

# **GRADUATE CHIROPRACTIC NEUROLOGY**

## **DIPLOMATE PROGRAM**

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Chiropractic Neurology shall be considered that branch of Chiropractic that deals with the definitive diagnosis, and subsequent management of conditions afflicting the human nervous system.

Chiropractic Neurology has evolved because of a need in the health care delivery systems for neurological specialists who appreciate the integral relationship between the spinal, and peripheral body articulations, and their profound influence on proper somatic and visceral neurological functions.

This comprehensive postgraduate neurology program has been instituted under the auspices of a CCE accredited chiropractic Graduate College. Individuals who successfully complete this program of advanced post-doctoral training are eligible to sit for examination, leading to diplomate status with the Neurology Boards of the International Academy of Chiropractic Neurology and of the Council on Neurology of the American Chiropractic Association (A.C.A.). Chiropractic Neurologists will remain abreast of the latest research and developments in neurology.

The Chiropractic Neurologist utilizes all available diagnostic procedures, such as imaging and laboratory tests, to reach a definitive diagnosis. (S)he also utilizes specific physical applications, nutritional therapy or counseling, orthopedic supports, corrective devices, specific chiropractic adjustments, manipulations, exercises, rehabilitation and home therapy regimen consultations for patient care, when appropriate; always in accordance with local state statutes. The Chiropractic Neurologist will make referrals to other health care providers when indicated.

The Chiropractic Neurologist may be used by other health care practitioners, including chiropractic, medical and osteopathic physicians, as well as by the legal and insurance professions and managed care organizations for consultation, examination, and expert witness testimony. Patients who suffer from conditions that have not responded favorably to previous treatment, may seek a doctor with specialized training in conservative diagnostic and treatment methods. That doctor may be the Chiropractic Neurologist.

## **TITLES**

It is the responsibility of the student seeking certification from a Neurology Board to keep abreast of and comply with current requirements of that Board. Each candidate doctor shall be required to meet all credentials, education and experience requirements of the certification board.

A diplomate of the International Board of Chiropractic Neurology is designated as D.I.B.C.N.

## **PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES**

The general purpose of this educational program, with its continuance of qualifying or certifying procedures, is to advance the ability of the Doctor of Chiropractic to be able to select, perform, order and evaluate the necessary examinations for the differential diagnosis of lesions, defects, or disorders of the neuro-musculo-skeletal system; and, to select and therapeutically manage those conditions amenable to chiropractic care, or properly refer them to related disciplines. The more singular objectives for the graduate student, the instructor, and the profession are:

### **I. Objectives**

#### **A. objectives for the graduate student:**

1. To understand the nature of the pathophysiological changes common to neurological diseases.

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2. To recognize the signs and symptoms and differentiate the condition through case history, physical, clinical, x-ray and laboratory procedures.
3. To perform the standard office procedures necessary for this differentiation.
4. To select those cases necessitating further study or referral.
5. To select and perform the conservative chiropractic therapies that are indicated.
6. To adequately record and report the necessary information for the comprehensive evaluation of a patient's disorder and conditional state.

### **B. objectives for the instructor:**

1. To provide a complete, logical and rational sequence to the study of Chiropractic Neurology.
2. To explain and clarify the subject matter, and to stress the relative importance of the various components to the needs of the practicing physician and to the Chiropractic profession.
3. To inspire the student to continuing study a performance achievement of the basic core needs, as well as the many ramifications that (s)he may encompass in practice and other professional pursuits.

### **C. objectives for the profession:**

1. To be assured through its educational institutions, the graduate's ability to recognize, select, and manage in a standard, rational, physiologically therapeutic manner the patients that he/she will be responsible for.
2. To have graduates that have the necessary expertise to assist the field practitioners in the evaluation and management of patients under their care; to assist the profession and its educational institutions in their relationships with related health care disciplines; the public, and jurisdictional third parties; and to have graduates that are capable of educating and expanding chiropractic profession.

## **SUBJECT MATTER**

The subject matter of this course of study is reflected in the contained individual session outlines and listed specific educational objectives. These outlines accent the basic core material, which would be enlarged upon by the instructors presentation, required reading, notes, etc. and the graduate doctors background and concomitant study.

The session outlines are presented to serve as a guide for the instructor and student, and in a manner that will give an orderly sequence to the material. Though this course attempts to be more problem than procedural oriented, it is often necessary to present basic anatomy, pathophysiology, and principles of examination and management prior to the total course and/or the individual sessions. Consequently, the outlines may appear repetitious of some material. This repetition is desired to provide a frame of reference for the major concerns of the session; but will be modified and limited to the session objectives, both when first and later encountered. In some cases, repetition is desired to reinforce and/or advance the learning of a previous stage.

This course is primarily divided into sessions that form a logical sequence. However, each class is an individual module that can be taken as a part of the entire program, or as a single learning session. Currently, there is no limit to the length of time in which the class must be taken, therefore doctors may elect to take fewer than the offered number of modules per year, over a greater number of years.

## **SESSIONS TOPICS**

Please Insert

## **PROGRAM METHOD**

The program consists of a total of over 300 hours of lecture and laboratory sessions, divided into session modules. All classes are conducted online, on or off campus under the supervision of an approved college faculty.

