

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Sunday, April 5, 2020



**The FCS REJECTS STATEMENTS BY THE WFC AND THE ACA DENYING
CONNECTION BETWEEN CHIROPRACTIC AND IMMUNITY**

MIAMI, FLORIDA, April 5, 2020– The Officers and Board of Directors of the Florida Chiropractic Society (FCS), on behalf of its membership, reject recent statements of several organizations including the American Chiropractic Association (ACA) and the World Federation of Chiropractic (WFC) 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.

At a time when chiropractors have been deemed essential critical infrastructure workers by the US Department of Homeland Security and the Governor of Florida, (https://www.flgov.com/wp-content/uploads/orders/2020/EO_20-91.pdf) amidst a national health emergency and global pandemic, the FCS 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. In particular, chiropractors care for patients with conditions they 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 to the system.

We at the FCS 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 to create a state of wellbeing and optimize human potential. This is never more important than when your immune system needs to defend you.

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 there is a factual relationship between the nervous system and the immune system. 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.

The FCS recognizes there are organizations within chiropractic operating under the influence of persons outside the Chiropractic profession ultimately working towards its destruction. These organizations will deny the efficacy of chiropractic care. Meanwhile, the FCS and numerous other organizations seek to protect access to chiropractic for the benefit of all who seek care.

We also recognize that while there is always need for more research, **there is 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.**

Our hope is for everyone to understand the value and unique service that we provide as chiropractors and our role in providing a vitalistic, salutogenic approach to health.

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Visit our resource page: <https://www.floridachiropractic.org/RESOURCE>

The Florida Chiropractic Society has been serving Chiropractors in Florida and nationwide since 1965.

The Mission and Commitment of the Florida Chiropractic Society (FCS) is to Preserve, Protect and Promote the Philosophy, Science and Art of Chiropractic, as a distinct drug-less health profession dedicated to the detection and correction of vertebral subluxation.

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