

THE GEORGIA

# CHIROPRACTOR

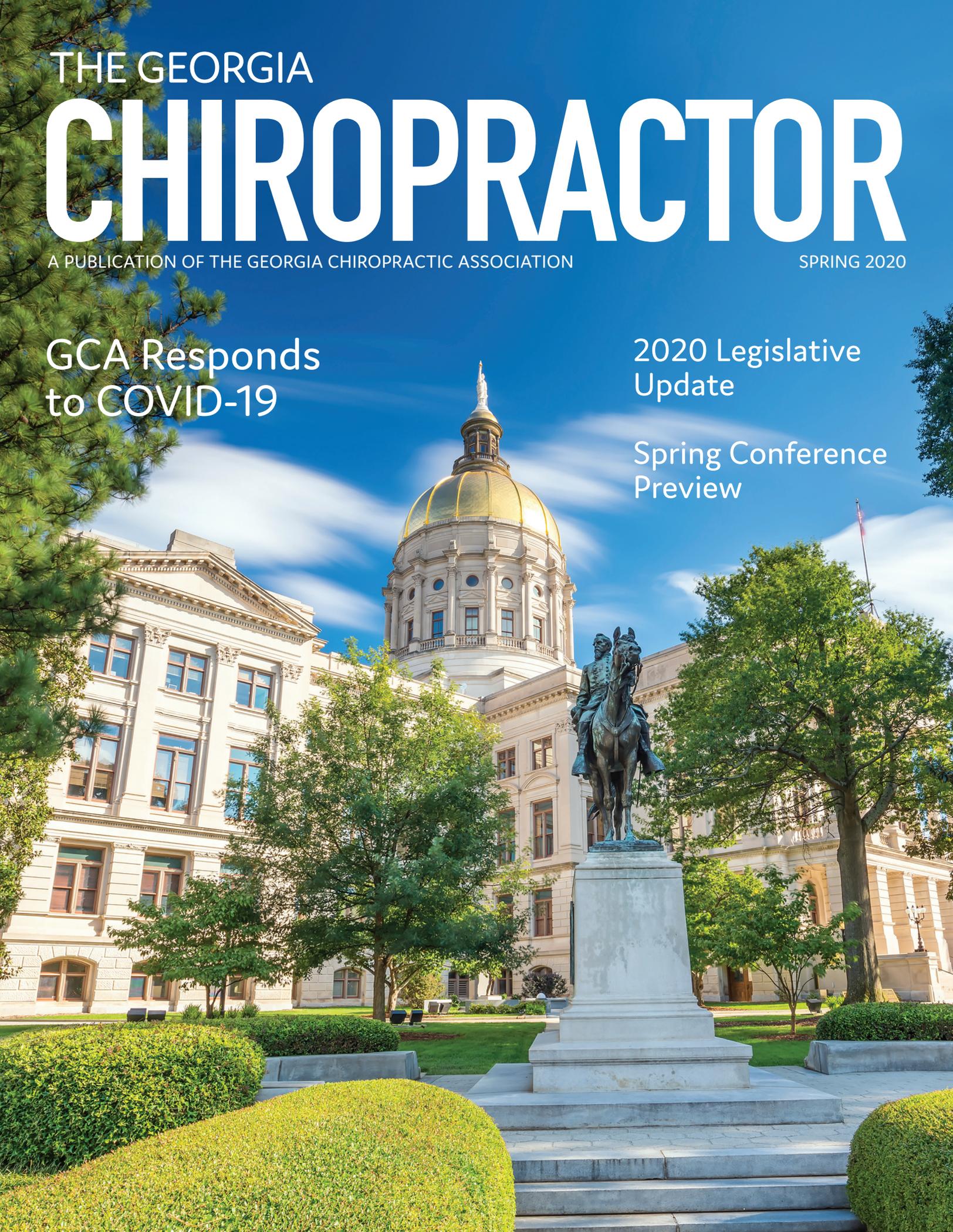
A PUBLICATION OF THE GEORGIA CHIROPRACTIC ASSOCIATION

SPRING 2020

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2020 Legislative  
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# 2020 SPRING

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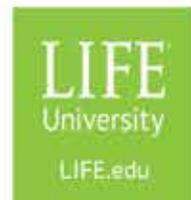
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# Our Response to a Global Pandemic



A LETTER FROM  
THE PRESIDENT

What a difference a few weeks can make, huh? Unless you live under a rock, you're familiar with the pandemic of COVID-19 that's paralyzed countries around the world, including locations right here in the United States.

Our thoughts and prayers are with all of those affected, and the Georgia Chiropractic Association continues to monitor the situation as it is ongoing.

When there are a lot of unknowns, it's comforting to know that GCA has been here all along, releasing accurate information while providing continual customer service. When you call GCA, you're going to get a smiling voice on the other end of the line. When you go to the GCA website, you're going to see vital information right at the top of the page. When you check your email, if there's new information, you're going to see a message from GCA. And, of course, you can find this magazine in your mailbox quarterly, with the professional information you should know.