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These classes are to be considered class study sessions that must be taken concurrent with active general practice or clinical residency. Each study session is programmed to a specific lecture-study outline with available notes; however, since the weekend study sessions are not considered the totality of effort required for the desired level of clinical knowledge and proficiency; independent outside study is a necessity.

The class is a three academic year program, with over 300 classroom hours in conjunction with a clinical component that is primarily performed in your own office or clinic.

### ***I. Methods of Instruction:***

Due to the nature and content of the subject matter, the methods of instruction vary during this course. These methods predominantly consist of:

- A. Lectures with and without visual aids, videotapes and/or practical demonstrations.
- B. Clinical Rotations in chiropractic neurology, medical neurology, radiology, neurosurgery.
- C. Grand-Round-Style patient presentations.
- D. Review of pertinent texts and educational resources with direction to comprehensive and quality sources; and with emphasis on the relative important needs of specific information.
- E. Dictation of supplementary notes and clarification of complex material.
- F. Question and answer periods of informal discussions.
- G. Guest lectures and demonstrations.
- H. Review of case histories.
- I. Reading, writing, and/or practical participation assignments.
- J. Written and/or practical examinations.
- K. Patient simulation exercises.

### ***II. Graduate Doctors Activities:***

The student is expected to attend and participate in the class work and the assignments. This participation includes the specific performance, under supervision of:

- A. History taking procedure.
- B. Physical, chiropractic, neurological, and orthopedic examination procedures.
- C. Evaluation of radiographs.
- D. Adjustive technique and therapy.
- E. Therapeutic exercises.
- F. Preparation of reports.

### ***III. Instructional and Graduate Doctors Materials:***

The text, articles, notes, audiovisual aids and related instructional and study sources for this program are varied and abundant. Certain specific assignments are mandatory to the core material and the student is expected to be informed of their content. Session outlines, or session educational objectives, may be followed by study assignments from recommended texts, and distributed articles and notes. Such texts may vary in availability and are not mandated providing the student is aware of the material from the recommended source or a similar alternative selection. Texts, and articles are abundant and constantly being added in this field, and any listing of sources would quickly be out of date. Nevertheless, a listing of recommended reference books will be provided to the student upon request.

In addition, other articles and notes will be added to and distributed that may not be listed, as they are available and pertain to the subject matter. And, other specific assignments from related articles, notes, or texts might also be made by the instructor.

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### EVALUATION

Evaluation of the Student's Achievement is objectively achieved through written and practical examinations; however, modification of grading may be made in consideration of class performance and/or supplementary assignments. Examinations are prepared in consideration of outlines of specific educational objectives and/or study questions and examples of previous examinations. Evaluation is based on completion of narratives, papers, testing and research.

#### ***Narratives:*** ***Total Due: 3***

Each report is to be completed in the style outlined and must be complete in all areas of the report. They are to be professionally written, grammatically correct and with a minimum of spelling errors.

Poor quality reports will be returned with no credit given. Each report that is returned in this fashion must be resubmitted after appropriate corrections have been made.

#### ***Papers:*** ***Total Due: 3***

Each candidate is encouraged to submit and present three case study papers of publishable quality. The topic of these papers is the choice of the doctor.

Each paper must be completed in the form outlined in the guides for submission of professional papers. They must be professionally written, grammatically correct and with a minimum of spelling errors.

#### ***Presentations*** ***Total Due: 3***

Each candidate is encouraged to present three case studies. The topic of these presentations is the choice of the doctor, but should follow the submitted papers.

Each presentation must be performed in a form outlined in the enclosed article. They must be professionally presented.

#### ***Rotations:*** ***Total Due: 4***

Each candidate may complete clinical rotations. The instructor/physician will schedule a day with the patient's appointments evenly placed throughout 2 full days (8am-6pm) and 1 morning (8am-12pm) for a total of 24 hours. With appropriate waivers signed by each patient, the instructor/physician will have up to 3 student/observers join them in practice (clinical neurology, radiology, neurosurgery, electrodiagnosis, etc). Prior medical records and images will be available for review for all patients, and time will be allotted for grand rounds type discourse. Case assessment, management and record keeping issues will be addressed for each patient. Activities for the student may also include history taking, examination, and therapy application. In all circumstances the patients will be completely attended by the instructor/physician, with the students as observers or assistants.

#### ***Testing***

Quizzes may be given as frequently as each session, before and/or after the presented materials. In some cases, quizzes will be given to cover multiple sessions. These quizzes are for the doctor's own benefit, to assess information understanding before class begins, as well as comprehension following class completion.

A Final examination of approximately 200 objective format questions will be administered on the last class day of the academic year. Questions will be multiple choice and true/false with each test consisting of questions taken from the written class notes, lecture material and other sources such as current journals appropriate to the subject matter.

An objective station (OSCE) and practical examination may additionally be required.

A passing score of 80% is required to receive credit on the final examination. Test scores may be curved. If a passing score is not achieved on the final examination, successful completion of the program will be denied until proof of knowledge of the presented information, or completion of a pre-approved make-up test or assignment is accepted by the program coordinator.