

RESOLUTION 2-21

Submitted for consideration by Dr. Robert Frieman (MD)

Radiographic Imaging and Chiropractic Practice

Whereas, the chiropractic paradigm is based on the association between the physical structure and biomechanical function of the body and its influence on neurophysiologic integrity;

Whereas, radiographic imaging is well-established in health care for evaluating the structure of the skeletal system, its functional articulations and soft tissues;

Whereas, Doctors of Chiropractic are educated and trained in the use of radiographic imaging, its clinical indications and contraindications, and the inherent risks of ionizing radiation;

Whereas, radiographic imaging is a valuable diagnostic tool for identifying structural anomalies, abnormalities and pathologies of the spine, pelvis, intervertebral disc spaces and joint spacing, including extra spinal structures;

Whereas, most chiropractic therapeutic techniques apply mechanical forces into the body's structure and articulations;

Whereas, information obtained from radiographic imaging is clinically relevant (AND) could be pivotal for Doctors of Chiropractic to arrive at an accurate diagnosis and an appropriate treatment plan;

Whereas, visualizing structural and articular anomalies, abnormalities and pathologies are important for manipulative forces to be administered in an appropriate and efficient manner;

Now therefore be it –

Resolved, that the Federation of Chiropractic Licensing Boards recommends:

1. That the use of radiographic imaging in patient care is at the professional judgment of the treating Doctor of Chiropractic and determined (IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE PATIENT) on a case-by-case basis; and
2. That prior to obtaining radiographic imaging, a treating Doctor of Chiropractic will inform the patient of the benefits, options, and material risks of x-ray and will receive consent from the patient to be x-rayed; and
3. That chiropractic care policies and guidelines that impose practice standards based on parameters of time before a Doctor of Chiropractic may obtain radiographic imaging potentiates an unnecessary delay which can adversely affect the efficacy of patient care and their health as consumers of chiropractic services.

Adopted by the Delegate Body

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