



The Royal College of  
**Chiropractors**

## **PATIENT INFORMATION SHEET - for the parents of children up to the age of 16 years**

### **Study Title**

Evidence-based chiropractic: a prospective survey of interventions in a sample of UK chiropractors.

### **Invitation paragraph**

I would like to invite your child to take part in a research study. Before you decide you need to understand why the research is being done and what it would involve for your child. Please take time to read the following information carefully. Ask questions if anything you read is not clear or would like more information. Take time to decide whether or not to take part.

### **What is the purpose of the study?**

Chiropractic has in the past been criticised for not using up to date research to inform its treatments. We are trying to find out if this is true or not. We are asking a number of chiropractors across the country to tell us what conditions they are treating and with what types of treatments. We hope to do two things with information; firstly we hope to be able to make some conclusions about exactly what chiropractors do in their offices and also what proportion of their work is informed by the latest research.

### **Why have I been invited?**

You have been selected because your child is a new patient of your chiropractor. We are asking your chiropractor to select every new patient they see in a single month and to report what conditions they have diagnosed and what treatments they are offering.

### **Does your child have to take part?**

It is up to you to decide. Your chiropractor will describe the study and go through the information sheet, which they will give to you. You will then be asked to sign a consent form on behalf of your child to show you agree to take part. You are free to withdraw your child at any time, without giving a reason. If you decide that you do not want them to participate this will not affect the standard of care they receive.

### **What will happen to your child if they take part?**

They will not have to do anything.

Your chiropractor will fill out a simple survey for each of their visits over a month and tick what condition they are being treated for and what treatments they are being treated with.

Their name will not appear on any of the forms because the chiropractor will assign a code to their name which only they will know. Their confidentiality will be assured.

Their treatment will be exactly the same regardless of whether you decide they should take part in the study or not.

### **What will your child have to do?**

Your child will have to do nothing. Your chiropractor will do all the work!

### **What are the possible disadvantages and risks of taking part?**

It is difficult to see that there are any disadvantages of taking part in the study.

### **What are the possible benefits of taking part?**

We cannot promise the study will help your child but the information we get from the study will help to increase the understanding of what chiropractors actually do in their clinics.

### **What if there is a problem?**

If you have a concern about any aspect of this study, you should ask to speak to the lead researcher, Keith Walker who will do his best to answer your questions (01752 727297, [study@peninsulaclinic.co.uk](mailto:study@peninsulaclinic.co.uk)).

If you remain unhappy and wish to complain formally you can do this through the Royal College of Chiropractors, 0118 946 9727

### **Will my taking part in the study be kept confidential?**

Any information collected during the project will be subject to the Data Protection Act 1998. As such your child's confidentiality will be safeguarded during and after the project.

This means that any data we collect will be stored securely on our servers and encrypted. The only people who will have access to it will be the researchers and administrative staff directly involved with the project.

Your child's name will be replaced by a code known only to your chiropractor.

Paper data will be stored in a locked cabinet, within locked office, accessed only by researcher

Electronic data will be stored on a password protected computer known only by researcher

The data you give us will then be analysed and once we have finished that process it will be destroyed.

### **What will happen if you decide your child should not carry on with the study?**

If you withdraw your child from the study part way through, the information and data collected about them for the purpose of this research, to date, will be destroyed and their name removed from all the study files. Their treatment with your chiropractor will be unaffected and he/she will keep the clinical notes as normal so that your child's care can be continued should you wish.

### **What will happen to the results of the research study?**

We will hope to publish the results of the findings of the report in a journal. This is obviously subject to the paper being accepted. We shall also hope to present the findings to chiropractic conferences and the conferences of other interested professions. At the end of the project we will summarise the main findings of the report. If you would like a copy of the report please email the lead researcher Keith Walker at [study@peninsulaclinic.co.uk](mailto:study@peninsulaclinic.co.uk).

### **Who is organising or sponsoring the research?**

This research is being sponsored by the Royal College of Chiropractic and the lead researcher is in receipt of a grant to complete the work.

### **Further information and contact details:**

The contact for this research is

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Ethical approval for the study was granted by University of South Wales.