

Informed Consent

Medical doctors, chiropractic doctors, osteopaths, and physical therapists who perform manipulation are required by law to obtain your informed consent before starting treatment.

I, _____, do hereby give my consent to the performance of conservative noninvasive treatment to the joints and soft tissues. I understand that the procedures may consist of manipulations/adjustments involving movement of the joints and soft tissues. Therapy, including various modes of physical therapy, diagnostic x-rays, and exercises may also be used by Dr. Perez and/or other licensed doctors of chiropractic who now or in the future treat me while employed by, working or associated with, or serving as back-up for Dr. Perez including those working at Perez Family Health Center.

Although spinal and extremity manipulation/adjustment is considered to be one of the safest, most effective forms of therapy for musculoskeletal problems, I am aware that there are possible risks and complications associated with these procedures as follows:

Soreness/Bruising: I am aware that like exercise, it is common to experience muscle soreness and occasionally bruising in the first few treatments.

Dizziness: Temporary symptoms like dizziness and nausea can occur but are relatively rare.

Fracture/Joint Injury: I further understand that in isolated cases underlying physical defects, deformities, or pathologies like weak bones from osteoporosis may render the patient susceptible to injury. When osteoporosis, degenerative disc, or other abnormality is detected, this office will proceed with extra caution.

Stroke: Although strokes happen with some frequency in our world, strokes from chiropractic adjustments are rare. I am aware that nerve or brain damage including stroke is reported to occur once in a million to once in ten million treatments. Once in a million is about the same chance as being struck by lightning. Once in ten million is about the same chance as a normal dose of aspirin or Tylenol causing death.

Physical Therapy Burns: Some of the therapies used in this office generate heat and may rarely cause a burn. Despite precautions, if a burn is obtained, there will be a temporary increase in pain and possible blistering. This should be reported to the doctor.

I do not expect the doctor to be able to anticipate and explain all risks and complications, and I wish to rely on the doctor to exercise judgment during the course of the procedure which the doctor feels at the time, based upon the facts then known, is in my best interest. Tests have been or will be performed on me to minimize the risk of any complication from treatment and I freely assume these risks.

Treatment Results

I also understand that there are beneficial effects associated with these treatment procedures including decreased pain, improved mobility and function, and reduced muscle spasm. However, I appreciate there is no certainty that I will achieve these benefits.

I realize that the practice of medicine, including chiropractic, is not an exact science and I acknowledge that no guarantee has been made to me regarding the outcome of these procedures.

I agree to the performance of these procedures by my doctor and other persons of the doctor's choosing.

Alternative Treatments Available

Reasonable alternatives to these procedures have been explained to me including rest, home applications of therapy, prescription or over-the-counter medications, exercises and possible surgery.

I have read or had read to me the above explanation of chiropractic treatment. I have also had an opportunity to ask questions about its content, and by signing below, I agree to the above named procedures. I intend this consent form to cover the entire course of treatment for my present condition and for any future condition(s) for which I seek treatment. I have made my decision voluntarily and freely.

Signature of Patient (or guardian): _____ **Date:** _____

Signature of Witness: _____ **Date:** _____