

News Flash

Chiropractic for Wellness



Healthcare spending in the U.S. exceeded \$2 TRILLION in 2006 and projected to reach \$4.2 TRILLION by 2017. Despite this spending, the United States ranks 37th in overall health system performance (out of the 191 countries evaluated by the World Health Organization).

None of this money truly goes to “healthcare”, it funds “sick care”. “The sickness business is reactive. Despite its enormous size, people become customers only when they are stricken by and react to a specific condition or complaint...the wellness business is proactive.”-Paul Zane Pilzer, Economist.

There is a strategy that could have a profound impact on the healthcare crisis. Several patient-based studies suggest that *chiropractic care may result in significant savings of healthcare dollars*. One small study of an insurance database compared persons more than 75 years of age receiving chiropractic care with non-chiropractic patients. The persons receiving chiropractic care reported better overall health, spent fewer days in hospitals and nursing homes, used fewer prescription drugs and were more active than non-chiropractic patients. They also spent 21% less time in hospitals over the previous three years.

A larger survey of 311 chiropractic patients aged 65 and older who had received chiropractic wellness care for five years or longer stated that when compared with U.S. citizens of the same age, who did not receive chiropractic care, spent only 31% of the national average for healthcare services. The chiropractic patients’ also experience 50% fewer medical provider visits than their comparable peers. The health habits of patients receiving wellness care were better overall than the general population, including decreased use of cigarettes and decreased use of nonprescription drugs.

One of the largest studies ever done regarding a chiropractic population surveyed 2,818 people and found a strong connection between persons receiving a

form of chiropractic care and self-reported improvement in health, wellness and quality of life. 95% reported that their expectation has been met and 99% wished to continue care.

Significant decrease in the use of medical services and their attendant costs were noted when chiropractors were used as primary care providers.

An Independent Physician Association study, which permitted patients to select a chiropractor as their primary care, noted a clinical and cost utilization based on 70,274 member months over a 7-year time. This study demonstrated decreases of 60.2% of in-hospital admissions, 59% less hospital days, 62% less outpatient surgeries and procedures and 85% less pharmaceutical costs when compared with conventional medicine.

As human beings we have the ability to control the modulating factors in our lifestyles. We can choose to experience social support, spirituality, happiness, humor and love through a nervous system free of distortion and interference. We can exercise control, commitment and respond to challenges through bodies that are not compromised. We also have the ability to empower others to lead healthful lives and move our culture into one worldwide wellness. Chiropractic wellness care is an essential component in any long-term solution to our healthcare crisis.

Congratulations to YOU for taking control of your health! Please refer your friends and family so they too can benefit with a healthier life and reduced health care costs.

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