

Chiropractic Physicians are fully licensed primary care providers as set forth by the following:

Guam Code Annotated

Section 12101 (b)

'The Healing Art' means the art of prevention, detecting or attempting to detect the presence of any disease; of determining or attempting to determine the nature and state of any disease, if present; or preventing, relieving, correcting or curing of or attempting to prevent, relieve, correct or cure any disease; of safeguarding or attempting to safeguard the life of any woman or infant through pregnancy and parturition; and of doing or attempting to do any of the acts enumerated in this Subsection. The healing arts include, but are not limited to, optometry, nursing, **chiropractic**, dentistry, medicine and surgery, physician assistants, podiatry, psychology, osteopathic, pharmacy, physical therapy, acupuncture, speech language pathology, audiology, respiratory therapy, nutritionist/clinical dietician, cosmetology and veterinary medicine.

Section 121101 (b) Chiropractic Defined Public Law 24-329

Chiropractic means the science, art and philosophy of things natural, the science of locating and removing interference with the transmissions or expression of nerve forces in the human body by the correction of misalignments or subluxation of the articulations and adjacent structures, more especially those of the vertebral column and pelvis, for the purpose of restoring and maintaining health. It shall include the use of all natural agencies to assist in the healing art, such as food, water, heat, cold, electricity and mechanical appliances. The use of X-ray procedures shall be limited to skeletal X-rays and shall exclude the therapeutic use of X-radiation, the use of contrast studies that introduce dyes, isotopes or similar contrast media through the skin, orally, via cathertization or retrograde into any body cavity. It shall exclude operative surgery, prescription, or use of drugs or medicine, and laboratory procedures involved in the penetration of human tissues.

Subchapter 5 Section 5-1.4 "Medical Care"

Federal Personnel Manual, United States of America

Physician defined: (4) The term physician includes surgeons, osteopathic practitioners, podiatrists, dentist, clinical psychologists, optometrists, and **chiropractors** within the scope of their practice as defined by State law.

Medicare Rules and Regulations

Physician defined: For Medicare purposes, the term "physician" includes a doctor of medicine (M.D.), a doctor of osteopathy (D.O.), a doctor of dental surgery or dental medicine (D.D.S. or D.M.D.), a **chiropractor**, a doctor of podiatry or surgical chiropody, and a doctor of optometry. All physicians must be legally authorized (licensed) to practice by the state in which they perform procedures or services.

CHIROPRACTIC PHYSICIANS AS PRIMARY CARE PROVIDERS

- Guam Code Annotated defines Chiropractic as a separate and distinct healing art in the same manner that dentistry is separate and distinct.
- Chiropractors work in cooperation with other healing arts but by law are not under the supervision of any other healing art. (10 GCA Ch 12 Sec 12101 (b))
- It is contrary to the scope of practice set forth in both medicine and chiropractic for any insurance carrier, government agency, etc., to require a medical referral to see a chiropractor. (10 GCA Ch 12 Sec 121107) (PL No. 24-329)
- 10 GCA defines the "practice of medicine" as not including the practice of dentistry, chiropractic, optometry. Therefore it is outside the scope of practice of medicine to determine the need for chiropractic care.
- All providers of the healing art are expected to work within the scope of their practice to provide the public with the optimum level of care.