



WORLD FEDERATION OF | FÉDÉRATION MONDIALE DE | FEDERACIÓN MUNDIAL DE
CHIROPRACTIC | CHIROPRACTIQUE | QUIROPRÁCTICA

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WFC Position Statement: Commitment to Addressing Social Determinants of Health in Relation to the Provision of Chiropractic Care

The World Federation of Chiropractic (WFC) recognizes that social determinants of health play a critical role in the prevalence, progression, and management of spine and joint pain. As a global organization dedicated to advancing chiropractic care and promoting spine and joint health, we believe that addressing these determinants is essential to providing effective, equitable, and comprehensive care.

Understanding Social Determinants of Health

Social determinants of health are the conditions in which people are born, grow, live, learn, work, age and die. These factors, including socioeconomic status, education, employment, access to healthcare, and social support networks, have a significant impact on health outcomes. Research indicates that disparities in these determinants can contribute to an increased risk of spine and joint pain, affecting not only individuals but also communities and healthcare systems.

Our Commitment to Addressing Social Determinants of Health

The WFC is committed to promoting a holistic approach to chiropractic care that takes into account public health and the broader social and environmental factors influencing patient well-being. Our position is grounded in the following key principles:

- 1. Equitable Access to Chiropractic Care:** We advocate for equitable access to chiropractic care, recognizing that barriers such as income, education, and geographic location can limit individuals' ability to seek and receive chiropractic care.
- 2. Comprehensive People-Centered Care:** We support a people-centered approach that considers the unique social and cultural context of each individual. This approach involves understanding the impact of social determinants on health and tailoring care to meet the specific needs of diverse populations.
- 3. Collaboration and Advocacy:** We encourage collaboration with other healthcare professionals and organizations to address the broader social determinants of health. The WFC supports advocacy efforts to influence policies and programs that promote social equity and reduce health disparities.
- 4. Education and Awareness:** We believe in raising awareness among chiropractors about the role of social determinants in the delivery of chiropractic care. The WFC is committed to providing high

quality education and resources to help practitioners understand and address these factors in their practice.

5. Research and Evidence-Based Practice: The WFC is dedicated to advancing data acquisition and research into social determinants of health and their relationship to spine and joint pain in general and chiropractic care in particular. We support evidence-based practice and encourage studies that explore the impact of these determinants on patient outcomes.

Conclusion

The WFC values the role of social determinants of health in relation to the provision of chiropractic care. By addressing these determinants, we can work towards a more equitable and effective approach to chiropractic. Our commitment to this cause reflects our dedication to improving the health and well-being of individuals and communities worldwide.