State Board of Chiropractic Examiners

consumer *brief*

Chiropractic, established in 1895, combines science, art and philosophy in a system of examining and adjusting the spinal column through the manipulation of vertebrae which exhibit abnormal movement patterns. A malposition of the vertebrae and its contiguous structures, known as "sublaxation," can cause stress on neurological tissue because many nerves enter and exit through the spinal column. The manipulation or "adjustment" by the chiropractor is usually applied by hand to the malpositioned vertebrae. The adjustment frees the body from this stress, and the body's normal healing potential is enhanced.

The State Board of Chiropractic Examiners oversees chiropractors licensed in New Jersey. The Board consists of 11 members. Eight are licensed chiropractors, two are public members and one is a State government member.

The purpose of the Board is to:

- protect the health, safety and welfare of the people of New Jersey when receiving chiropractic care; and
- regulate the practice of chiropractic care.

HOW DOES THE BOARD ACCOMPLISH ITS PURPOSE?

The Board protects the public by making sure that chiropractors meet all licensing and educational requirements. In addition, the Board investigates and prosecutes chiropractors who have violated the State's consumer protection laws.

WHAT EDUCATION MUST A CHIROPRACTOR RECEIVE?

Anyone who wishes to become licensed as a doctor of chiropractic must complete a minimum of six years of college study.

HOW DO I SELECT A CHIROPRACTOR?

One of the best guidelines is the doctor's reputation within his or her community. You should select a doctor of chiropractic based on confidence in the doctor's ability, so ask your friends and neighbors first. You can also check your local Yellow Pages.

IF I SHOULD HAVE A PROBLEM WITH MY CHIROPRACTOR, HOW DO I FILE A COMPLAINT?

Complaints may be filed by contacting:

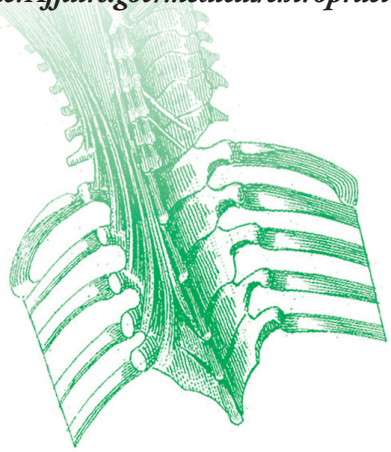
State Board of Chiropractic Examiners
124 Halsey Street
P.O. Box 45004
Newark, New Jersey 07101
973-504-6395

or dowloading a complaint form at:

www.NJConsumerAffairs.gov/complaint/chirocom.pdf .

You will find additional information on the State Board of Chiropractic Examiners' Web page at:

www.NJConsumerAffairs.gov/medical/chiropractic.htm .



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Office of the Attorney General

New Jersey Division of **Consumer Affairs**

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