

## PATIENT INFORMED CONSENT TO TREATMENT

**The Nature of Chiropractic Treatment:** The doctor will use his hands or mechanical devices in order to move your joints and mobilize soft tissues (e.g. muscles, ligaments). A “crack” or “pop” sound is inherent in some of the joint manipulation procedures and is a natural effect of joint movement. Various other procedures, including but not limited to, hot packs, electric stimulation, therapeutic ultrasound, exercises, massage or other soft tissue therapies may also be used. Physical examination is physical! It involves the doctor manually challenging your joints and testing your muscle strengths and it can sometimes lead to temporary soreness or worsening of your pain.

**Possible Risks and Side Effects:** As soon as ANY doctor intervenes with your healthcare there is risk of side effects and complications. The risk of serious complications from chiropractic treatment has been described as “extremely rare.” While less serious complications are possible from chiropractic treatment, most are highly unlikely, but could include fractures, sprains/strains, injury to intervertebral discs, nerves, spinal cord, a worsening of symptoms or development of new symptoms. Cerebrovascular accident such as a stroke is highly sensationalized by the news media, but real research data proves that it is very rare, with odds calculated as one in a million to one in forty million, about the same odds of a stroke from having your hair washed in a salon (beauty parlor syndrome), and significantly less than the odds of being struck by lightning. Usually, side effects of treatment include transient muscular stiffness or soreness. Some people report it as feeling like they exercised new muscles for the first time. Some procedures (e.g. hot packs or deep tissue massage) could produce skin irritation, burns or bruises.

**Other Treatment Options That Could Be Considered (Just to Put Things In Perspective):** Over-the-counter analgesics, prescription medicines, surgical procedures, and hospitalization all carry significant risk of complications, far greater than those encountered in a chiropractic office.

**Risks of Remaining Untreated:** While it is possible that your symptoms can go away with no treatment at all, delay of treatment could reduce body mobility, induce chronic pain, and lessen chances of complete recovery.

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

I have read [ ] or have had read to me [ ] the above explanation of the chiropractic adjustment and related treatment. I have discussed it with Dr. Gary Weddell and have had my questions answered to my satisfaction. By signing below I state that I have weighed the risks involved in undergoing treatment and have decided that it is in my best interest to undergo the treatment recommended. Having been informed of the risks, I hereby give my consent to that treatment.

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Patient's Name (PRINT)

**GARY WEDDELL, DC**  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Doctor's Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Patient Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Doctor Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent or Guardian (If minor)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Witness Signature