Uncertainty can be frustrating, especially because we don't always know the answers. Our office has received many phone calls about guidelines for chiropractors, and as the story unfolds, sometimes there's just no definitive answer. We always suggest remaining calm and trying to think through things as clearly as possible. Many of our members kept their doors open, but spaced patient appointments out throughout the day while also taking extra steps to clean and disinfect their spaces. At the end of the day, we are health care providers, and the health and safety of our patients should be our top priority, always.

But where do you go when there's just not that much information? For many of you, that answer was clear - the Georgia Chiropractic Association. Because even if we don't have all of the answers, we're still here for you - working to find those answers for you, and working to provide solutions for all of your business and patient concerns. And when you're a member of GCA, you're investing in that sense of community and solidarity for the entire chiropractic profession in our state.

Thank you for being a member. Thank you for counting on GCA as a trusted voice throughout this current pandemic. And thank you for being a chiropractor and serving your community and your patients' health care needs at ALL times, but especially during this time in history.



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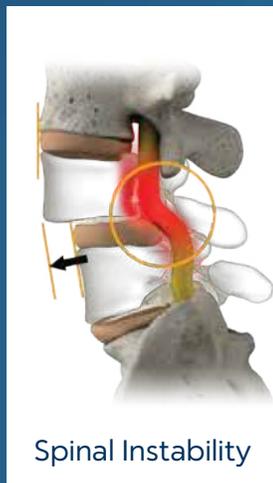
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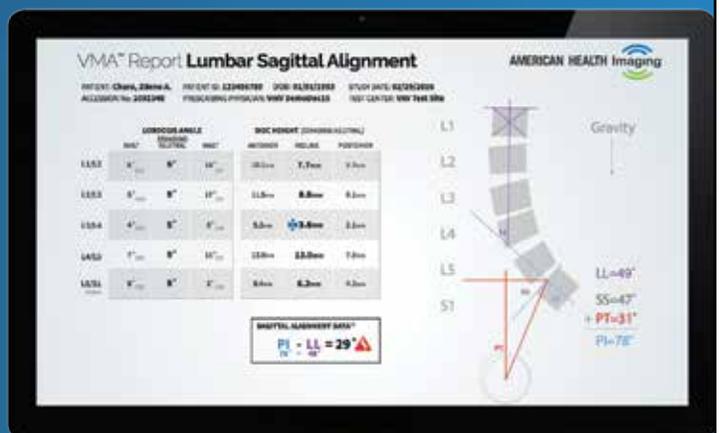
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# Saying Goodbye to My Friend Clark

Whenever someone I care about dies, I have to tell myself to stop feeling sorry that I didn't have enough time with him and instead be thankful for the time I DID have with him.

Dr. G. Clark Stull, past president of the Georgia Chiropractic Association, passed away unexpectedly March 24 at his home in Macon. He was only 62.

And boy, am I glad I got to spend time with him!

Clark loved his family (especially his "grands"), hunting and chiropractic. In that order.

A member of GCA for 35 years, Clark knew he wanted to be a doctor of chiropractic after he got his first adjustment as a teenager from his friend's dad - Dr. Deane Mink - in Valdosta.

After serving on GCA's Board of Directors at various times throughout his 35 years in chiropractic, Clark became president in October 2018. That's when the GCA staff and I got to know him better.

We got to see his wonderful sense of humor, his strong work ethic and his commitment to GCA.

During his recent tenure on the GCA Board of Directors, he dressed up like Elvis, a '50s greaser and even a prisoner to help raise money for the GCA-PAC. He took time away from his practice to attend a ChiroCongress meeting in Austin and to lobby our US legislators in Washington. He sat through budget and committee meetings, came to social events in Atlanta, hosted a board meeting in his office and more. Clark showed up.

He was good at balancing work and play and reminding me to balance them, too. He was a mentor and a friend. The staff and I loved him, and he loved us.

Goodbye, my friend. I am thankful you were in my life.



**Valerie Smith, M.A., CAE**  
Executive Director



EXECUTIVE INSIGHTS

**SPRING 2020**

**VOLUME 39, NO. 2**

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# NEWS

## ASSOCIATION NEWS

### Coronavirus Impacts Chiropractic Industry

No one was immune to the impact of COVID-19, colloquially referred to as “coronavirus,” and chiropractors and the association were caught up in it as well.

Georgia Chiropractic Association immediately stepped up to cancel multiple events, including the annual Chiropractic Day at the Capitol.

“It was disappointing to have to make that decision,” said GCA President Dr. Michael Vaughn. “We rely on our presence at the Capitol every year to demonstrate our strength in numbers to our lawmakers. However, it was absolutely the right call. Our Speaker of the House David Ralston had asked the public to stay at home if possible, and we chose to respect those wishes.

“And in hindsight, the situation with COVID-19 was changing so rapidly, it was the right choice. We of course appreciate all of those who had planned to attend. But protecting our members and setting a good example for the public is important.”

Like many other health care providers, chiropractors saw an uptick in patients as the virus spread. Patients were eager to get adjusted to help ease stress and boost immunity.

