

What is happening with HIPAA? Learn about the latest regulations with the Chiropractic HIPAA Packet

Every chiropractor in the country must be prepared and make changes by April 2003. Some offices will simply do nothing and be in violation. Most will purchase some type of HIPAA material. The *Chiropractic HIPAA Packet* is your answer.

Dr. Gerry Clum, President of Life West, has studied the HIPAA regulations in great detail and this package will provide the DC with the information and material necessary to meet this federal regulation. A video of Dr. Clum covers the details. It walks through the information in a simple to understand format. The package is complete with a computer CD of the specific forms needed to customize for your office, as well as an instructional packet including an office checklist to follow. With this package and some reasonable effort, you can meet this HIPAA requirement.

The Chiropractic HIPAA Packet includes:

- Videotape of seminar presentation by Dr. Gerry Clum in February 2003. The VHS tape shows Dr. Clum going through his PowerPoint notes and includes additional questions and comments from doctors (running time: 2 hours, 40 minutes)
- CD-Rom containing HIPAA forms in Acrobat and MS Word format, sample paperwork (allows you to customize the necessary forms and print them on your own computer)
- Instructional Workbook that includes certificate of study in HIPAA training, step by step procedures needed to become HIPAA compliant, overview of what's included on the CD-Rom, instructions on how to use each HIPAA form

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NEWS DIGEST

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a project in 2002 that successfully demonstrated chiropractic's efficacy in caring for chronically ill patients. Dishman's research efforts revealed that chiropractic care is safe and effective and resulted in a high degree of patient satisfaction.

The collaboration, according to NYCC, serves two important roles. Most importantly patients can experience relief from their spinal pain through chiropractic care and additionally, students can benefit from the educational opportunities afforded by the collaboration of medical and chiropractic care.

INSURANCE COMPANIES COST-SAVING METHODS MAY BE RESPONSIBLE FOR INCREASE IN KIDS RECEIVING PSYCHOTROPIC DRUGS

A recent study¹ published in January, reveals that the number of children receiving psychiatric drugs has increased 2-3 fold during a 10-year period and includes most classes of medications.

The study evaluated 900,000 children on Medicaid in two states (one a Mid-Western state and the other a North Atlantic state) and showed that more than 6 percent were taking drugs such as Prozac, Ritalin and Risperdal.

The study titled, "Psychotropic practice patterns for youth: a 10-year perspective" was conducted at the University of Maryland and sought to examine changes in the full spectrum of psychotropic medication treatment for youths from 1987-1996.

The *Washington Post* reported that the authors of the study said they fear that cost-saving techniques by insur-

ance companies, marketing by the pharmaceutical industry and increased demands of parents and doctors may be driving up the increase.

In response to the study, Michael Jellinek, chief of child psychiatry at Massachusetts General Hospital noted that insurers have increased their profits by decreasing the use of psychotherapy, which is more expensive than drugs in the short term. He said, "The insurance system gave an incentive for medications and a disincentive for therapy."

Julie Zito, lead author and researcher pointed out that "...if we are using drugs to control behavior, that doesn't change the underlying problem if someone doesn't know how to get along with their peers."

1. Zito JM, Safer Dc et al. Psychotropic practice patterns for youth: a 10-year perspective. *Arch Pediatr Adolesc Med* 2003 Jan;157(1):17-25.

CANADIAN DCs WANT BAN ON KIDS BODYCHECKING IN HOCKEY

The Canadian Hockey Association, after a three-year pilot project has made the decision to allow body checking for the 2002-2003 season at the Atom level, which drops the age in which checking begins from 12 to 9. Shortly after the announcement, the Canadian Chiropractors Association (CCA) opposed this decision saying it can lead to long term developmental problems.

Dr. Greg Steward, president of CCA argued that "Boys who are aged nine...don't have the stability, they don't have the balance on the skates and they definitely don't have the muscular strength...tissue injuries at that age can lead to long term consequences."

An article on this debate appeared in the Canadian press on January 29th.



As we welcome the new season let us rejoice in the knowledge that chiropractic care is entering the 21st century with a status of public acceptance that would make our forefathers proud. Oh yes, I'm certain that they would complain a bit in respect to our focus on technic and musculoskeletal care. But perhaps, as Dr. E.A. Morinis, medical anthropologist of Simon Fraser University stated, "This was undoubtedly a good strategy to follow at one time." Yes, just possibly it was a decent strategy "at one time."

In focusing on technics and the care of musculoskeletal disorders, we got our foot in the door so to speak — BUT — let us not now find ourselves with a stuck foot! Allow me to reflect upon the 1980 paper written by Dr. Morinis in which he stated:

"The public knows next to nothing of chiropractic philosophy of healing and its mechanisms. If hospitals offer spinal manipulation, a chiropractor offers nothing else. This distortion of the chiropractic tradition can only be overcome by a re-evaluation of the place of theory in chiropractic. Such a re-evaluation would look at issues such as the acceptability of chiropractic explanatory theory, methods of conveying theory to pa-

tients, the place of philosophy in technique and the like. Dispossessed of its philosophy, chiropractic is dispossessed of its uniqueness and perhaps its future.

He ends his paper by saying:

"...Chiropractors in North America would do well to accept that they have achieved a measure of security as a sociomedical group. They can then orient themselves to pursuing the health care ideals of chiropractic philosophy, a goal with the additional benefit of preserving the unique character of chiropractic."

Sage words indeed. Now let us focus on the "ideals of chiropractic philosophy." The ICA has taken the first step. We have formed the Council on Chiropractic Philosophy, initiated the Diplomate in Philosophical Chiropractic Standards (DPHC) and will be presenting the first Conference on Chiropractic Philosophical Standards in May of this year. And, we, along with the WCA and the FSCO have sat at the same table to discuss unified action chiropractically. It will be a very good year!

Enuf said!

Paul H. Bandy, D.P.H.C.
Chair, Editorial Committee