

**Patient Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

To the patient: Please read this entire document prior to signing it. It is important that you understand the information contained in this document. Please ask questions before you sign if there is anything that is unclear.

### **THE NATURE OF THE CHIROPRACTIC ADJUSTMENT**

The primary treatment I use as a Doctor of Chiropractic is spinal manipulative therapy. I will use that procedure to treat you. I may use my hands or a mechanical instrument upon your body in such a way as to move your joints. That may cause an audible “pop” or “click”, much as you have experienced when you “crack” your knuckles. You may feel a sense of movement.

### **THE MATERIAL RISKS INHERENT IN CHIROPRACTIC ADJUSTMENT**

As with any healthcare procedure, there are certain complications which may arise during chiropractic manipulation and therapy. These complications include but are not limited to: fractures, disc injuries, dislocation, muscles strain, cervical myelopathy, costovertebral strains and separations, and burns. Some types of manipulation of the neck have been associated with injuries to the arteries in the neck leading to or contributing to serious complications including stroke. Some patients will feel some stiffness and soreness following the first few days of treatment. I will make every reasonable effort during the examination to screen for contraindications to care; however, if you have a condition that would otherwise not come to my attention, it is your responsibility to inform me.

### **THE PROBABILITY OF THOSE RISKS OCCURRING**

Fractures are rare occurrences and generally result from some underlying weakness of the bones which I check for during the taking of your history and during examination and x-ray. Stroke has been the subject of tremendous disagreement. The incidences of stroke are exceedingly rare and are estimated to occur between one in one million and one in five million cervical adjustments. The other complications are also generally described rare.

*I have read the above explanation of the chiropractic adjustment and related treatment. I have discussed it with Dr. Cathy Gratkowski and have had my questions answered to my satisfaction. By signing below, I state that I have weighted the risks involved in undergoing treatment and have decided that it is in my best interest to undergo the treatment recommended. Having been informed of the risks, I hereby give my consent to that treatment.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Patient/Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dr. Cathy Gratkowski, D.C.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date