“We’re proud to offer chiropractic care as a part of an overall health and wellness regimen,” Vaughn explained. “Chiropractic has been shown in various studies to possibly reduce stress, and we do know that an increased level of stress can lead to a higher likelihood of getting sick.

“For a new disease, there are no studies,” he continued. “We just don’t know a lot about COVID-19

at this moment in time. But what we do know is that chiropractic care and spinal hygiene are important to overall health.”

Many chiropractors remained open to serve patients. As health care providers already practicing high sanitation standards, they went above and beyond to help prevent the spread of the virus. GCA immediately posted resources on its website ([gachiro.org](http://gachiro.org)) as well as kept in touch with chiropractors via email and social media. GCA’s patient-focused social media accounts also shared immune boosting tips for the general public, as well as timely information from the World Health Organization and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

GCA leaders have vowed to continue providing the necessary information to chiropractors across the state as long as COVID-19 is a pandemic.

“I want to make very clear that we were the FIRST and ONLY state chiropractic association to put out this kind of information,” Vaughn said. “We have always gone above and beyond for the chiropractic profession in this state, and I’m honored to lead this group that has been there and will continue to be there for our members during this uncertain time.”

see  
p.14

for further information on GCA’s response to the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as for resources that you can continue to use in your practice.

# 2020 is a License Renewal Year

don't  
forget

Georgia-based chiropractors are reminded that they must renew their licenses through the Board of Chiropractic Examiners by Dec. 31, 2020.

Chiropractors should receive 20 hours of continuing education annually; those 20 hours must include one hour of Georgia Law, four hours of a qualifying Risk Management course and 15 hours of Clinical Science.

Each individual chiropractor is responsible for keeping track of their hours. If audited, the chiropractor must provide proof of their CE credits. GCA does NOT provide hours to the licensing boards.

GCA encourages all chiropractors to plan ahead and get your CE credits for 2020 completed as soon as possible. Mark your calendars for our Spring and Fall Conferences, June 5-7 at The DeSoto in Savannah and Oct. 16-18 at The Hotel at Avalon in Alpharetta.

## Be a Member... Get a Member... **Win a Big CA\$H Prize!**

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The winner will be announced at our 108th Annual Fall Conference & Trade Show, Oct. 18 at The Hotel at Avalon in Alpharetta. (You do not need to be present to win.)



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# Anatomical Deficiency of the Lower Extremities Leading to Adult Scoliosis and Chronic Lower Back Pain



By Joseph J. Cipriano, D.C.

## CASE STUDY

Low back pain is considered to be chronic if it has been present for longer than three months. Chronic low back pain may be caused by many different sources. It may start from diseases, injuries or stresses to many different structures including bones, muscles, ligaments, joints, nerves or the spinal cord. The affected structure will send a signal through nerve endings, up the spinal cord and into the brain where it registers as pain. Many times, the source of the pain is not known or cannot be clearly defined.

The key in determining causation may be difficult in certain cases. A good patient history and a thorough physical examination by a well-trained clinician are the most important aspects of the evaluation. Patients have many choices when it comes to episodes of spine pain. Primary care doctors, chiropractors, physical therapists, orthopedic surgeons, physiatrists and neurosurgeons are a few of the choices. When it comes to spine pain, confusion exists as to what type of provider the patient needs to see to properly evaluate and treat the patient's condition. Even when a well-trained clinician examines the patient, based on specialty, treatment bias is a concern when a not so clear diagnosis of chronic back pain is established.

This case study is an example of a patient with chronic back pain who is well-versed in health care issues. This patient happens to be a pharmacist.

Patient is a 42-year-old pharmacist who was overweight with a BMI of 35. Patient reported chronic lower back pain with no radiculopathy for several months before seeking any treatment. Patient reported pain levels of 5 to 7 on a scale of 1 to 10 depending on activity levels. Again, patient is a pharmacist working 12-hour shifts in which the patient must stand for the entire shift with no sitting permitted in his place of employment. Patient was taking NSAIDs with little relief. Patient presented to his primary care physician who obtained X-rays of the patient. An X-ray revealed

a 10° right scoliosis (Fig 1.). Physical therapy with muscle relaxant medication was prescribed. After six weeks of physical therapy the patient returned to his primary care provider with continued complaints of lower back pain, again with no radicular component. Patient was referred for orthopedic spine surgery consultation. An MRI of his lumbar spine was ordered which revealed degenerative joint disease at multiple levels with an L5/S1 focal extrusion which extends into the spinal canal (Fig. 2).

Patient was advised to undergo a micro discectomy at the L5/ S1 level. Patient researched various physicians for a second opinion. Patient was seen by another orthopedic spine surgeon associated with a well-known and respected large hospital system who specializes in complicated spine surgeries. Again, the patient was examined and a review of his X-rays and MRIs were performed. The second opinion suggested that a micro discectomy would not address his current complaints. Patient was advised to continue physical therapy for six more weeks. If this did not address his issues, then the patient should lose some weight and proceed with a more complicated operation to address his scoliosis, which in the opinion of the surgeon would address his issues. This operation was to include hardware, such as rods and screws which would straighten out the spine (fig.3).

