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Policy on Tobacco

Approved by the WFC Council and WFC Assembly at the 7th Biennial Assembly of Members, Orlando, Florida, USA, April 29-30, 2003

WHEREAS scientific evidence has unequivocally established that the use of tobacco products and exposure to tobacco smoke are linked to numerous causes of death, disease and disability,

AND WHEREAS there is presently an escalation in smoking and other forms of tobacco consumption by children, adolescents, women, indigenous populations and other high-risk groups worldwide,

AND WHEREAS cigarettes are engineered to create and maintain dependence, and many of the compounds they contain are pharmacologically active, toxic, mutagenic and carcinogenic, and tobacco dependence is separately classified as a disorder in major international classifications of diseases,

AND WHEREAS the chiropractic profession promotes healthy lifestyles and freedom from drug dependency,

AND WHEREAS this spread of the tobacco epidemic is a global problem that calls for the widest possible international cooperation and response, and the World Federation of Chiropractic wishes to support the World Health Organization's leadership in this area.

Now therefore it is resolved that:

- 1. The WFC encourages all chiropractors to make every patient aware of the hazards to health of direct use, and second-hand exposure to tobacco products, and to provide guidance on cessation of the use of these products to patients who express an interest in such guidance.
- 2. The WFC encourages all chiropractors to prohibit any cigarette smoking or other tobacco use in their offices, and to set a positive example by not making any use of tobacco products themselves.
- 3. The WFC prohibits cigarette smoking and other tobacco use at all WFC meetings and at the WFC Secretariat.