

# Helping Hands Chiropractic

**Patient Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date of Birth:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Social Security #:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Patient/Clinic ID #:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Admit. Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

## Patient Informed Consent

Congratulations on choosing chiropractic health care. This clinic believes it is the safest, most natural health care delivery system in the world today. Chiropractic adjustments (chiropractic manipulative therapy; C.M.T) and other care procedures are safe and cost effective.

All health care professionals (anesthesiologists, chiropractors, dentists, medical doctors, osteopaths, pharmacists, surgeons, etc.) are regulated by laws and boards. These health care professionals are required to give you, the patient, advanced notice of any care risks, because health care is not an exact science. It is not reasonable to expect any doctor to foresee all risks and/or complications. Informed consent information regarding any risks such as: paraplegia, quadriplegia, brain damage, stroke, disc injury, breaks, fractures, dislocations, drug reactions, death or loss of function of any organ or limb, or disfiguring scars associated with physical care, drugs, surgery and/or treatment is an undesirable result, but it does not necessarily indicate an error in clinical judgment. No guarantee of cure or results has been made to you, the patient in this clinic. Your care may involve the making of recommendations based upon facts known to the doctor at this time. Chiropractic care does not use drugs or surgery, and does not diagnose internal and/or medical conditions.

For your information the following is furnished to all patients who request and/or accept chiropractic care in this clinic. Again, chiropractic care does not use drugs or surgery, and does not diagnose internal and/or medical conditions. This clinic is staffed with graduate chiropractors who are licensed and recognized by government agencies regulating all the aforementioned healing arts.

Chiropractic is the science that concerns itself with the relationship between the brain, central nervous system, spine, and the function of the body. Any alteration of this relationship can cause the biomechanical and neurophysiological dynamics of the contiguous spinal and paraspinal structures to be disrupted. This can cause neuronal disturbances in the form of the vertebral subluxation complex (V.S.C.) with its physical and chemical components, which can then interrupt the body's inherent recuperative powers.

The practice of chiropractic can include exams and diagnostic testing. In some cases, this includes the utilization of specialized instruments, lab tests, radiological exams, nutritional and/or physical therapy, and rehabilitation procedures, etc.. There is a special procedure unique to chiropractic: the chiropractic adjustment (chiropractic manipulative therapy—C.M.T.). Adjustments are made by chiropractors to correct and/or reduce and/or stabilize vertebral or extremity subluxation complexes. The goal of chiropractic health care is to reduce and/or stabilize the nerve interference caused by the VSC and its component parts. There are over 200 different adjusting techniques, some using specialized equipment. Adjustments are usually performed by hand, but may be performed by hand-guided instruments. A C.M.T. is the application of a specific force, applied to the segmental contact point, usually on a vertebra, to reduce or stabilize the V.S.C. and its component parts.

You should understand the benefits of chiropractic health care, but you also need to be aware of some of the limited inherent risks. These occur seldom enough to contraindicate care, but should be considered in your informed decision to receive chiropractic care.

All health care procedures have some risks. With C.M.T.'s these risks may include musculoskeletal sprain/strain, disc injuries, dislocations, fractures, neurological deficits, Horner's Syndrome, Vertebral Artery Syndrome (V.A.S.), stroke, etc.. The chances of this occurring have been estimated by experts to be approximately only 1 per 400,000 treatments, to 1 per 1,000,000 treatments.

Appropriate tests will be performed to identify if you may be susceptible to these risks, and you will be notified, in that case. If you have any questions about these issues, please do not hesitate to speak with your doctor of chiropractic.

I have read (or have had read to me) the above information. I wish to rely on the doctor's judgment during my course of care, based on the facts then known. I have also had the opportunity to ask questions regarding the above information and possible consequences and risks. By signing below, I now agree to have the chiropractic care procedures recommended and performed. I have no questions, and I acknowledge no guarantee of cure has been made to me concerning results, care and treatment.

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Patient Name Printed*

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Patient/Guardian Signature (if minor)*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Staff/Witness Signature*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*

### **Arbitration Agreement Physician/Patient Out-Patient Form**

Arbitration is a way to decide health care complaints without going to court.

By signing this agreement, my doctor(s) and I are choosing arbitration rather than going to court as a way of resolving any future claim about my chiropractic care. This agreement only applies to the care that I receive in this office during the next year from the undersigned chiropractor, associate or any office assistants or substitutes, employed or assigned to my care by my chiropractor immediately following the execution of this form during the time when this form is in effect. This agreement does not apply to disagreements over the fees charged.

State law gives me a choice of two ways to decide claims; either a trial by a judge or jury, or arbitration. I have a right to a lawyer for a trial or arbitration.

If I select arbitration, my case will be decided by a panel of three people instead of a judge or jury. The arbitration panel will contain a lawyer, a member of the public, and a Doctor of Chiropractic. My doctor(s) and I will take part in choosing the panel members who will decide the case. If the parties involved in the case cannot agree on the panel members, the American Arbitration Association and my doctor's state or national association representative may appoint the panel members. State laws and rules of the American Arbitration Association will apply to all arbitration hearings, and may vary from state to state. All parties are delegated to investigate on their own and/or seek counsel.

I am choosing arbitration of my own free will. This agreement applies to me, my heirs, and my legal representatives. This agreement also applies to any professional corporation or partnership that my doctor belongs to or works for. If I want to change my mind and cancel this agreement, I must notify my doctor in writing within 60 days after I sign. After 60 days, I cannot change my decision unless mutually agree upon by all parties.

In most cases, a decision by an arbitration panel is final and cannot be appealed.

**This agreement to arbitrate is not a prerequisite to health care or treatment and may be revoked within 60 days after execution by notification in writing to:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Offered by:*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Patient Name Typed*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Signature of Chiropractic Representative*

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*

**I CERTIFY THAT I AM THE PARENT OF THE MINOR CHILD, THE GUARDIAN, OR OTHER LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PATIENT INVOLVED.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Parent/Guardian/Legal Representative*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*