Patient continued with more physical therapy and anti-inflammatory medication again with little relief. Patient was at a point where his activities of daily living were affected. Patient chose the least invasive of these two procedures and he underwent a micro discectomy at L5/ S1. Due to the minimally invasive nature of this procedure patient recovered quite well. Unfortunately, his spinal pain persisted.

After several months of continued pain, patient presented to me with continued complaints of low back pain with no radicular component. Patient continues with



Figure 1



Figure 2



Figure 3



Figure 4

pain levels between a 5 and a 7 on a scale of 1 to 10. A physical examination was performed including reviews of his past imaging studies. Patient has been very diligent in following through with treatments recommended. He has attempted to lose some weight but was finding it somewhat difficult because exercising was painful. He is seriously concerned about his job. He was finding it continuously difficult as time progresses to continue working his present job when he needs to stand for 12 hours.

Physical examination revealed limited motion in all lumbar planes of motion. There is facet joint tenderness at L4/L5 and L5/S1 bilaterally. Kemp's test was positive for low back pain, SLR and other root tension signs were negative. Orthopedic testing of the hips, knees and ankles were unremarkable. There was marked tension between the right and left paralumbar musculature which is more pronounced on the right. There was also marked tension of the left psoas muscle as compared to the right. Adam's position revealed no reduction in the angle of the scoliosis upon forward flexion. Measurement of the lower extremities were obtained which revealed a 17 mm discrepancy between the right and left leg with the left leg being short.

X-rays were obtained in the standing position (fig.4). X-rays revealed the same 10° left lumbar scoliosis with approximately 15 mm of obliquity between the right and left iliac crests. Additional x-rays reveal the same obliquity between both humeral heads.

We discussed treatment options with him and he agreed on a trial of care for three weeks. If there was marked improvement we would continue as needed, if not, we were to discuss other treatment options.

My first objective was to attempt to level out the obliquity between the two extremities. I prescribed a heel

lift of 15mm which was to be inserted into his left shoe. Patient was told to use this lift for several hours a day over one week, at which point it would be used most of the day. The next objective was to reduce tension on the tight left psoas muscle with psoas stretches performed both in the office and at home. Manipulation was performed to his lumbar spine and sacrum. Physical therapy modalities such as muscle stimulation and ultrasound were also implemented.

After three weeks of treatment patient reported marked improvement in his pain levels which reduced to a 3 and 4 on a scale of 1 to 10. Patient was more comfortable standing for his 12 hour shifts but still not pain-free. An X-ray of his lumbar spine was also performed to evaluate any change in his lumbar scoliosis (fig 5.). As you can see, the 10° scoliosis that was recorded prior to treatment and with the introduction of a heel left was reduced to 0° with pelvic obliquity also reduced. (fig. 6 & 7). Patient continued treatment for another three weeks. Patient was able to exercise and some weight reduction was achieved. Patient pain levels were recorded as a 0 to 2 on a scale of 1 to 10 depending on activity levels.

In conclusion, when patients present with spine pain when there is not a clear diagnosis or pain generator, treatment bias based on specialty is a common occurrence. It is far too common to prescribe opioid medication and perform procedures not in the best interest of the patient, than to consult with other specialties to see what can be offered prior to prescribing addicting medication and performing procedures which may be more harmful than beneficial. We as a profession also have this bias and we also need to consult with other specialties to see what they can offer for the betterment of the patient.



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# Chiropractors Respond to COVID-19 Pandemic

By Carly Sharec

*Editor's Note: The news surrounding COVID-19 is rapidly changing; as of press time, the information in this article is accurate. However, please be advised this may be outdated. Refer to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the World Health Organization for the most current updates regarding COVID-19. The Atlanta Journal Constitution and your local news outlets will have the most updated information pertaining to the state of Georgia.*

A global pandemic is not business as usual for any industry, and chiropractors were no exception as COVID-19 swept across the United States in February and March, with the number of cases in Georgia beginning to multiply in late March.

The Georgia Chiropractic Association quickly stepped up, emailing resources to all chiropractors across the state, as well as keeping pertinent information at the top of the [gachiro.org](http://gachiro.org) website. GCA staff and board members remain accessible as always to take your phone calls and emails. Additionally, those following along on the GCA social media pages (Facebook and Instagram) found various pieces of information, many easily shareable with patients.

“We’re all in uncharted territory at the moment,” said GCA President Dr. Michael Vaughn. “There are some things we just don’t know, as quite clearly none of us have ever lived through a pandemic before! But as the leading state chiropractic association, we know it’s up to us to provide the necessary leadership during this time.

“It’s up to all of us to spread accurate information, and not add to any sort of panic,” Vaughn added. “As chiropractors, we’re uniquely positioned to be on the

frontlines of a health care crisis. As emergency rooms and primary care physicians are asking patients to not come in unless it’s an absolute emergency, we’re able to treat musculoskeletal complaints that would otherwise take up the time and energy of our medical doctors.

