Dr. Laura T. Brayton

(201) 792 3544

50 Harrison Street Suite 316 Hoboken, NJ 07030

Newsletter

AUGUST 2010

Does Chiropractic Cure Disease?

Many chiropractic patients are surprised to learn that chiropractic doesn't cure anything. So, how do you explain diseases that have obviously improved with chiropractic care?

The fundamental truth is: health is normal. If you're not healthy, something is interfering with this state of normalcy. The only thing that doctors of any type can do is to remove interferences that may be preventing your body from expressing your normal health potential.

Chiropractic focuses on your nervous system, which controls and regulates every aspect of your body. Restoring better brain/body communications permit a more normal expression of health. The fact that your illness may improve in the process is an expression of better nervous system control of your body.

Thus, chiropractic doesn't cure anything. Only you can do that. If there isn't any interference!

Living to 100

People born 100 years ago would typically live to the ripe old age of 50 years, while children born this year are expected to live longer than 80 years. A study of centurions reveals some general guidelines that you can use to help extend your own life, regardless of your current age:

- 1. Be born a female. Hard to do much about this, but females have been outliving males for centuries.
- 2. Stay married. Married people live longer than single people 10 years longer for men, 4 years for women.
- 3. Eat less. Research shows that life expectancy can actually double if you reduce your food intake.
- 4. Pass up refined sugar. Sugar can speed the aging process.
- 5. Use little salt. Getting used to salt-free tastes will take some time.
- 6. Reduce protein intake. Excess protein stresses the body and reduces your ability to fight disease.
- 7. Regular exercise. No need for a gym membership. Brisk walking improves circulation, metabolism and emotional well-being.

Don't take a single day for granted!

Shock Absorbers of the Spine

They bulge, herniate, degenerate and tear, but they don't "slip." Discs serve as the "shock absorbers" of your body. Separating each vertebra, they create the space for nerves to exit the spinal cord. Rings of fibrous tissue called the annulus contain a soft jelly center.

We generally see two types of disc problems:

Bulging Disc: A weakened area of the annulus allows the soft center of the disc to bulge out, putting pressure on nearby nerves. Bulging discs respond well to chiropractic care, often eliminating the need for surgery.

Herniated Disc: A herniated or ruptured disc is more serious. It seems most common in the lower back. This is when part of the soft center pushes out through a weakened area due to trauma or degeneration, putting pressure on the spinal cord.

Chiropractic care, along with walking, increased water intake and improved nutrition offer a natural, non-surgical resolution for many disc problems.

Stomach Bleeding and Kidney Damage

While the unintended deaths from high profile prescription drugs continue to make front-page news, there may be a far more dangerous drug problem lurking in your medicine cabinet.

Every day, millions of people take an NSAID (non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug) for quick, easy pain relief. Because these drugs are easily accessible, there is a dangerous misperception that they are risk-free. Problems can range from mild stomach upset to stomach bleeding and ulcers. This is because NSAIDs prevent prostaglandins from doing their job of protecting the lining of your stomach. NSAIDs also prevent the body's ability to stop bleeding.

Pain medications such as aspirin, ibuprofen and naproxen are the leading cause of stomach ulcers and cause side effects including stomach bleeding, which can be life threatening.

Prostaglandins are also essential for the proper function of your kidneys. The elderly are especially susceptible to kidney damage from NSAID use. A recent study of 114 elderly men and women who had just begun taking ibuprofen, a popular NSAID, showed that 13% were experiencing reduced kidney function. When taken in high doses, NSAIDs can permanently damage your kidneys.

Before relying on a drug, try a chiropractic adjustment. Side effects include improved energy, increased vitality and enhanced well-being!