



December 18, 2014

OHIO STATE CHIROPRACTIC BOARD TESTIMONY

Youth Sports Concussion and Head Injury Committee

Good Afternoon Director Hodges and the members of the Committee

Thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today. I am Dr. Greg Palkowski, President of the Ohio State Chiropractic Board. I am testifying on behalf of the Board regarding the chiropractic scope of practice at the request of the committee.

Diagnosing concussions and clearing athletes to return to play **is within** the scope of chiropractic practice in Ohio. All approved chiropractic colleges are required to educate and prepare their students to practice as portal of entry providers for patients of all ages and genders. Furthermore, the Board's rules require the colleges "to prepare the graduate doctor of chiropractic as a primary health care provider, as a portal of entry into the health delivery system, trained to examine, diagnose, and assume responsibility for the care of patients and to care for the human body in both health and disease." In addition, as a delegate to the National Board of Chiropractic Examiners, I can assure you that we have been able to observe the protocols of the assessment for these types of injuries; as these are procedures that are considered as appropriate testing subject matter for all students sitting for the Chiropractic National Board Part IV. This education includes training on concussion management, as well as many additional instructional opportunities at the post graduate level.

The Board respectfully requests that the committee:

- 1. Develop clear and concise concussion management guidelines based upon nationally accepted, best practice standards and publish the guidelines in such a way that all licensing Boards can adopt the language within their respective administrative rules;**
- 2. Develop minimum educational requirements for providers who wish to assess and clear athletes to return to practice or competition that are fair and consistent across all professions and publish the educational requirements in such a way that licensing Boards can adopt their respective administrative rules;**

- 3. Furthermore, we recommend grandfathering those physicians and licensed health care providers who achieved any minimum educational requirements that the committee develops prior to the effective date of any rule developed by the respective licensing Board; For example within our Board this could include, but not be limited to Certified Chiropractic Sports Physicians, or Diplomate status on the American Board of Chiropractic Neurology.**

Thank you for the opportunity to appear before you. If you should have any questions or concerns I would be happy to address them with you.