

Consent for Chiropractic Treatment and Acknowledgment of Receipt of Information

Every type of healthcare is associated with some risk of a potential problem. Healthcare providers, including chiropractors, are required by law to tell you the nature of your condition, the general nature of the treatment, the risks involved, and the reasonable therapeutic alternatives.

In keeping with the Texas law of informed consent, you are being asked to sign a confirmation that we have discussed all these matters. We have already discussed with you the common problems and risks. Please read this form carefully. Ask about anything you do not understand and we will be pleased to explain it.

In general, chiropractic treatment includes examination, taking of x-rays, manipulation/adjustment, and application of physical therapy modalities. Although their occurrence is extremely remote, some risks are known to be associated with these procedures. These include:

- 1) **Stroke:** Stroke is the most serious problem associated with spinal manipulation. The results can be temporary or permanent dysfunction of the brain with a very rare complication of death (1 in 20 million). Spinal manipulations have been associated with strokes that arise from the vertebral artery (located in the neck vertebrae). This problem occurs so rarely that there is no conclusive data to quantify probability.
- 2) **Disc herniation:** Disc herniation creates pressure on the spinal nerve or spinal cord are frequently successfully treated by chiropractors. Rarely, treatment may aggravate the problem resulting in increased low back pain, radicular pain, and numbness of a transient nature. Residuals may last for a few days but seldom for longer periods of time.
- 3) **Soft tissue injury:** Soft tissue primarily refers to muscles and ligaments. Muscles move bones and ligaments limit joint movement. Rarely, treatment may injure some muscle or ligament fibers. The result is temporary increase in pain and necessary treatments for resolution but there are no long term affects for the patient.
- 4) **Rib fractures:** The ribs are found only in the thoracic spine or middle back. Rarely, a manipulation will fracture a rib bone. This occurs only on patients who have weakened bones from such things as osteoporosis. Osteoporosis can be noted on your x-rays. We adjust all patients carefully, especially those who have indications of osteoporosis on their x-rays.

-----**Consent**-----

I hereby authorize and direct Dr. Paul Graves, together with associates and assistants of his choice, to provide chiropractic treatment including examination/diagnostics, spinal manipulation/adjustment, various modes of physical therapy, x-rays and any additional procedures or services that may be deemed necessary or reasonable. This treatment has been explained to me and alternative methods of treatment (if any) have also been addressed. I have read and understood all information set forth in this document, including any attachments. I acknowledge that I have had the opportunity to ask any questions about the contemplated procedure and that my questions have been answered to my satisfaction. This authorization for and consent to chiropractic treatment is and shall remain valid until revoked.

Patients Name _____ Date _____ Time _____

Signature of patient, parent or guardian _____

Relationship to patient _____

Patient Number: _____