



FRANKLY SPEAKING



Total Life Chiropractic - ... educating, adjusting and inspiring

Why Parents Take Healthy Children to Chiropractors

Often we are asked why more and more kids are under regular Chiropractic care. Those who truly understand what Chiropractic care provides for children, realize it is much more than fixing back pain.

"The nervous system is the master controller of our body. If its communication channels become fuzzy, distorted or damaged due to subluxations (misaligned vertebra) then we may experience all sorts of communication errors. For babies this may play out as colic or irritability, an inability to latch and breastfeed or poor sleep habits. For a child poor nerve communication may result in developmental delays, an inability to concentrate, behavioral problems, digestive issues, asthma, headaches, frequent colds or ear infections – the list is endless."

How can your child's body lose its natural alignment and develop subluxations?

Studies have shown that in the majority of cases, birth process trauma (often unrecognized) causes subluxation of the infant's spine. Subluxation damage can be caused by a constricted uterus, a breech presentation or a difficult delivery, and in cases of vacuum extraction or excessive force, the spine is always traumatized. Health problems in childhood or even adulthood have been traced back to spinal and structural damage at birth in many cases.

Abraham Towbin, MD states: "The birth process ... is potentially a traumatic, crippling event ... mechanical stress imposed by obstetrical manipulation-even the application of standard orthodox procedures may prove intolerable to the fetus ... with most signs of neonatal injury observed in the delivery room are neurological."

Research is confirming chiropractors' observations that infants may suffer from spinal subluxations.

In one study, 1,250 babies were examined five days after birth; 211 of them suffered from vomiting, hyperactivity and sleeplessness. Subluxations were found in 95% of this group. Although the researchers in this study were MDs, they recognized the power of chiropractic care and these babies were given the care they needed. The spinal adjustment "frequently resulted in immediate quieting of crying, muscular relaxation and sleepiness." The authors noted that an unhealthy spine causes "many clinical features from central motor impairment to lowered resistance to infections - especially ear, nose and throat infections." The above study discusses an 18-month-old boy suffering from tonsillitis, frequent enteritis, therapy-resistant conjunctivitis, frequent colds, earache and increasing sleeping problems. He received a chiropractic spinal adjustment and the child demanded to be put to bed and slept peacefully until morning. His health returned to normal. One wonders, what would have happened to this child if he never had chiropractic care? A life of antibiotics and other medications? A life of continued sickness?

The authors concluded that a chiropractic spinal checkup "should be obligatory after every difficult birth" and any spinal stress "should be ... adjusted ... the success of adjustment overshadows every other type of care."

According to the Chiropractic pediatric specialist Larry Webster, DC, there are six times in a baby's first year of life when chiropractic examinations are especially important:

1. After the birth process.
2. When the baby starts to hold his/her head up.
3. When the baby sits up.
4. When the baby starts to crawl.
5. When the baby starts to stand.
6. When the baby starts to walk.

Toddlerhood through childhood is a very "physical" time. Those first hesitant steps soon evolve into jumping, running, falls and accidents which are all part of a normal childhood. While most falls are minor, at times they can cause nerve-damaging subluxations with serious long-term consequences.

For this reason all children need regular periodic spinal check-ups and adjustments before symptoms appear.