“I’ve also heard of chiropractors offering their services to our emergency room nurses and doctors who are working long hours and need some relief,” Vaughn added. “As a profession, chiropractors step up and are needed more than ever.”

Dr. Rob Alpert - a GCA director as well as a member of the Georgia Board of Chiropractic Examiners - advises all chiropractors to continue following the guidelines set forth by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

“Right now, the guidelines are changing on an almost daily basis,” Alpert said, emphasizing the importance of staying up-to-date. In his practice, Southmetro Chiropractic Center in Jonesboro, Alpert and staff have deployed many of the same extra sanitation efforts chiropractors across the state and nation have.

“We’re using an air purifier, disinfecting all counter tops,” he listed, “giving people space, and spacing out appointments.” They’re also making sure to thoroughly

wash their hands between each patient. Alpert also advises all patients and employees to wash all clothing after returning home immediately in hot water. He suggested taking clothes off prior to entering the house (if able).

“Patients also need to be made aware to practice these efforts in their own lives,” Alpert added. “Chiropractors can tell patients that if they think they have the symptoms of COVID-19, to not panic. Continue taking your temperature. Try to stay at home unless it’s a real emergency. So far, all signs point to this being a relatively mild virus that most of us will recover from.

“But as always, call a health care provider if you’re concerned,” he said. “Don’t just go in, but you can call your primary care physician or your chiropractor. Explain your symptoms over the phone. They can tell you if you should seek further testing.”

GCA member Dr. Tannaz Modaresi took things one step further, preemptively closing her practice at the end of March with plans to reassess the situation in early April.

“It will take community effort to flatten the curve,” she said, referring to health experts’ views of the number of people needing to stay home and practice social distancing to not overwhelm area hospitals. Prior to closing, she required all staff to use masks and gloves along with using extra disinfecting measures. “Chiropractors can also suggest to patients at-home exercises to do for their specific condition, in an effort to eliminate any extra need to leave the home during this time.”

Chiropractors reading this can refer to the patient pre-screening questionnaire listed as part of this article, provided by Life University.

News unfurled rapidly on a day-to-day, sometimes hour-by-hour, basis. By the week of March 16, it became clear that the majority of society would be called to “socially distance” themselves. The metro Atlanta area in particular felt the impact of the virus, with grocery stores slammed with customers on March 12 and school systems beginning to close for two weeks even before Governor Brian Kemp mandated all schools in the state close.

As of press time, Kemp had instituted a “shelter in place” directive to all Georgians beginning 6 p.m., April 3 and extending through April 13 (though subject to change). Thanks to the hard work of GCA leaders, chiropractors - recognized in the state as health care providers - were deemed essential and able to remain to open and practicing.

To comply with CDC and government guidelines, GCA canceled multiple events to continue complying

# Patient Questionnaire

provided by Life University

Life University Clinics are asking patients to review the following questionnaire before making or keeping an appointment:

1. Have you had contact with anyone with confirmed COVID-19 in the last 14 days?

Yes  No

2. Have you had any of these symptoms in the last 14 days?

Fever greater than 100°F

Difficulty breathing

Cough

3. Are you currently experiencing fever over 100, difficulty breathing or cough?

Yes  No

If you answered yes to question 1 and/or 2, please call your primary care provider or Georgia Department of Public Health at (404) 657- 2700 for further direction.

If you answered yes to question 3 and-or 4, please call your primary care provider for further direction.

If your response to the questionnaire is no, please do not hesitate to schedule an appointment or if you have a question, please feel free to contact:

[place in your clinic information]

with government and health guidelines, including the association's vitally important Chiropractic Day at the Capitol, which was scheduled for March 12.

"It was not an easy decision," Vaughn said. "But Speaker of the House Rep. David Ralston had asked the public to not go into the Capitol if at all avoidable, and our event ended up being just one day before the legislature postponed the session until further notice."

The association also canceled its annual St. Patrick's Day Sips & Chips event which had been scheduled for March 19, along with a few other social events scheduled throughout March and early April.

"While of course we would have rather been able to have our events in person, one highlight that's come out of this is we're working to become more creative in our networking opportunities," said Executive Director Valerie Smith, M.A., C.A.E. "GCA members can expect to see more online networking opportunities being advertised over the coming months. We're currently utilizing the webinar platform Zoom, which is a user-friendly way to engage with each other online. We're also looking into potential other ways to connect."

"When we're being asked to stay inside and 'socially distance' ourselves at least six feet from one another, we're all still in this together," Vaughn added. "We're here to connect and support our member chiropractors."

As of press time, the June 5-7 Spring Conference at The DeSoto in Savannah was still planned to go ahead as scheduled. As a member of the Board of Examiners, Alpert confirmed that they had not had any conversations to change requirements for continuing education.

"We're monitoring events as they unfold," he said. "We will take decisive action as necessary to protect the public."

GCA members also now have access to special discounts for Triad Aer Purification Systems, which removes 99.99 percent of allergens, molds, viruses and bacteria. GCA members can save up to \$449, and GCA will receive 5 percent of the discounted sale net before taxes. (For more information and to order, contact Frank Keats at 404-218-9368.)

