

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**GCC REJECTS ACA STATEMENTS DENYING CONNECTION
BETWEEN CHIROPRACTIC AND IMMUNITY**

Marietta, Georgia, April 3, 2020– The Officers and Board of Directors of the Georgia Council of Chiropractic (GCC), on behalf of its membership, reject recent statements of the American Chiropractic Associations (ACA) denying connection between chiropractic and immunity. 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 amidst a national health emergency and global pandemic, the GCC finds such a statement to not only be untrue but 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 addressing acute and urgent spinal, neuro, musculoskeletal and other conditions. In particular, chiropractors care for patients with conditions the person 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.

The GCC believes the active nature of chiropractic care confers health benefits, improves quality of life and optimizes physiology. This is never more important than when your immune system needs to defend you. Everyone knows that in such a time of stress, the more we can do to take care of ourselves physically, emotionally, and spiritually the better off we will be no matter the health challenge.

We know the nervous system controls and coordinates ALL functions of the body, therefore the relationship between the nervous and immune system is a FACT. 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 ."***

The GCC 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 GCC 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 need for more research, **there is very 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.**

The Georgia Council of Chiropractic, founded in 1982, serves the Chiropractic profession in Georgia and is comprised of chiropractors, chiropractic students, and chiropractic assistants from all over the state of Georgia and several other states.

The Georgia Council of Chiropractic is 100% committed to protecting, promoting and perpetuating Chiropractic to benefit Georgia's citizens and the Chiropractors serving in Georgia. It is our mission to profess and promote the ideals and principles upon which our profession and our organization were founded. Therefore, the GCC proclaims that detecting and correcting Vertebral Subluxations is a just and noble cause, which allows people to express 100% of their innate potential for health, happiness and overall well-being.

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