



July 23, 2024

Chiropractic Board of Australia (CBA) and Australian Chiropractic Association (ACA)

RE: Ban on Adjusting Children Under Two Years of Age

As President of the Colorado Chiropractic Association, I write to express our deep concern and opposition to the proposed ban on chiropractic adjustments for children under two in Australia. This letter addresses the misconceptions surrounding pediatric chiropractic care and advocates for the continued provision and use of safe and effective chiropractic care for infants and young children.

Pediatric chiropractic care involves gentle, specific, and non-invasive adjustments that aim to improve the function of the nervous system and promote overall health. Chiropractors undergo extensive training to safely and effectively care for patients of all ages, including infants and young children. Some chiropractors even obtain further education through post-graduate and diplomate certification programs to further their understanding of pediatric-focused care. The techniques used for pediatric patients are vastly different from those used for adults, with adjustments tailored to the unique needs and anatomy of young patients.

Parents should have the right to make informed decisions regarding their children's healthcare, including the choice to seek chiropractic care. Chiropractors provide thorough consultations and exams while also obtaining informed consent from parents before initiating any chiropractic care. This process ensures that parents are fully aware of the potential benefits and risks associated with chiropractic care, enabling them to make educated decisions in the best interest of their children. Many parents report significant improvements in their children's health and well-being following chiropractic care including relief from colic, ear infections, sleep disturbances, gastrointestinal dysfunction and any nervous system dysregulation issues.

Personally, I became a chiropractor due to my own son's story and our experience with chiropractic care that changed his life. He was a very sick kid before the age of 3 – behavioral problems, constant immune system dysfunction and illness, and very serious GI issues. At 3 years of age, he was getting weekly suppositories to help him go to the bathroom as he was going to the bathroom once every 3-5 days.

Specific and gentle adjustments to his upper cervical spine allowed his body to recover, restore, and heal – we noticed immediate changes.

His digestive system was regulated, his behavioral issues and attitude improved, and his immune system was greatly enhanced. This opened my eyes to the power of chiropractic and the impact it has on kids and families. I could not unsee the changes we witnessed and I knew the world needed another person teaching parents about chiropractic. I decided to step away from my career in medical device sales and enrolled in chiropractic school shortly after. In the last 10 years, we have had the opportunity to help and serve countless kids and families in my community.

Banning chiropractic adjustments for children under two could disrupt the collaborative healthcare approach that benefits many families. Chiropractors often work in conjunction with pediatricians, general practitioners, and other healthcare providers to ensure comprehensive and holistic care for young patients. This collaborative approach fosters a supportive healthcare environment where diverse treatment options are available to meet the unique needs of each child.

Chiropractors are highly trained healthcare professionals who adhere to strict regulatory standards and ethical guidelines. Proposing a blanket ban on chiropractic adjustments for young children undermines the professional expertise of chiropractors and disregards the positive outcomes experienced by many pediatric patients. It is essential to recognize the value of chiropractic care as a legitimate and beneficial component of the broader healthcare system.

In conclusion, we urge you to reconsider the proposed ban on chiropractic adjustments for children under the age of two. Instead, we advocate for continued support of safe and effective pediatric chiropractic care, allowing parents to make informed choices for their children's health and well-being. By preserving access to chiropractic care, we can ensure that families have the opportunity to explore diverse and complementary healthcare options for their young children.

We appreciate your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



Mike Lynch, DC

President, Colorado Chiropractic Association