"Again, there's a lot of uncertainty and there are some things that we need to take that 'wait and see' approach," Vaughn said. "But as an association, we are responding and moving as quickly as possible to be able to provide clear, concise information to our membership. And if we can provide assistance like being able to offer a discount on an air purification system, then we're going to do that."

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  - 3000 sq. ft. Triad Aer unit at \$499 each, minimum of 4.
  - MiniAer purifier at \$59 each, minimum of 24.

Not only is this a good deal for GCA members, the association itself will receive 5 percent of the discounted net sale before taxes.

To order, call Frank Keats at 404-218-9368.



*From left, GCA Legal Counsel Aubrey Villines, J.D., Executive Director Valerie Smith, Director of Membership & Operations Diane Hamby, and Legislative Committee Chair Dr. Randy Mayfield celebrate after S.B. 28 passed in committee.*

## Two Chiropractic Bills Crossover Before Capitol Shuts Down

By Valerie L. Smith, CAE

The Georgia Chiropractic Association has been hard at work on several bills affecting doctors of chiropractic during the current legislative session, which is currently in recess due to the COVID-19 pandemic. S.B. 28 would require copays to be reasonable and serve as an incentive to care, and H.B. 816 would allow D.C.s and M.D.s to form a professional corporation together, if desired.

Last summer, GCA President Michael Vaughn and lobbyist Aubrey Villines met with Senate Health and Human Services Chair Sen. Ben Watson in Savannah about S.B. 28, and right before the session started, Governmental Relations Chair Dr. Randy Mayfield, Villines and Executive Director Valerie Smith, along with representatives from the Georgia Physical Therapy Association, met again with Sen. Watson and Regina Quick, from Lt. Gov. Geoff Duncan's office.

"We are so thankful to Sen. Watson and Lt. Gov. Duncan's team for all their help in reworking the bill into something that every healthcare provider can agree on and support," Mayfield said.

"Our grassroots members, Diane Hamby, Valerie and I worked hard to educate the members of the Health and Human Services committee why the bill was so important," Villines said. "Once it passed out of committee, it passed the Senate unanimously, which is the first time that's ever happened!"

S.B. 28 passed over to the House and is now in the Insurance Committee.

H.B. 816 was introduced this year by Rep. Dr. Karen Mathiak, who is also a GCA Board member.

"There are already a number of D.C.s and M.D.s practicing together, but the process to do so is onerous," Mathiak said. "This bill just makes it easier for them to work together for patients."

H.B. 816 passed over to the Senate and is now in the Health and Human Services Committee.

"The session has been great so far, and I really want to thank our grassroots members who contact their legislators when we asked them to, our GCA-PAC donors and everyone who took time to attend a fundraiser or legislative event," said Vaughn. "While our lobbyists are there every day, our legislators really like to hear from their constituents, too.

"Unfortunately, we had to cancel our annual Chiropractic Day at the Capitol, so it's more important than ever that once the COVID-19 pandemic passes, you get to know your legislators and join our PAC. With elections coming up, this year is a great time to ask your legislators how you can help them in their campaign," Vaughn continued.

To find your Georgia representative and senator, visit [openstates.org](http://openstates.org).



# 2020 SPRING CONFERENCE AND TRADE SHOW

**JUNE 5-7 2020**

## Spring Conference Forges Forward, Luau Plans Made

By Carly Sharec

As of press time, the luau was still planned for the Georgia Chiropractic Association's Annual Spring Conference & Trade Show, scheduled for June 5-7 at The DeSoto in Savannah.

"We hope that everyone has been doing their part to 'flatten the curve' and slow down the spread of this coronavirus," said GCA Past President and Conference Committee Co-Chair Dr. Leana Kart. "Our intent is to gather together as a community and prove the resiliency of chiropractic at this June event."

GCA is working on extra precautions, as well, including making sure there will be hand sanitizer available for attendees.

"We're also looking at the set-up of the meeting rooms," said Conference Committee Co-Chair Dr. Noel Steinle. "If certain social distancing measures are still recommended by the CDC, then we'll work hard to comply. The health and safety of everyone is our top priority."

Still, mindful of the possibility that the event could not go on as planned, GCA leaders are reviewing how to create a virtual conference for attendees that would still comply with offering the continuing education

requirements chiropractors need to renew their licenses.

"Chiropractors are all reminded that 2020 is a renewal year," Kart said. "As of yet, we've received no guidance on any changes to that from our Board of Examiners, so chiropractors should be planning ahead on how they'll earn those credits! Especially with such uncertain news as we've currently experienced with the pandemic, we are telling everyone to plan ahead."

"It's always a good idea to earn your CE credits earlier in the year," she continued. "That's why we always encourage people to come to our spring conference!"

Instructors scheduled for this year's Spring Conference include Drs. Mark Charrette, Ty Talcott, Karen Konarski-Hart and Darr McKeown. GCA lobbyist and attorney Aubrey Villines, J.D. returns to teach Georgia Law. Talcott, Villines and GCA Director Dr. Rob Alpert will teach C.A. classes.

