



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Friday, April 9, 2020

### GCC REJECTS STATEMENTS DENYING CONNECTION BETWEEN CHIROPRACTIC AND IMMUNITY

Marietta, Georgia, April 9, 2020. Replacing Press Release dated April 3, 2020 – The Officers and Board of Directors of the Georgia Council of Chiropractic (GCC), on behalf of its membership, reject recent statements of several organizations including the World Federation of Chiropractic (WFC), American Chiropractic Association (ACA), and Parker University denying connection between chiropractic and immunity.

On March 17, 2020 the WFC sent out an alert stating that, *“There is no credible scientific evidence that chiropractic spinal adjustment/manipulation confers or boosts immunity”*. Subsequently on Monday, March 30, Dr. Keith Overland, past president of the ACA, issued a statement intended to address "misinformation" about any link between spinal adjustments and the immune system. *“There is no quality research, data or evidence that suggests that a spinal manipulation itself will support the immune system,”* stated Overland. Parker University President, William Morgan, DC, conducted an interview with Katherine Pohlman, DC, Parker’s Director of Research, in which Dr Pohlman states *“There is no credible evidence,”* and Dr Morgan warns those who suggest chiropractic boosts immunity would be *“under the hand of the law”* for *“making claims they can’t back up”*.

At a time when chiropractors have been deemed essential critical infrastructure workers by the US Department of Homeland Security amidst a national health emergency and global pandemic, the GCC finds such statements to be untrue, misleading and harmful to the profession and the patients we are here to serve. Chiropractic care is a necessary procedure for millions of patients who lose function and stability or suffer in pain should care be denied addressing acute and urgent spinal, neuro, musculoskeletal and other conditions. In particular, chiropractors care for patients with conditions the person would otherwise manage with dangerous, addictive opioid drugs; and for those recovering from addiction chiropractic has been shown to improve recovery outcomes.

As portal-of-entry healthcare providers, doctors of chiropractic are educated and licensed to diagnose and care for patients and work in private practices, multi-disciplinary clinics and hospitals. They are trained to refer patients to other health care providers when necessary. Further, in regard to the current Covid-19 outbreak, chiropractors have been a valuable resource in caring for a segment of the population who may otherwise revert to the emergency rooms, which would create an unnecessary burden on the system.

We at the GCC feel strongly about the role of chiropractic as a staple in supporting the health and well being of the public along with other salutogenic measures to enhance health and well-being and assist the body in adapting to physical, chemical and emotional challenges. The active nature of chiropractic care confers health benefits, improves quality of life and optimizes physiology. This is never more important than when your immune system needs to defend you. Everyone knows that in such a time of stress, the more we can do to take care of ourselves physically, emotionally, and spiritually the better off we will be no matter the health challenge.

It is a well known fact that the human body is a marvelous machine and that the *“The nervous system controls and coordinates all organs and structures of the human body”*, therefore the relationship between the nervous and immune system is a FACT. According to the Foundation for Vertebral Subluxation, *“there is a growing body of clinical and basic science research demonstrating the relationship between the nervous system and the immune system and the beneficial role of chiropractic in that relationship .”* There is also scientific evidence that the body is a self healing, self regulating organism and that vertebral subluxations obstruct and interfere with that process.

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The GCC recognizes there are persons and organizations within the profession who don't understand the basic principles of chiropractic and are looking to change the very nature of it. These organizations will deny the efficacy of chiropractic care. Meanwhile, the GCC and numerous other organizations seek to protect access to chiropractic for the benefit of all who seek care. Among those setting the record straight is Life Chiropractic College West. In response to various groups making statements against the relationship between chiropractic and immunity, on April 7, 2020 Life West President, [Dr. Ron Oberstein, interviewed Dr. Dan Murphy](#), instructor at Life West and international lecturer, in a discussion regarding chiropractic and how adjustments help stimulate the body's ability to respond to internal and external stressors. Important information in relation to our current situation.

The GCC also recognizes that while there is always need for more research, **there is very clearly enough research published in Chiropractic Journals and in medical journals that support the obvious conclusion that optimal nervous system function provided through chiropractic care will in turn support healthy immune function.**

*The Georgia Council of Chiropractic, founded in 1982, serves the Chiropractic profession in Georgia and is comprised of chiropractors, chiropractic students, and chiropractic assistants from all over the state of Georgia and several other states.*

*The Georgia Council of Chiropractic is 100% committed to protecting, promoting and perpetuating Chiropractic to benefit Georgia's citizens and the Chiropractors serving in Georgia. It is our mission to profess and promote the ideals and principles upon which our profession and our organization were founded. Therefore, the GCC proclaims that detecting and correcting Vertebral Subluxations is a just and noble cause, which allows people to express 100% of their innate potential for health, happiness and overall well-being.*

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For more information about this topic, contact our Executive Director, Katrine Frazier, at [info@GeorgiaChiropractic.org](mailto:info@GeorgiaChiropractic.org).