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MORE PRIMARY CARE PHYSICIANS REFERRING PATIENTS FOR CHIROPRACTIC CARE

Chiropractic Care Provides Relief for Patients Suffering from Musculoskeletal Disorders

Appleton, Wisconsin (June 19, 2006)—Times have changed and chiropractic is a profession at the crossroads of mainstream medicine. Unlike years ago when chiropractors and physicians operated totally independent of each other, chiropractic treatment has been gaining wider acceptance lately among physicians as a valid treatment for musculoskeletal disorders. The increasing acceptance of chiropractic care has many healthcare experts believing that it will become fully integrated into all healthcare systems in the future.

According to John Schubbe, Doctor of Chiropractic at Schubbe Resch Chiropractic and Physical Therapy Centers, “Besides our offices in Appleton and Neenah, we also have an office within NeuroSpine Center of Wisconsin. This relationship, working with the neurosurgeons, spine surgeons and physiatrists, has allowed our chiropractors to gain an exceptional amount of experience in dealing with the most severe low back cases/injuries pre and post-surgical.”

Studies confirm that most patients go to chiropractors for musculoskeletal problems: about 60 percent with low back pain, and the remainder with head, neck, and extremity symptoms. Medical care certainly has not



solved the everyday symptom of low back pain, but what has changed is our understanding and management of this prevalent problem.

Chiropractic involves hands-on manipulations, often called “adjustments”, of the spinal column and other parts of the body. Spinal manipulations can help alleviate stress of surrounding tissues – muscles, tendons, and ligaments – to relieve back pain and restore normal functioning. Chiropractic care also involves other treatments such as physical therapy, massage therapy, physiotherapy modalities, and orthotics. Chiropractic treatment, alone or in conjunction with other therapies, has been shown to effectively relieve pain, lower back pain in particular, as well as improve mobility. As with any treatment, results may vary from person to person.

Schubbe emphasizes, “Our goal is for pain reduction and restoration of normal function, stressing excellent patient compliance so an individual can ultimately manage their condition on their own without relying on ongoing chiropractic treatment. Although referrals are not needed to see a chiropractor, many patients come to Schubbe Resch via physician referral. When a physician sends a patient to us, the examination, diagnosis, prognosis, and treatment goals for that patient are immediately sent to the referring physician. Once progress is achieved, new goals are set and a new treatment plan is established with a focus on flexibility, strengthening and conditioning to transition the patient back to a more active lifestyle. However, if no improvement is seen in two to three weeks, treatment is either changed, discontinued or other treatment options are considered.”

Since chiropractic treatment helps reduce pain and restore mobility for musculoskeletal disorders, more primary care physicians are now referring their patients to chiropractors when standard treatment options fail to provide relief. Proper diagnosis is vital in determining whether chiropractic care will be beneficial as



part of a patient's treatment regimen. Steve Hagen, M.D., of Appleton's Primary Care Associates, has been referring patients to Schubbe Resch for evaluation and treatment of their musculoskeletal conditions.

Hagen says, "Schubbe Resch's level of professionalism, goal-oriented approach to treating patients and their communication with referring physicians is excellent. What sets this group apart from other chiropractors is they get results. They try different treatment techniques until they find a solution. Their focus is on a multidisciplinary approach working hand in hand with physicians to provide an effective means of treatment. They don't let a day pass by before they contact us directly."

Twenty-eight year old Regina Schmidt, a patient of Dr. Hagen's, was recently referred to Schubbe Resch suffering from lower back and upper thoracic pain complicated by rods in her spine due to severe scoliosis that was surgically treated as a child. After only three treatments, Regina experienced a noticeable improvement. Regina explains, "Oh my goodness, the treatment has been dramatic and I have much less pain and discomfort. With two children and a full-time job, I have too many things to think about to waste time worrying about the pain. It's wonderful to be doing the normal activities that other people can do."

Many traditional medical schools and post-graduate residency training programs do not provide instruction on what chiropractors do and how they render treatment. To help educate the local medical community, Schubbe Resch chiropractors regularly offer presentations on the techniques and benefits of chiropractic to improve musculoskeletal conditions. The Fox Cities-based chiropractic group has worked vigorously to eliminate the barrier between physicians and chiropractors by achieving results with their patients. Hagen notes, "If they were not getting results, they would not be the gold standard in the community for musculoskeletal care of the spine."



Local neurosurgeon Thomas M. Wascher, M.D. explains, “NeuroSpine Center of Wisconsin has worked closely with Schubbe Resch for almost a decade. Schubbe Resch maintains a unique position as the leader in the chiropractic community, allowing for an unparalleled degree of collaboration with the region’s neurosurgeons, spine surgeons, physical therapists, occupational therapists, and referring primary care physicians. The care at Schubbe Resch is truly patient centered. They are able to provide outstanding chiropractic care for a number of conditions, but they are also able to appropriately recognize problems that would be best treated by other healthcare professionals.”

Just ask Regina about her experience with chiropractic and she gladly says, “The results have been truly amazing and I am grateful to Dr. Hagen for recommending Schubbe Resch.”

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To make an appointment at Schubbe Resch Chiropractic and Physical Therapy Centers, call (920) 738-0200 in Appleton, (920) 720-0660 in Neenah or (920) 882-8200 at NeuroSpine Center of Wisconsin. For more information, visit www.schubberesch.com.