Topics include extremity adjusting protocols, reading MRIs and practice procedures and protocols during a disaster.

"We always want to provide a broad spectrum of topics," said Education Committee Co-Chair Dr. Karen Mathiak. "We think our instructors and the topics they

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(reservation line available Monday through Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.)

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are covering are able to offer something for everyone planning to attend.”

The complete schedule of events, as well as the link to pre-register, is available on the GCA website, [gachiro.org](http://gachiro.org).

As always, quite a few social events are planned, as well.

“I think we can all agree that there’s been a lot of stressful news at the beginning of 2020!” Kart said. “So hopefully our attendees are ready to let loose and have some fun at our luau-themed weekend!”

Guests are invited to wear fun Hawaiian-themed shirts, especially for Thursday evening’s Sips & Chips event and Friday’s Welcome Reception. (Read the sidebar for more information on these and other social events planned throughout the weekend!)

“After what for some of us was a really tumultuous start to the year, we’re looking forward to regrouping and resetting for a great second half,” Kart said. “I hope chiropractors from across the state will make plans to join us in Savannah.”



## Social events

### THURSDAY, JUNE 4

#### Savannah Sips & Chips

6-8 p.m.

Join GCA for this tradition of enjoying time together before the conference officially gets underway. Come enjoy a drink and some complimentary snacks with us at the hotel bar while catching up with friends.

### FRIDAY, JUNE 5

#### Welcome Reception

5-6 p.m.

*Sponsored by Georgia Spine & Orthopaedics, Elite Radiology of Georgia, Georgia Pain & Spine, and Versea Holdings*

Wear your best Hawaiian shirt... it's luau time!

#### PAC Wine Toss

5-6 p.m. *(during the Welcome Reception)*

For \$10, get your chance to throw three rings around our stash of wine bottles – any you land, you get to keep! Our GCA Political Action Committee is hosting this fundraising event. *Please also feel free to bring a bottle of wine to donate – the more who donate, the more fun we get to have.*

#### President's Suite Open

6-7 p.m.

GCA President Dr. Michael Vaughn welcomes you back to our Hospitality Suite to enjoy some snacks and beverages before heading out to enjoy the Savannah nightlife!

### SATURDAY, JUNE 6

#### President's Luncheon

1-2:30 p.m.

*Sponsored by Life University, American Health Imaging, TRU Digital Imaging Solutions, Barbour Orthopaedics, The Injury Specialists, and AllSpine Surgery Center*

Join us for this ticketed event as GCA leaders share association updates. Tickets are \$20 each and should be purchased with your event registration.

#### Ladies Tea

3:30-5 p.m.

*Sponsored by NCMIC*

A much-loved tradition, we gather to recognize the women in the chiropractic industry who make this profession great.

#### President's Suite Open

5:30-7 p.m.

GCA President Dr. Michael Vaughn will host this networking and fellowship event with light snacks and beverages before everyone heads out to enjoy the Savannah nightlife!

# Exhibitors

## Booth #1

### Georgia Chiropractic Association

Phone: 770-723-1100

Email: vsmith@gachiro.org

Website: gachiro.org

Be sure to stop by to pick up your registration packet (as well as drop off your CE verification form). You can also become a GCA and/or a GCA-PAC member here.

## Booth #2-3

### Holistic Problem Solver

Phone: 912-439-1911

Email: holisticproblemsolver@gmail.com

Website: githehairdoctor.com

Offering holistic and therapeutic products.

## Booth #4

### Cambre & Associates



#### GCA Bronze Partner

Phone: 770-502-6116

Email: michael@

glenncambre.com

Website: glenncambre.com

Personal injury experts representing clients in and around the Atlanta area.

## Booth #5

### Newton Homeopathics



#### GCA Bronze Partner

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Email: marge@

newtonlabs.net

Website: newtonlabs.net

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## Booth #6

### BaxMax

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baxmaxsupport.com

Website: baxmax.net

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## Booth #19-20

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Website: footlevelers.com

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## Booth #21

### Standard Process SE

Phone: 770-218-8881

Email: chrisgoodson76@gmail.com

Website: standardprocess-southeast.com

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## Booth #22

### NCMIC



#### GCA Silver Partner

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Email: jhellrung@

ncmic.com

Website: ncmic.com

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## Booth #23

### Eclipse EHR Solutions

Phone: 352-488-0081

Email: cathy@ineedeclipse.com

Website: eclipsepracticemanagementsoftware.com

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## Booth #25

### CAB Medical Group

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Email: cbooker@bellsouth.net

Website: cabmedicalusa.com

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## Booth #26

### Team Medical Group

Phone: 727-258-4957

Website: teammedicalgroup.com

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## Booth #27

### Summus Medical Laser

Phone: 615-595-7749

Email: info@summuslaser.com

Website: summuslaser.com

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## Booth #28

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Email: info@gapainandspine.com

