

The Update

Volume 2
Issue 5
July 2010

Looking for ways to
add a little
excitement to your
office this summer?

Visit the
FSCO Online store
at

www.straightchiropractic.org

You'll find "Cheddy"
the talking teddy
bear, great coffee
table books, magnets,
and numerous CDs
and DVDs including
our newest addition
"Hit the Ground
Running" with dozens
of helpful ideas to get
or keep your office
running at peak
performance.



Drawing the Line

By Judy Nutz Campanale, DC, ACP

(This month's Update addresses a question that we received relating to the May 26, 2010 issue of the FSCO Wednesday Weekly. If you do not currently receive the Wednesday Weekly and would like to, you can sign up by e-mailing the FSCO home office at fSCO@straightchiropractic.org.)

The Question: With the knowledge that subluxations can be caused through physical, chemical and emotional stresses, as also described by DD Palmer, does the correction of vertebral subluxations also constitute the correction of chemical and emotional stresses that would cause the body to create a VSC? If we know a body to be emotionally distressed and causing subluxation, is it out of our scope to provide principled care for those emotional stresses in order to reduce the presence of VSC? And nutritionally as well?

The question is one that is posed in almost every Freshman Chiropractic Philosophy class and usually by people who struggle with keeping their focus solely on the adjustment. The topic is covered in depth in the book, *Chiropractic Philosophy*, by Joseph B. Strauss, DC, FCSC, specifically in Chapter 16, "The Cause of Subluxation." The book is currently used as a textbook in several chiropractic colleges and is available for purchase through the FSCO (members receive a 20% discount).

Vertebral subluxation is caused by stress, but more accurately it occurs when an external invasive force

overcomes a person's internal resistive force. Many people encounter various stresses everyday and do NOT subluxate. The exact point at which the external invasive force will overcome the internal resistive force is unpredictable; it is different for everyone and probably varies for the same person from day to day and even moment to moment. This makes determining what specific stress or stresses will actually cause vertebral subluxation to occur rather difficult.

Practically speaking, to direct time and energy to preventing vertebral subluxation would require enormous effort and yet would ultimately fail. How will you remove every imaginable obstacle that someone could trip on or prevent every car accident for that matter? How will you ensure that people will not argue with their spouses or their children or their bosses? How will you keep their favorite sports teams from losing big games? How will you clean up the air? You simply cannot hope to eliminate every physical, emotional, and chemical stress a person may encounter in a day let alone between visits over a lifetime. Consequently, whether you address a stress or some stresses that may lead to vertebral subluxation or not, you simply cannot address them all. People will still subluxate and they will still need chiropractic care.

Philosophically speaking, what is "stress" to one person may make another person stronger. If less stress

FSCO Chairman

Bill Decken, DC
(SC) 864-574-8047

Vice Chairman

Greg Stetzel, DC
(NJ) 973-948-5556

FSCO Officers**President**

Shane Walker, DC
(FL) 239-597-6099

Secretary

Kristen Denette, DC
(MA) 508-230-5056

Treasurer

Bryn Gillow, DC
(PA) 570-992-2929

FSCO

2276 Wassergass Road
Hellertown, PA 18055
1-800-521-9856
www.straightchiropractic.org

was always better, weight lifters would have to decrease the weight they lifted over time not increase it. Only the innate intelligence of the body is aware of every innate need. Our educated brains are good, but they are far too limited to make decisions about what is good or bad for any given individual at any given moment in time.

It just makes sense to stick with what we know and what we can accurately and efficiently do and that is locate, analyze, and correct vertebral subluxation because it, in and of itself, is a detriment to the fullest expression of life in all people. It is also why regular chiropractic visits are so important, because people will undoubtedly encounter hundreds of stresses every day that might result in vertebral subluxation. It makes sense to tell practice members to live as smart as they can, some days are better than others, but whatever they do, they need to be sure to have their spines checked regularly for vertebral subluxation. Interestingly, this is precisely the concept upon which the FSCO was founded and for which it stands today.

All chiropractors have to draw a line somewhere regarding their chiropractic practice objective. Some stop at drugs and surgery, although not all as we have recently witnessed in New Mexico and other states. The FSCO draws the line with the singular objective of locating, analyzing, and correcting vertebral subluxation because it, in and of itself, is a detriment to the fullest expression of life.

Where to draw the line became a critical issue recently, when the United Kingdom's regulatory body, the General Chiropractic Council (GCC, similar to the CCE in the United States), issued a policy statement against claims made for the vertebral subluxation complex.

The GCC stated, "The chiropractic vertebral subluxation complex is an historical concept but it remains a theoretical model. It is not supported by any clinical research evidence that

would allow claims to be made that it is the cause of disease or health concerns."

In his prompt response to this action, FSCO President, Shane Walker, DC, noted that "the aberrant effects of vertebral subluxation on health are well-documented and inarguable," and that "restricting the practice of chiropractic to the treatment of musculoskeletal complaints and physical therapy robs the public of a valuable health service and frankly duplicates the service of physical therapy in many instances. "

The correspondence can be read in its entirety at the FSCO website:

<http://www.straightchiropractic.org>

Additional information regarding the profession's response to this latest attack against chiropractic's unique approach to life and health, including an excellent article by Dr. Christopher Kent can be found at:

<http://researchupdate.mccoypress.net>

Please take the time to get better informed and if you are not already subscribed to Journal of Vertebral Subluxation Research, then go to www.jvsr.org today.

Practitioners who maintain the singular objective of locating, analyzing, and correcting vertebral subluxation are sometimes accused of being unscientific or simply adhering to dogma but that is far from the truth. This school of thought in chiropractic is based on logic as well as deductive reasoning. Evidence in the scientific world may be obtained via double-blind, placebo-controlled studies, but truth does not require a scientific approach.

The vitalistic philosophy of locating, analyzing, and correcting vertebral subluxation because it is detrimental to the fullest expression of health and life is the only unique contribution chiropractic brings to the healthcare system. It is the idea upon which the FSCO was founded and the objective which it maintains today.