

Chiropractic Neurology Made Easy – 6 Hours

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Back To Chiropractic CE Seminars

Learning Objectives

This course focuses on clinical neurology that chiropractors can and should use in their offices on a regular basis. I dispense with theoretical neurology and tests that are rarely used and, instead, focus on how to recognize the very common neurological deficits that walk into chiropractic offices every week. This course focuses not only on “How” to evaluate a patient but also “What” these tests mean, “When” each test should be done and for what clinical symptoms and “Why” it is the chiropractor’s ethical responsibility to perform these tests or screen for these neurological conditions.

First Hour Objectives

This hour covers screening tests physical examinations of neurological symptoms. The difference between constant and intermittent radiculopathy is discussed and differential diagnoses are discussed. I will teach the most important neurological screening test, the Drift test. This screens the upper and lower extremities for subtle motor weakness in the brain, spinal cord and peripheral nerves. Doctors will be taught how to record the findings correctly in the patient’s chart and how to write a referral to a neurologist that explains the findings and the purpose of the referral.

Second Hour Objectives

I will focus on “When” the chiropractor is likely to see abnormal cranial nerve function (usually trauma cases), how to document the findings in the patient’s chart notes and what to write in a referral to a neurologist when enlisting help for the patient. Brain concussion is a neurological condition that presents to chiropractic offices frequently. Doctors will be taught how to assess an athlete or other trauma patient for concussion using the Acute Concussion Evaluation, the Rivermead Post-Concussion Symptoms Questionnaire and the Epworth Sleepiness Scale.

Third Hour Objectives

Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder is commonly caused by car accidents (according to the National Institutes of Mental Health.) Doctors will be taught how to consult with a PTSD patient, how to advise these patients with in-office care and home care instructions for this condition. The Folstein Mini-Mental State Exam (MMSE) is used to examine brain-impaired patients (both trauma and Alzheimers) and I teach its use and clinical interpretation.

Fourth Hour Objectives

Once a patient with a neurological deficit is identified, the doctor must follow up with his/her own evaluations as well as make a proper referral to a specialist for co-treatment when indicated. Outcome assessment questionnaires are taught their use and function.

Fifth Hour Objectives

Brain function controls the pituitary gland and a large number of hormone imbalances. Brain trauma causes a roller coaster of hormone problems which the chiropractor should recognize and document properly. They will be taught the proper way to test and document in the patient’s chart the results as well as make a referral to a hormone specialist to help the patient.

Sixth Hour Objectives

Numerous recent studies document the sequelae of neurological trauma. I will teach doctors the importance of correctly diagnosing these neurological conditions early in the patient’s case so that help can be obtained and proper referrals can be made to benefit the patient and minimize long term permanent neurological residuals.