



NEW ORLEANS
FCLB's 89th Annual
Educational Congress

May 6-10, 2015
JW Marriott New Orleans



CA's in Practice:

Regulation & Maintaining Professional Integrity

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The History of CA Regulation

- ▶ Safety, Standards, Outcomes
- ▶ History Review
 - 2003–2005 ACA fielding concerns
 - ‘Incident To’ discussions
 - Someone besides the Doctor performing the service
 - Cx services under Medicare and insurance companies like Wellmark/Blue Cross Blue Shield/ACN etc. coming under fire.
 - Insurance companies said their accreditors were insisting, for all professions, that anyone with patient contact needed to have documented appropriate training.
 - Other professions?



Was this an Issue in Other Professions?

- ▶ Assumptions=Training
- ▶ Medical Assistant, Dental Assistant, PTA, CNA, Chiropractic Assistant
- ▶ Cosmetic counter consultants



What Did This Mean for Cx?

- ▶ With no standards did we lose professional credibility in the eyes of our peers and 3rd party payers?
- ▶ For DC's, it meant therapies being administered by in-clinic personnel, even at the DC's discretion (under DC's malpractice), would no longer be reimbursed by insurance.
- ▶ 3 Choices
 - Apply therapies themselves (very low reimbursement)
 - Discontinue therapies?
 - Certify training of assistants



Member Boards Turned to the FCLB for a Solution

- ▶ ACA and other stakeholders recognized over a decade ago that if we don't regulate ourselves, it will reflect badly on the profession at large, and if we don't regulate ourselves then someone else will do it for us.
- ▶ 2007 coalition formed (ACA, ACC, COCSA, FCLB) and worked diligently to find solutions and work with insurance companies to ensure them the issue was being taken seriously/prevent outsiders trying to impose rules on the profession.
- ▶ Best solution was a national standard. The FCLB assembled experts in education, regulation, testing and insurance regulations to begin creating one.
- ▶ The ACC was tasked with proposing educational guidelines.
- ▶ After much hard committee work and collaboration with leaders in education, those guidelines were finalized in 2008.

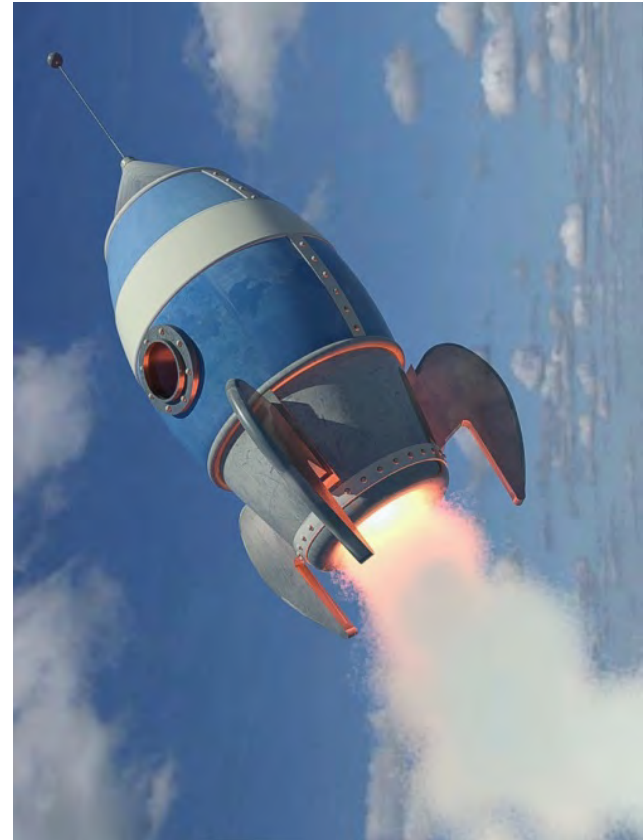


FCLB Launched CCCA in May 2013

CERTIFIED CHIROPRACTIC CLINICAL ASSISTANT Program of the FCLB

Application Processes
Program Competencies
Exam/Vetting of Q pool
Credentialing of candidates
Continuing Education req.
Recording keeping
Staff support...

