants and painkillers.
- Hospitalization
- Surgery

If you choose to use one of the above noted "other treatment" options you should be aware that there are risks and benefits of such options and you may wish to discuss these with your primary medical physician.

**The risks and dangers attendant to remaining untreated.**

Remaining untreated may allow the formation of adhesions and reduce mobility which may set up a pain reaction further reducing mobility. Over time this process may complicate treatment making it more difficult and less effective the longer postponed.

**DO NOT SIGN UNTIL YOU HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THE ABOVE. PLEASE CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BLOCK AND SIGN BELOW**

I have read [ ] or have had read to me [ ] the above explanation of the chiropractic adjustment and related treatment. I have discussed it with ( ) and have had my questions answered to my 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. Having been informed of the risks, I hereby give my consent to that treatment.

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Patients Name

\_\_\_\_\_

Doctor's Name

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent or Guardian (if a minor)