CONSENSUS RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Chiropractic educational institutions have a responsibility to equip students with the skills and attributes necessary to become future spinal health care experts. This includes a commitment to astute diagnostic ability, a comprehensive knowledge of spine-related disorders, appreciation for the contributions of other health professionals and a commitment to collaborative, patient-centred and evidence-informed care.

2. Technological advances provide an opportunity for the chiropractic profession to enhance, evolve and standardise core education and practice. This is relevant to the teaching of chiropractic skills, sharing of learning resources and assessment of performance. Emerging technologies that support the development of clinically-competent practitioners should be embedded within chiropractic programs.

3. The teaching and learning of specialised manual assessment and treatment skills should remain a key distinguishing element of chiropractic curricula.

4. Surveys of the public have demonstrated a desire for consistency in the provision of chiropractic services. Such consistency need not compromise the identities of individual institutions but will cultivate public trust and cultural authority.

5. Globally consistent educational and practice standards will facilitate international portability and promote greater health equity in the delivery of spine care.

6. Chiropractic programs should espouse innovation and leadership in the context of ethical, sustainable business practices.

7. Chiropractic educational curricula should reflect current evidence and high quality guidelines, and be subjected to regular review to ensure that students are prepared to work in collaborative healthcare environments.

8. The training of tomorrow’s spine care experts should incorporate current best practices in education.
9. Interdisciplinary collaboration and strategic partnerships present opportunities to position chiropractors as leaders and integral team players in global spine care.

10. Chiropractic educational institutions should champion the integration of evidence informed clinical practice, including clinical practice guidelines, in order to optimise patient outcomes. This will in turn foster principles of lifelong learning and willingness to adapt practice methods in the light of emerging evidence.

11. Students, faculty, staff and administrators must all contribute to a learning environment that fosters cultural diversity, critical thinking, academic responsibility and scholarly activity.

12. Resources should be dedicated to embed and promote educational research activity in all chiropractic institutions.