Website: gapainandspine.com

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## Booth #29

### American Health Imaging



#### GCA Gold Partner

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Email: kyle.lutz@

ahicenters.com

Website: americanhealthimaging.com

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## Booth #30

### Life University



#### GCA Gold Partner

Phone: 770-426-2925

Email: darcie.wallace@

life.edu

Website: life.edu

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## Booth #31

### Albany Neurodiagnostic Center

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Email: docbailey04@gmail.com

Website: phoebehealth.com

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## Booth #32

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## Booth #36

### The Injury Specialists



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Phone: 404-348-4310

Email: michael@theinjuryspecialists.com

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## Booth #38

### TRU Digital Imaging Solutions



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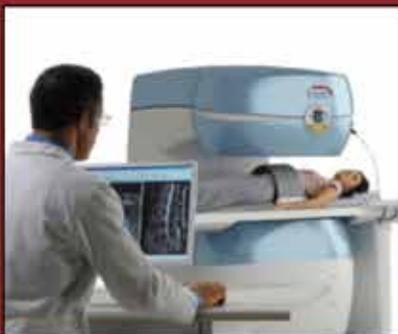
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A cavity in the lung is no different than a cavity in a tooth; it is a hole in the lung like a hole in your tooth. The official definition is a gas filled space with a thick surrounding wall. When the wall is thin it is often called a pneumatocele. There are a number of causes to include lung tumor, autoimmune disease (especially RA), pulmonary embolism,

infection (especially bacterial, granulomatous, and fungal), pulmonary contusion, and congenital issues (especially bronchogenic cyst and sequestration). Once a cavity is identified patient history dictates the next steps in clinical evaluation. Regardless of the cause of the cavity, the next step in imaging is always High Resolution/Thin Section CT.

On plain film X-ray a cavity will be seen as a spherical lucency with a thick or thin surrounding wall of soft tissue density. Cavities often have an air-fluid level within (which look much like the gastric air bubble on an upright film).

Once a cavity is confirmed on plain film the appropriate referral is to a pulmonologist.

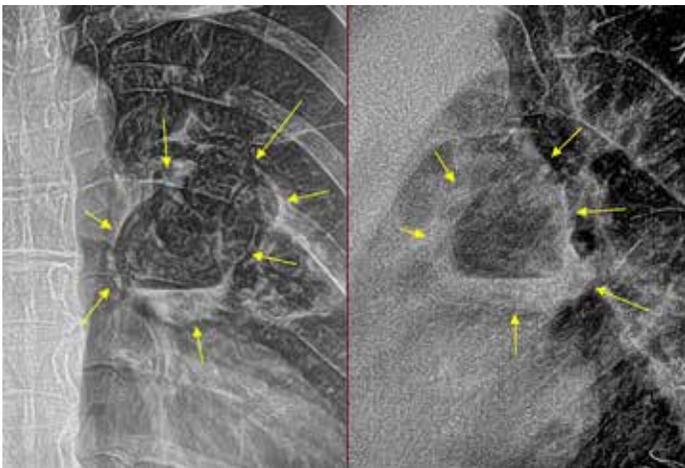


Figure 1

(Figure 1). Cavities can be hard to see. This cavity is seen on the left adjacent to the heart on the AP thoracic and through the heart on the lateral thoracic. This cavity has an air-fluid level. (Figure 2). The cavity is enlarged and outlined by the arrows.



Figure 2

Dr. Carter is a GCA member. He maintains a busy film reading practice at 4480-H S Cobb Dr. #325, Smyrna, GA 30080 and is a full time faculty member at Life University. If you have **questions regarding his film reading service** please call 678-424-8588 or email at [jccarterdc@gmail.com](mailto:jccarterdc@gmail.com).

## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

By Carly Sharec

# Hunt Eager to Begin Georgia Practice

The future for chiropractic looks bright with leaders like Munntouya Hunt leading the charge.

“I want to see the youngest member of the family to the oldest member of the family,” Hunt, a recent Life University graduate and Georgia chiropractor licensee, mused. “A lot of my family members were taking 10 different prescriptions; I chose chiropractic as a career because I wanted something to help them live their best lives without taking so many drugs.”

Under the tutelage of Life University and mentorship of GCA Past President Dr. Leana Kart, Hunt found a career in which she could thrive.

“Life University was amazing,” she said. “I think it’s important for people to understand chiropractic and what it does. It’s about taking care of the body and allowing the body to heal itself. It was a perfect experience in preparing me to become a chiropractor.”

As many recent graduates do, Hunt finds herself weighing her options in moving forward.

“I am straddling the fence between become an associate, or starting my own practice,” she said. “I would like to buy a practice from a retiring doctor, or work with a doctor who plans to retire in the next couple of years and then buy that practice. I know I want to stay in Georgia!”

Hunt also knows she wants to work with families and all types of patients; hence her comment regarding seeing everyone from the youngest to the oldest members of families.

She is encouraged by the positive community chiropractors have created in the state, particularly within the Georgia Chiropractic Association.

“We have our own great support system,” she said. “Until we get to that goal of having 80 percent or more of the general public under chiropractic care, then we’re all working to the same goal.”



“I think it’s important for people to understand chiropractic and what it does. It’s about taking care of the body and allowing the body to heal itself.”





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