



Informed Consent

Dear Patient,

Every type of health care is associated with some risk of a potential problem. This includes chiropractic health care. We want you to be informed about the potential problems associated with chiropractic health care before consenting to treatment.

Stroke: With cervical adjustments, there is a very small chance that a patient could have a stroke. Studies have been done on the prevalence of strokes happening in a Chiropractor's office and in a Medical Doctor's office and the risk is about equal in both settings. Most patients who suffer a stroke go to their Chiropractor because they are experiencing neck pain. The neck pain is most likely coming from an artery that is already in the process of dissecting. A stroke happening after a Chiropractic adjustment is bad timing, and in most cases is not related to the adjustment itself. A systematic review done in 2016 showed that there is no convincing evidence to support a casual link between cervical artery dissection and chiropractic adjustments of the neck. Another study done in 2001 showed that the risk associated with neck manipulation and vertebral artery dissection/stroke is about 1 in 5.85 million adjustments. This means that an average Chiropractor would have to be in practice for hundreds of years before they would statistically be associated with a single patient stroke.

Rib Fractures: The ribs are found only in the thoracic spine or middle back. They extend from your back to your front chest area. Rarely a chiropractic adjustments will crack a rib bone, referred to as a fracture. This occurs only on patients who have weakened bones from such things as osteoporosis. Osteoporosis can be noted on your x-rays. We adjust all patients very carefully and especially those who have osteoporosis shown on their x-rays. These problems occur so rarely that there are no available statistics to quantify their probability.

Soreness: It is common for chiropractic adjustments, traction, massage therapy, exercise, etc. to result in a temporary increase in soreness in the region being treated. This is nearly always a temporary symptom that occurs while your body is undergoing therapeutic change. It is not dangerous, but please do tell your doctor.

If you have any questions on the above, please ask your doctor. When you have a full understanding, please sign and date below.

Patient's Name Printed

Today's Date

Patient's Signature

Parent or Guardian signature for Minor