

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this book is to show the profession through a collection of legal cases, the consequences of not following the proper standard of care, the correct medical protocol and the necessity of proper spinal manipulation technique. The verdicts are not necessary just that there was enough probable cause and viable case to bring a legal action against the physician. Whether the expert medical narrative report and/or affidavit of merit were supportive of the plaintiff or the defendant is also insignificant. You as the student of this book are to understand what could cause a legal action against you for malpractice professional liability and to prevent against such horrific turmoil in your life.

The textbooks listed on the bibliography section of this book are for you to memorize and constantly review and stay updated. The schools have been excellent in teaching differential diagnosis. Most important spinal analysis of structural distortion or vertebral/pelvic misalignments must be the last part of your examination. First, rule out a pathological cause of the subjective symptoms and your positive objective findings. So many pathological entities can mimic a spinal or pelvic misalignment "subluxation".

It is important to note that in this book I am not just addressing the chiropractic profession, but all professions whom practice spinal manipulation. It has been evidential to me over these years that chiropractors are the best to render spinal manipulation. When I talk about SMT "spinal manipulative treatment", I am talking about SMT broadly being the pelvic and adjacent articulations.

It is mandatory for you to understand from this book and all its case studies that the old days of subluxation analysis and adjustments are over. Unless a comprehensive history and examination with a differential diagnosis is performed first. Remember if it was not written, it was not done, PERIOD, no excuses! Complete documentation is mandatory.

If you're going to correct subluxations by manual manipulation you should check the integrity of the structures involved and any other co-morbidities, medications, surgeries, etc. There is a standard of care that must be adhered to. There is a deductive process progressively linked in proper sequence starting with the initial patient phone call to the first and every office visit including all interactions from the office staff to the D.C. relationship. Everything counts! The proper medical protocols and correct proper standard of care must be followed for the well being of the patient. A violation of this can lead to a malpractice suit in causation of injuries by you.

In the course of human history spinal and joint manipulation has been delivered by parents, spouses, medical physicians, osteopath physiatrists, physical therapists, acupuncturists, chiropractors, sport trainers and just plain layman. They just innately felt that this was the correct treatment to render. This therapy has been actively practiced for thousands and thousands of years of lying on of the hands to the spine to relieve pain and restriction. Yes, throughout the years this was called many professional names and unprofessional ones, unfortunately!

The evolution of scientific knowledge regarding diagnostic and therapeutic information has advanced the medical delivery system to great heights. The educational requirements to be granted a license to perform spinal manipulation has increased drastically. This has refined the medical therapeutic services rendered, thus increasing the improved results of how the patients respond.