Coronavirus (COVID-19)

The American Chiropractic Association (ACA) is working to coordinate information from multiple sources and partners for use by doctors of chiropractic and their offices throughout the country during the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak. We encourage everyone to seek information directly from reliable sources, many of which are linked below.

Action Alert: Contact Your Members of Congress Now

‘The Immediate Relief for Rural Facilities and Providers Act’ has been introduced in the House of Representatives (H.R. 6365) and Senate (S. 3559). Contact your representatives today about grant and low-interest loan opportunities to rural providers.

Statements from the ACA Board of Governors

Let’s Work Together to Protect and Serve Our Patients, Staff, Families and Communities

ACA is committed to addressing misinformation that may cause confusion. For example, some claims are being made that spinal adjustments can boost immunity and decrease the risk of contracting COVID-19. While spinal adjustments are effective for a number of conditions, there is no quality evidence to support that they can improve immunity to COVID-19.

Safe, Responsible Response to COVID-19

Doctors of chiropractic provide essential care and provide needed service during a healthcare crisis.

DHS Lists Doctors of Chiropractic as Essential

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has listed chiropractors among essential critical infrastructure workers. See page 5. (PDF)

Federal Relief Package

CARES Act: Employee Retention Credit FAQs
ACA Briefing for State Chiropractic Associations and ACA Delegates on how federal relief package could impact patients and practices (AUDIO)

Provisions of interest to chiropractors address student loans, small business loans, employee retention, and individual rebates

New Small Business Relief Provisions Aimed at Healthcare Providers

Update from ACA Vice President Michele Maiers, DC, MPH, PhD (video)

**ACA to Administration: Chiropractors Provide Essential Care to Combat COVID-19**

ACA contacted the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and Vice President Michael Pence to assert that doctors of chiropractic provide essential care necessary to support healthcare and the nation's infrastructure.

**ACA to Department of Health and Human Services: Allow Chiropractors to Practice to the Full Extent of their Licensure for Telemed Services**

ACA contacted the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to request that doctors of chiropractic be authorized to practice to the full scope of their state license via Telemedicine in Medicare in support of efforts to combat the COVID-19 pandemic.

**ACA to Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA): List Chiropractors as Essential Healthcare Providers**

ACA contacted the Cybersecurity Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) (Department of Homeland Security) to request the addition of chiropractors to the federal list of essential healthcare providers (PDF)

**Statements from ACA and Patient Access to Responsible Care Alliance (PARCA)**

Call for Access to Personal Protection Equipment (PDF)

Call for five-year waiver on budget neutrality for CMS Evaluation and Management (E/M) code proposal (PDF)

As always, thank you to our members, who continue to support and educate one another during this challenging time.

ACA suggests doctors of chiropractic (DC) remain up to date with public health guidance issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) with regard to the outbreak of the coronavirus (COVID-19).
The following links are particularly useful, and will be updated as the situation develops, and more information is available:

**General Information and Fact Sheets**

**Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)**
- General Information on Coronavirus (COVID-19)

**World Federation of Chiropractic (WFC)**
- Advice for Chiropractors - Updated
- Update: Literature Review

**Healthcare Professionals**

**CDC**
- Information for Healthcare Professionals
- What Clinicians Need to Know (webinar)

**Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)**
- Guidance for healthcare workers, such as specifics for working in nursing homes and protective mask guidance.
- Provider Update: CMS Fact Sheet on "Flexibilities to Fight COVID-19"

**Telemedicine**

**Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)**
- FAQs on Telehealth and HIPAA during the COVID-19 nationwide public health emergency

**The American Association of Naturopathic Physicians**
- Telemedicine Resources and additional information

**Workplace Safety**

**CDC**
- Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations in Healthcare Settings

**Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA)**
- Guidance for those who manage or help manage a clinic or other chiropractic office

**Employers and Businesses**

**U.S. Senate Committee on Small Business**
- Paycheck Protection Program FAQs for Small Businesses

CDC

- Interim Guidance for Businesses and Employers

Small Business Administration (SBA)

- How to apply for an SBA loan
- Additional small business guidance and loan resources in light of COVID-19
- Small business disaster assistance customer service center: Call 1-800-659-2955 (TTY: 1-800-877-8339) or e-mail disastercustomerservice@sba.gov

**National, State, and Local Governments**

USA.gov

- Government Response to Coronavirus, COVID-19

CDC

- State & Territorial Health Department Websites
- Community Mitigation Plans

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**For Patients**

American Public Health Association (APHA)

- Patient Fact Sheet

HandsDownBetter.org

- How to Protect Yourself and Suggested Sources for Reliable Information

NBC News

- Office Ergonomics - Featuring Tips and Advice from ACA

**Mental Health**

- Self-Care and Applying Psychological First Aid for COVID-19 Responders (YouTube Video)
  - Provides the healthcare responder with just-in-time training on responder stress during COVID-19, and provides stress management strategies that should be implemented now to protect the healthcare workforce.
- National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) COVID-19 Information and Resources – a comprehensive resource for those experiencing stress, anxiety and other challenges during this difficult time, with
links to a wide range of mental health information and resources.

- **Managing Stress and the Threat of COVID-19 (PDF)** – from the Minnesota Department of Health. Understand common stress reactions to increase your ability to cope during a public health emergency such as COVID-19.
- **Care for Your Coronavirus Anxiety** – resources to cope with anxiety, including free recorded meditations.
- **SAMHSA Disaster Distress Helpline and Text to Talk line** – from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. SAMHSA's Disaster Distress Helpline provides 24/7, 365-day-a-year crisis counseling and support to people experiencing emotional distress related to natural or human-caused disasters.

**Kids' Mental Health**

- **Talking to Children About COVID-19 (Coronavirus): A Parent Resource provided by the National Association of School Psychologists**
- **Just For Kids: A Comic Exploring The New Coronavirus**
  A comic based on a story by NPR education reporter Cory Turner.

**Volunteer**

**New York State Department of Health**

- **Get Involved: How You Can Help**

**NYC.gov**

- **COVID-19: How to Help Others**

**American Red Cross**

- **Due to the coronavirus, there is a critical need for blood. Learn more (including where to donate).**

**Information from ACA Members**

MyACA, the members-only forum for the profession, is a great source for keeping in touch with leading minds in chiropractic. ACA members are sharing their challenges and solutions unfiltered and in real time:

- “Coronavirus Sanitation Protocol”
- “Coronavirus Affecting Practice”

**News**

- **Study: Coronavirus Impact on Small Businesses**
- **U.S. Health and Human Services warns employees of malware in fake coronavirus map**
- **HHS has relaxed HIPAA rules to allow providers to communicate with patients via telehealth services.**

**ACA Operations**
ACA has suspended in-person meetings and business travel of staff or members until further notice.

The ACA Faculty Symposium will be conducted in a virtual setting. Check the event page for details as they are available.

To date, no decision has been made about other ACA events, including the Student Leadership Conference (September 2020).

Decisions to reschedule or cancel events organized by ACA Councils or other groups are left to each respective group. Click here for details about upcoming council events.

Updates will be posted here if there are further changes to ACA's operations.

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(Page updated on April 1, 2020.)