

INFORMED PATIENT CONSENT

Please read this 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.

Analysis/ Examination/ Treatment

As part of the analysis, examination and treatment, you are consenting to the following procedures: spinal/ extremity manipulative therapy, dry needling, range of motion testing, muscle strength testing, radiographic studies, orthopedic testing, postural analysis, basic neurological testing, vital signs, electrical muscle stimulation, ultrasound, ultrasound/ electric muscle stimulation combo, traction, infrared therapy, cold laser, exercises and hot / cold therapy.

The nature of the chiropractic adjustment:

The primary treatment used by doctors of chiropractic is spinal/ extremity 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 to move your joints. That may cause an audible “pop” or “click,” much like you have experienced when you “crack” your knuckles. You may feel a sense of movement.

Risks associated inherent in the chiropractic adjustment

As with any health care procedure, there are certain complications which may arise with chiropractic manipulation and therapy. These complications include but not limited to: fractures, disc injuries, dislocations, muscle or ligament sprain strains and headaches. Unlikely, however burns are a risk associated with above treatment modalities including electric stimulation, ultrasound, infrared therapy, cold laser and hot/ cold therapy. Sometimes there is stiffness and/ or soreness after being adjusted or using modalities. 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. The Doctor will make every reasonable effort during the examination 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 and generally result from some underlying weakness of the bone which we check for during your history, examination and x-ray. Stroke has been the subject of tremendous disagreement. The incidence of stroke is exceedingly rare and is estimated to occur between one in one million to one in five million cervical adjustments. The other complications described are also rare.

The nature of dry needling:

Treatment involves placing a small needle into a muscle that may be tight and/ or tender with the intent of causing the muscle to relax.

Risks associated with dry needling

As with any healthcare procedure, there are certain complications that may arise with dry needling. The most serious risk is accidental puncture of the lung (pneumothorax). This would require a chest x-ray and commonly resolves on its own. Symptoms may include pain and shortness of breath which may last several days or weeks. A more severe lung puncture can require hospitalization and re-inflation of the lung. This is a rare complication however if a pneumothorax is suspected, you should seek medical attention.

Other risks include bruising, infection and nerve injury. Bruising is a common occurrence and should not be a concern unless you are taking blood thinners. The Doctor will make every reasonable effort during the examination to screen for contraindications to care. If you have a condition that may not come to the Doctor’s attention, it is your responsibility to inform the Doctor. Please notify the Doctor if you have any conditions that can be transferred via blood, require anticoagulants or any other conditions that may have an adverse effect with needles. The needles are very small and flexible greatly reducing the likelihood of any significant trauma.

The availability and nature of other treatment options

Other treatment options include:

- Self-administered, over the counter analgesics, rest, ice, heat
- Medical care and prescription drugs such as anti-inflammatory, muscle relaxers and pain killers
- Hospitalization
- Physical therapy
- Surgery
- Other alternative treatments such as supplements, massage or acupuncture

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 want to discuss these with your primary physician.

The risks and dangers attendant to remaining untreated

Remaining untreated may allow the formation of adhesions, reduced mobility, compensating pain patterns, postural changes and nerve pain. Over time this process may complicate treatment making more difficult and less effective the longer it is postponed.

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

I have read [] the above explanation of the chiropractic adjustment, dry needling and related treatment. I have discussed it with my doctor and my questions answered to my satisfaction. By signing below I have weighed the risks involved with treatment and decided that it is in my best interests to undergo treatment. Having been informed of the risks, I hereby give my consent for treatment.

Patient Signature/ Parent or Guardian Date

Doctor Signature Date