

Standard of Practice S-010  
Complaints and Quality Assurance Committees  
Approved by Council: June 22, 2002  
Amended: September 21, 2002, and April 12, 2003

*Note to Readers: In the event of any inconsistency between this document and the legislation that affects chiropractic practice, the legislation governs.*

### Intent

To provide guidance to the Complaints Committee in its consideration of evolving techniques, technologies, devices or procedures and to outline for the membership and other stakeholders CCO's expectations relating to the use of techniques, technologies, devices or procedures.

### Description of Standard

For a technique, technology, device or a procedure to be considered acceptable for clinical purposes, it must:

- be taught in the core curriculum, post-graduate curriculum or continuing education division of one or more colleges accredited by the Council on Chiropractic Education Inc., or in an accredited Canadian or American university, in a manner intended to achieve clinical proficiency<sup>1</sup>;

OR

- be a technique, technology, device or procedure approved by CCO.

### Techniques, Technologies, Devices or Procedures

Techniques, technologies, devices or procedures that do not meet the criteria outlined above are not permitted in a clinical setting.

### Informed Consent

In reviewing the documentation and information relating to a complaint involving a technique, technology, device or procedure for the purpose of interpreting the consent provision of the Professional Misconduct Regulation under the *Chiropractic Act, 1991*<sup>2</sup>, the Complaints Committee will look for evidence of written consent from the patient, which includes but is not limited to the following:

- a description of the technique, technology, device or procedure;
- a statement regarding the anticipated goal or expected outcome for the patient from the use of the technique, technology, device or procedure;

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- alternatives, if any, to the technique, technology, device or procedure; and
  - the effects, risks and side-effects of both the use and the non-use of the technique, technology, device or procedure.

### Procedure

The Complaints Committee will rely on this standard of practice to address complaints involving techniques, technologies, devices or procedures and, in particular, to determine how to exercise its discretion pursuant to Ss. 26 (2) of the Health Professions Procedural Code, Schedule 2 to the *Regulated Health Professions Act, 1991*<sup>3</sup>(the Code).

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<sup>1</sup>Examination, certification or other proof of clinical proficiency is required.

<sup>2</sup>Ss. 1 (3) of the Professional Misconduct Regulation under the *Chiropractic Act, 1991*, provides that the following is an act of professional misconduct: “Doing anything to a patient for a therapeutic, preventative, palliative, diagnostic, cosmetic or other health-related purpose in a situation in which consent is required by law, without such a consent.”

<sup>3</sup> Ss. 26 of the Code provides: “A panel, after investigating a complaint regarding the conduct or actions of a member, considering the submissions of the member and considering or making reasonable efforts to consider all records and documents it considers relevant to the complaint, may do any one or more of the following:

- refer a specified allegation of the member’s professional misconduct or incompetence to the Discipline Committee if the allegation is related to the complaint;
- refer the member to the Executive Committee for incapacity proceedings;
- require the member to appear before the panel or another panel of the Complaints Committee to be cautioned; and/or
- take action it considers appropriate that is not inconsistent with the *Regulated Health Professions Act*, the Code, the regulations or by-laws.”