

March 23, 2020

The Honorable Ron DeSantis  
Governor of Florida  
The Capitol  
400 S. Monroe St.  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

Dear Governor DeSantis:

On behalf of the Florida Chiropractic Association and the almost 5,000 chiropractic physicians and students it represents, we want to thank you for your leadership in these unprecedented times and to pledge our professional and clinical support to the citizens of Florida.

As you know, doctors of chiropractic are primary contact healthcare providers who provide essential care, including, but not limited to, managing acute and urgent musculoskeletal conditions. These services are critical for helping triage and manage cases that otherwise may end up in emergency rooms. Chiropractic helps keep healthcare providers, first responders and critical infrastructure in place, even including those who transport vital healthcare and food supplies during the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

Chiropractic clinics share the public health responsibility of slowing the transmission of COVID-19. Practices that attend to urgent cases must employ strict hygienic practices at every point of patient contact and keep up to date with prevention recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Chiropractic physicians nationwide have been urged to closely monitor state and local health authorities and to comply with any relevant guidance or mandates.

Even while COVID-19 influences virtually every decision of daily life, individuals will still critically need chiropractic care for acute pain syndromes, drug-free pain relief and restoration of movement and function following accident and injury. They will also need to continue treatment for chronic conditions being addressed through chiropractic care, in order to avoid addictive pain medications. Chiropractic care has been proven effective for many musculoskeletal injuries and conditions that inhibit the mobility which is so critical to strong immunity and overall health.

The FCA and its members seek to continue to be providers of essential healthcare services in any future emergency orders in all aspects of their licensure, as stated in Florida Statutes. We appreciate your consideration and pray for your continued wisdom and good health in the days ahead.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian Bickerton".

Brian Bickerton, D.C.  
President