

A lot of Misunderstanding about the “Difference & Definitions” between a Doctor of Chiropractic Doctor of Medicine A physiotherapist



A Doctor of Chiropractic does a 5 year science Degree(Australia/USA) with the same base Science Subjects as allied medical sciences ie Bio chemistry, Chemistry, Anatomy etc. in Australia A Doctor of Chiropractic has the Legal right to be called a Doctor recognized AHPRA (Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency) the Government governing peak body of all Health Practitioners.

(Chiropractic, acupuncture, dental, medical, Nursing etc) www.ahpra.gov.au

A Doctor of Chiropractic does **13 times more Anatomy & Physiology(Orthopedics)** (Chiro 594 hrs compared to Medical GP 45 hrs) and **3 times more Diagnostic Imaging than a medical GP**(Chiro 300 hrs Medical GP 100 hrs).

Reference source: (1) (see below)

University studies FACTS and source from the USA with links to the appropriate Universities (Australia is similar in practice and Education Standards as USA).

Physiotherapy, in the USA a Physio is a secondary not primary health care, in other words the Physio is subject to a referral system to and from the Medical GP .for example the Physio in the USA must be governed and controlled by the Medical GP instructions which can obviously become long and drawn out process.

Physiotherapy was a ‘therapy’ system developed for rehabilitation of patients post operations in hospitals and was basically developed from a massage therapy base.

www.apta.org/History

SUMMARY :

A Doctor of Chiropractic The philosophy of the Chiropractor is one of **INTERNAL VITALISM which FOCUSES** on the bio-mechanics and the nervous interconnected system (Neuro-muscular system) believing that the body (with correct nutrition and exercise) is a self-healing organism and contains a VITAL FORCE that sustains it (some call this a Human Spirit) So a Chiropractor is Trained 13 Times more than a Medical GP in Anatomy and Physiology(Orthopaedics) (especially the Human Spine but all inclusively, including the extremities, shoulders, hands, feet, neck and muscular plus TRIGGER POINTS along with a complete understanding of the rehabilitation of every body part.) The Chiropractor is trained in diagnostic imaging (X-ray Diagnosis) 3 time more than a Medical GP so therefore has a deeper understanding of diagnosing of structural bio-mechanics, postural alignment and associated muscular imbalances.(in other words the foundational structure of the body the skeletal system) You can't fix the body's muscular system if the BASE STRUCTURE is the 'root cause'. (If the Foundations of a building is not level everything else will be effected)

Acupuncturists work well with Chiropractic as well as a structured rehabilitation programme designed by the Chiropractor and implemented by a health professional such as a qualified Personal Trainer working with and in synergy with the qualified acupuncturist and massage therapist (usually the acupuncturist is a massage therapist as well especially Chinese trained acupuncturist) refer the Healy's Health Rehabilitation system here:

<http://www.healyshealth.com/lower-back-care>

Footnote: a Dr. of Chiropractic has the orthopaedic training/education stream to a similar/parallel level of a Orthopaedic Surgeon without the 'surgery part' of the equation. Much of the education material by Orthopaedic Surgeons is of great value and interest to Chiropractic students and Doctors of Chiropractic.

A Doctor of Medicine (General Practitioner) is FOCUSED on external treatments to disease and viruses by use of medicines/drugs and external interventions to the human body caused by either viruses or a broken bones, cuts and bruises/infections that need localised treatment anything more complicated is referred to a medical specialist who has done considerable extra studies in the specialized area.

If you already have a Virus Infection or a localized Injury referral to Medical GP is the pathway and the professional area of expertise that a Medical GP is best trained in.

Physiotherapy Despite all the claims that physiotherapy fixes backs etc unfortunately you cannot escape the cold hard facts that physiotherapy is exactly what it is a form of physical therapy. Its roots are in massage therapy in post operative patients in hospitals.

As already mentioned, in the USA physiotherapy is 'secondary health care' in other words you need a referral from a licensed Medical Doctor to see a Physiotherapist.

A physiotherapist basically works on a system of massage and various soft tissue techniques to mobilise injured or post operative patients.

The Physio in Australia is not a Doctor as their university education is not anywhere near the level of a Doctor of Medicine or a Doctor of Chiropractic in years at university or scope of education.

One Fact to bear in Mind is that a Physio is not trained to diagnose patients Xrays (Imaging) and probably answers the question when asked "did the physio ever take an x-ray of the injury?" **that answer is always NO**, now you know why, it's beyond their education scope. Generally Medical GP's will refer to Physiotherapists because of the traditional roots of the Hospital post operative basis of this relationship rather than the educational scope or education of the particular health practitioner ..

The Healys Health System prefers to Rehabilitate Clients this pathway:

- 1) Doctor of Chiropractic
- 2) Acupuncturist & massage Therapy
- 3) Synergistic Personal Training in harmony with (1) & (2)

If you have External Injuries, Viruses, Infections then Referral to Medical GP and or Medical specialist.

Post operative recovery in Hospitals under Supervision of Medical Doctor the post operative Physiotherapy (recommended by Medical Doctor) thereafter Chiropractic and the Healy's Health System external to a hospital situation.

There are cross-over points in which one discipline or the other is applicable, what I have

tried to do here is DEFINE the differences in the above with clear guidelines and scope with references to the actual EDUCATION criteria completed at the UNIVERSITY EDUCATION LEVEL of the practitioner so the Scope and the education parameters are clearly defined for the Customer or Client as they make an objective choice on who is best qualified for what scope of treatments.(without marketing or advertising hype)

Graham Healy
founder of Healy's Health 1985.

THE FACTS!

Doctor of CHIROPRACTIC:

4,614 hrs Uni Study

Medical Doctor:

4,800 hrs

Break Down of hrs studied:

Anatomy

Chiro 375hrs

MD Anatomy 182 hrs

Diagnostic imaging (xrays interpreting) :

Chiro 301 hrs

MD 100hrs

Orthopaedic education (bones & tissue/muscle functions)

Chiro 594 hrs

MD 45 hrs

Ossious manipulation (adjustments)

Chiro 627 hrs

MD zero

Pharmacology Education

Chiro 33 hrs

MD 120 hrs

Theses are the EDUCATION FACTS of the Medical Profession & Chiropractic Profession in USA (Australia similar)

CONCLUSION YOUR CHIROPRACTOR IS AN UNIVERSITY TRAINED MASTER IN NEURO-MUSCULAR & CLINICAL BIO MECHANICS whose base education proves WHY they are specialists in this field .

(1)Source:

<https://prohealthsys.com/students/professional-comparison/>