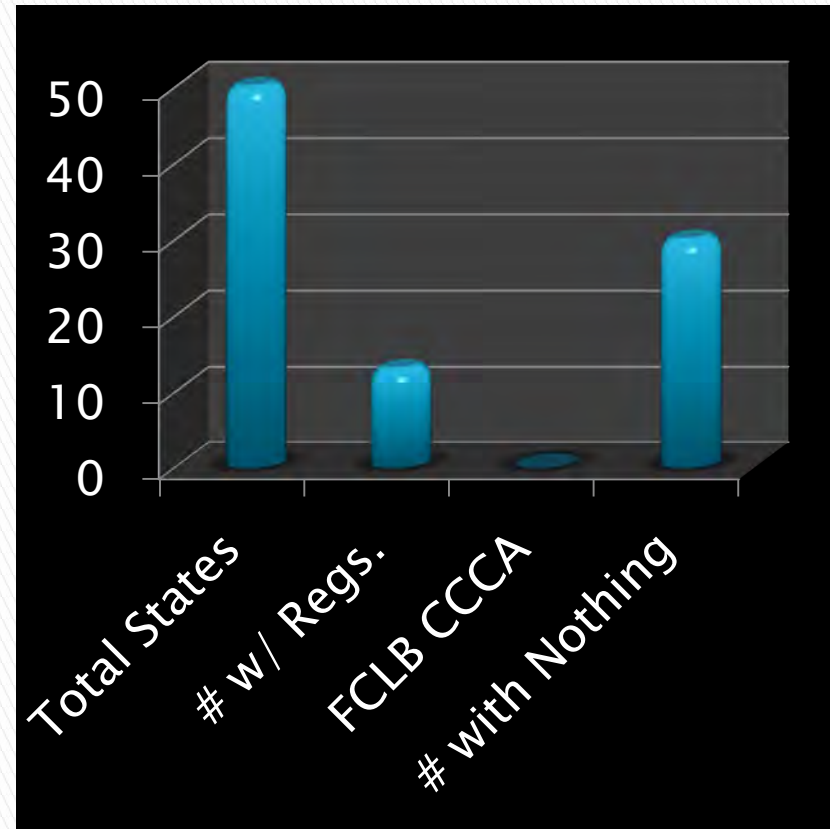
Processes created by FCLB



The first CCCA was certified in July of 2013.

A Statistical Reflection

- ▶ As of Aug. 2011 only 10 state boards had any type of regulation for CA's (varying requirements).
- ▶ In 2015 13 states have some type of regulation and track it
- ▶ 7 have regulation but no tracking or certification
- ▶ 30 states still have nothing at all for CA's 3/30 Pending Regulations
- ▶ **ZERO formally recognize FLCB's CCCA credential. Why?**



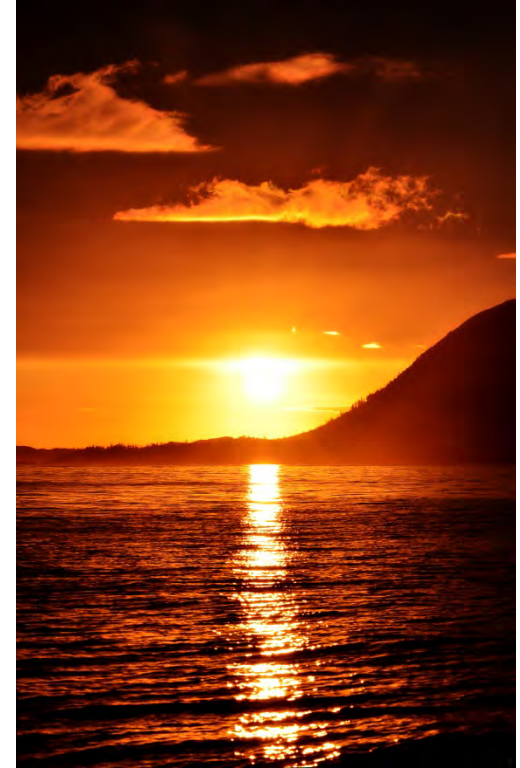
This Train has left the Station...

- ▶ Assistants in other professions are not touching patients without training. Chiropractic should be no different.
- ▶ All boards should have language for CA's in their rules.



Professional Integrity...

- ▶ Not just about being able to legally apply modalities, it's about doing it safely/protecting the public.
- ▶ Not just about employees taking a course, it's about employees taking the appropriate training courses to implement care standards , earn the privilege to call themselves a CA and deserve the assumptions that patients make.
- ▶ It's about optimizing patient outcomes



Standards in CA Regulation...

- ▶ Invite all state boards to take a hard look at their standards for CA's (or lack there-of) and implement verbiage in the rules for training CA's that have patient contact.
- ▶ The FCLB CCCA program was set up to fulfill this recognized training gap, and can serve as a ready solution for those states with nothing in place for CA's; or as an added option for those states with independent processes.



THANK YOU!