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EWHDA

Headaches



*Chiropractic
brings out
the best in me!*

Headaches



Chiropractors address the cause of a patient's health problems, rather than give painkillers and other drugs which only treat the symptoms.

• What Puts The Ache In Headache?

The ache in headache does not come from your brain—your brain cannot feel pain. During brain surgery a patient is often wide awake feeling nothing, even talking to the surgeons and nurses while his/her brain is being operated on (a local anesthetic numbs the scalp). So what puts the “ache” in headache? It's the non-brain structures: blood vessels, membranes and cranial nerves in the brain and skull. When these structures are stretched, compressed, irritated, inflamed or infected, headaches often result.

• The Chiropractic Approach

Why do headache sufferers turn to the natural, drug-free chiropractic approach to health?¹

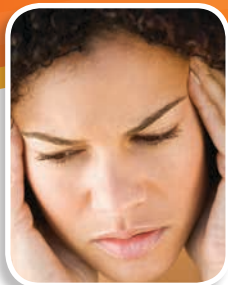
That's because chiropractic has a unique healing approach—chiropractors are the only health professionals trained to analyze your body for a serious and often ignored condition that can damage your nerves, cause tissue inflammation, cause muscles to tighten and knot, weaken your body, cause fatigue and set the stage for sickness and disease. This condition is called the subluxation.

Just as you may have a cavity in your tooth and be unaware of the damage it's causing, so the subluxation may be causing serious harm to your body—sometimes for years—without your knowledge.

What exactly is a subluxation? It is a tiny distortion or mis-alignment in your spine and structural system that stresses your



Every headache sufferer needs chiropractic care.



nervous system. What causes subluxations? Any physical or emotional stress that your body cannot withstand can cause your spine and structural system to develop a subluxation.

• The Chiropractic Checkup

Using his/her hands, X-ray and other instruments, your chiropractor will determine if you have a subluxation. If you do, your chiropractor will give you a safe, gentle correction or adjustment to rid your body of the subluxation and the pressure on your nerves, brain and structural system.

• Why Does Chiropractic Work So Well?

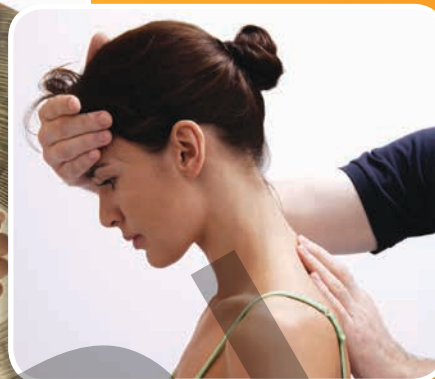
Why has chiropractic been a blessing to millions of headache sufferers? The reason may be that most headache sufferers appear to be carrying around subluxations in their bodies (and don't even know it). According to Dr. Sam Chong, Consultant Neurologist, King's College Hospital: "It is well recognised that post traumatic headache (PTH) is a common symptom after injuries to the head or neck.... Trauma can exacerbate a pre-existing headache condition or it can bring on a headache in someone who has never experienced this before."²

In a randomized controlled trial performed at the University of Odense, Denmark, those under chiropractic care decreased their use of painkillers by 36% and the number of headache hours per day decreased by 69%.³



Headaches affect children too. For example, a ten-year-old girl with chronic, severe migraines (six times a week for the previous three years) was unable to go to school due to the severity of her condition. Neurologists could not help her. A chiropractic examination revealed a subluxation in her upper neck. After her third adjustment she was off her pain medications and by the third week she was back in school, had started dance classes for the first time in two years and "began to smile again. She was leading a normal and healthy life ... by the end of the fifth visit."⁴

A 13-year-old boy who was hurt in a football game was in terrible pain and had to wear dark glasses and ear plugs to compensate for increased sensitivity to sound and light. Medical doctors had given the child painkillers and had him hospitalized in traction for two weeks with no improvement. After his first chiropractic adjustment he could ride home without wearing his sunglasses and for the first time in two weeks expressed an interest in food.⁵



Cervical (neck) subluxations are often found in headache sufferers.

• How Long Will It Take?

It depends. Some patients report dramatic relief after just one adjustment. Others may take months of care to finally resolve them. Everyone is different in how they respond to care. An analysis of 47 studies of chiropractic for headaches, neck pain and upper back pain revealed that it took (on average) 7.7 visits to see a 46.5% improvement in these conditions and 17 visits to completely resolve them.⁶

Many studies and clinical reports repeatedly reveal that anyone suffering from headaches should seek out chiropractic care.⁷⁻¹²

• How Does Chiropractic Affect Headaches?

For many years it has been said that the DC after a Doctor of Chiropractic's name also stands for "Doctor of Cause"—chiropractors correct the cause of a patient's health problems, rather than give painkillers and other drugs which only treat the

symptoms or suppress the disease symptoms and drive them deeper.

A team of surgeons may have found one of the answers as to why chiropractic works so well. They discovered a small neck muscle that connects to brain membranes. When the neck is out of alignment, this muscle can actually pull on the brain! As the lead surgeon writes: "An increasing body of literature relates headaches to pathology affecting the cervical spine and a number of clinical trials have demonstrated that chiropractic ... is valuable for managing headache."¹³

• Not A Headache Therapy

Anyone suffering from headaches (or any other condition) should make sure they are free from subluxations—for the health of their whole body, not just certain parts.

Blood Vessels of the Head & Brain

Open channels between the brain and body are essential for health.

