



Informed Consent to Chiropractic Treatment

The Nature of Chiropractic Treatment: The doctor will use his / her hands or a mechanical device in order to manipulate your joints. You may feel a “click” or “pop”, such as when a knuckle is “cracked”, and you may feel movement of the joint. Various ancillary procedures, such as hot or cold packs, electrical muscle stimulation, therapeutic ultrasound, or traction may also be used.

Possible Risks: As with any health care procedure, complications are possible following chiropractic manipulation. Complications could include fracture of bone, muscular strain, ligamentous sprain, dislocation of joints, or injury to intervertebral discs, nerves or the spinal cord. Cerebrovascular injury or stroke could occur upon severe injury to the arteries in the neck. A minority of patients may notice stiffness or soreness after the first few days of treatment. The ancillary procedures could produce skin irritation, burns, or other minor complications.

Probability of Risks Occurring: The risks of complications due to a chiropractic treatment have been described as “rare”, about as often as complications are seen from taking a single aspirin tablet. The risk of cerebrovascular injury or stroke, has been estimated at one in a million to one in twenty million, and can be even further reduced by screening procedures. The probability of adverse reaction to ancillary procedures is also considered “rare”.

Other Treatment Options which could be Considered:

- Over-the-counter analgesics. The risks of these medications include irritation to stomach, liver, and kidneys, and other side effects in a significant number of cases.
- Medical Care, typically anti-inflammatory medications, muscle relaxants, and pain medications. Risks of these drugs include a multitude of undesirable side effects and patient dependence in a significant number of cases.
- Hospitalization in conjunction with medical care adds risks of exposure to virulent communicable disease in a significant number of cases.
- Surgery in conjunction with medical care adds the risk of adverse reaction to anesthesia, as well as an extended convalescent period in a significant number of cases.

Risks of Remaining Untreated: Delay in treatment allows formation of adhesions, scar tissue, and other degenerative changes. These changes can further reduce skeletal mobility, and induce chronic pain cycles. It is quite probable that delay in treatment will complicate the condition and make further rehabilitation more difficult.

Other risks / unusual Risks: I have had the following risks of my particular case explained to me:

I have read the explanation above of chiropractic treatment. I have had the opportunity to have any questions answered to my satisfaction. I have fully evaluated the risks and benefits of undergoing treatment. I have freely decided to undergo the recommended treatment, and hereby give my full consent to treatment.

Patient Signature and Date

For Salina Chiropractic and Date