



## **POSITION STATEMENT**

### **INFECTION CONTROL AND PREVENTION**

The Alberta College and Association of Chiropractors (ACAC) acknowledges that appropriate infection control and prevention is an essential element of clinical practice management based on its importance to the health and safety of patients, practitioners and the broader community.

As a self regulated health profession, the ACAC expects that chiropractors will be knowledgeable about the principles underlying infection control and prevention, implement appropriate infection control and prevention procedures in their clinic facilities and adhere to the requirements as specified in the ACAC standard of practice related to Infection Control and Prevention or those prescribed by the Department of Health and Wellness.

The Alberta College and Association of Chiropractors (ACAC) is both a regulatory body and a professional association for the Alberta chiropractic profession. Chiropractors are licensed health professionals and adhere to standards of practice governing the chiropractic profession as a government regulated health profession.

Adopted by ACAC Council  
June 2008



## **POSITION STATEMENT**

### **INTER-PROFESSIONAL REFERRALS**

The Alberta College and Association of Chiropractors (ACAC) asserts that chiropractic is one of a number of effective and valid health professions whose goal is to provide appropriate and effective care to patients. As primary contact health professionals, chiropractors are committed to developing and fostering awareness, education, professional relationships in support of a strong multi-disciplinary, patient-centered approach to health care delivery in Alberta.

The development of inter-professional relationships and appropriate patient referrals among other health professions, primarily the medical profession, will enhance the patient experience, provide better outcomes and ultimately ensure the most effective health care options are readily available to Albertans.

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### **CHIROPRACTIC AND PEDIATRICS**

Chiropractic treatment is based upon basic biological and physiological sciences that apply to children from birth to full development as they do the adult. It is an effective treatment for neuromusculoskeletal conditions of the neonate, infant, toddler, pre-school aged, pre-adolescent and adolescent child.

The Alberta College and Association of Chiropractors asserts that chiropractic treatment is as beneficial to children as it is to adults and that the efficacy and benefits of the delivery of chiropractic care to individuals eighteen years of age and under are well supported by a body of ongoing research and documented case histories.

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### DEFINITION OF SUBLUXATION

The Alberta College and Association of Chiropractors (ACAC) aligns itself with the following definition of the term 'Subluxation' as outlined by the World Health Organization (2005):

*"A lesion or dysfunction in a joint or motion segment in which alignment, movement integrity and/or physiological function are altered, although contact between joint surfaces remains intact. It is essentially a functional entity, which may influence biomechanical and neural integrity."*

The ACAC acknowledges and understands that the definition of a chiropractic 'subluxation' may be "different from the current medical definition, in which subluxation is a significant structural displacement, and therefore visible on static imaging studies."

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### VACCINATION

The Alberta College and Association of Chiropractors [ACAC] is a strong proponent of preventive healthcare, and of the protection of individuals from the serious consequences of infectious disease. While immunization falls outside the scope of practice for the profession of chiropractic in Alberta, we recognize that vaccination is most commonly used to orchestrate the immune response to protect individuals against infectious disease.

The Alberta College and Association of Chiropractors supports each individual's right to freedom of choice in health care and full disclosure of information related to such a choice. When discussing health promotion and wellness, the ACAC urges members to encourage patients to responsibly evaluate and consider all information including benefits and potential risks related to any proposed intervention including vaccination.

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