

## RESOLUTION 2-21

*Submitted for consideration by Dr. Robert Frieman (MD)*

### Radiographic Imaging and Chiropractic Practice

*Whereas*, the chiropractic paradigm is based on the association between the physical structure and biomechanical function of the body and its influence on neurophysiologic integrity;

*Whereas*, radiographic imaging is well-established in health care for evaluating the structure of the skeletal system, its functional articulations and soft tissues;

*Whereas*, Doctors of Chiropractic are educated and trained in the use of radiographic imaging, its clinical indications and contraindications, and the inherent risks of ionizing radiation;

*Whereas*, radiographic imaging is a valuable diagnostic tool for identifying structural anomalies, abnormalities and pathologies of the spine, pelvis, intervertebral disc spaces and joint spacing, including extra spinal structures;

*Whereas*, most chiropractic therapeutic techniques apply mechanical forces into the body's structure and articulations;

*Whereas*, information obtained from radiographic imaging is clinically relevant (AND) could be pivotal for Doctors of Chiropractic to arrive at an accurate diagnosis and an appropriate treatment plan;

*Whereas*, visualizing structural and articular anomalies, abnormalities and pathologies are important for manipulative forces to be administered in an appropriate and efficient manner;

Now therefore be it –

*Resolved*, that the Federation of Chiropractic Licensing Boards recommends:

1. That the use of radiographic imaging in patient care is at the professional judgment of the treating Doctor of Chiropractic and determined (IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE PATIENT) on a case-by-case basis; and
2. That prior to obtaining radiographic imaging, a treating Doctor of Chiropractic will inform the patient of the benefits, options, and material risks of x-ray and will receive consent from the patient to be x-rayed; and
3. That chiropractic care policies and guidelines that impose practice standards based on parameters of time before a Doctor of Chiropractic may obtain radiographic imaging potentiates an unnecessary delay which can adversely affect the efficacy of patient care and their health as consumers of chiropractic services.

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