

Introduction

I have established that about 80% of chiropractors hold conventional concepts of chiropractic largely drawn from the profession's founder, a logical position, and that there is a negatively skewed tail where less than 20% of chiropractors have decided against practicing chiropractic as Palmer founded it.

This gives a challenge to decide who we should read and follow when examining chiropractic. My answer is, all of them. This video gives you some idea of the landscape.

[INTRO CLIP]

The reality is that very few chiropractors actually write and publish. However it is important to read widely and make your own decisions as to the value of their discussions that are published in the indexed literature of journals which goes beyond social media, which we call the grey literature.

My finding of the minority is that their writings are miserable. They reject conventional chiropractic and want to remake the profession (and here I reference Bruce Walker for his proposition to create a '*new chiropractic*')¹ into something more appealing to their own level of ignorance (and here I reference Timothy Mirtz for his proposed philosophy of chiropractic medicine).²

According to Mirtz's biography³ as a member of the Editorial Board of the journal *Internal Medicine Review*, he has a PhD in Global Leadership earned in the one year of 2012. Whilst using the post-nominals 'DC',⁴ meaning an American graduate chiropractor, he seems to not list his chiropractic alma mater, although he did spend 4 years, 1989 to 1992, as an Adjunct Instructor with a chiropractic college in Kansas. A little like Walker, perhaps, earning his DC while helping out their institution.

1. Walker BF. The new chiropractic. *Chiropr Man Ther*. 2016;26(26):<http://chiromt.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s12998-016-0108-9>

2. Mirtz TA. A treatise for a new philosophy of chiropractic medicine. *Chiropr Man Ther*. 2017;25(7): <https://chiromt.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s12998-017-0138-y>

3. Timothy A Mirtz. Editors. *Internal Medicine Review*. URL <https://internalmedicinereview.org/index.php/imr/pages/view/Timothy-A-Mirtz>

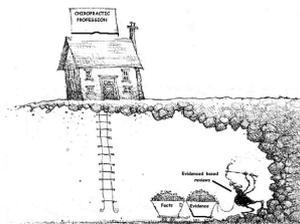
4. Blum C, Globe G, Terre L, et al. Multinational survey of chiropractic patients: reasons for seeking care. *J Can Chiropr Assoc*. URL <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2528271/>

Walker and Mirtz each publish papers critical of chiropractic in one particular journal which declines to list each author's qualifications, a must unusual if not misleading practice. This silence may give face value to a PhD for example, but with Mirtz a deeper look shows his PhD is in global leadership. This and a close association with Internal Medicine are not valid qualifications to allow Mirtz to attempt to redefine chiropractic philosophy. Let alone as '*chiropractic medicine*', an oxymoron if ever there was one.

To be abundantly clear, my criticism is not personal, it is solely of their published work which completely fails any test of philosophical thinking. To be sure, Mirtz talks a lot *about* philosophy in his piece, but actually *offers* none. As for Walker his '*New Chiropractic*' is a 10 point plan at the novice level, based on a false presumption that chiropractic lacks legitimacy.

In addition, there seems to be about a dozen people also with unclear training in chiropractic who are perpetually unhappy (and here I reference Charlotte Leboeuf whose teaching cv states she is self-taught,⁵ as well as Innes, Young, Kawchuk, and Hartvigsen, and their pathetic proposition that the profession should divorce itself).⁶

The biggest concern with this tiny minority group is not just its intent to undermine the profession to remake it as just a manual therapy, but also to re-write its educational accreditation processes^{7, 8} a somewhat naive effort which failed.⁹ I will address the matter of accreditation in a future video series and examine Stanley Innes' propositions and methods.



Drusilla Charles. Slide presentation: Period of Professionalism*** Prelude to the future – Chung Ha Suh, PhD. NINDS. US Office of Education. n.d. URL <https://>

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5. Leboeuf C. Undervisnings-CV. [Danish] Accessed January 2021. URL https://findresearcher.sdu.dk:8443/ws/portalfiles/portal/cv/ef49f116-e228-436c-9adf-6c39439bcbcc?locale=en_GB
 6. Leboeuf-Yde C, Innes SI Young KJ, Kawchuk GN, Hartvigsen J. Chiropractic, one big unhappy family: better together or apart? *Chiropr Man Ther*. 2019;27:<https://doi.org/10.1186/s12998-018-0221-z>
 7. Innes, S.I., Kimpton, A. Are Councils on Chiropractic Education expectations of chiropractic graduates changing for the better: a comparison of similarities and differences of the graduate competencies of the Chiropractic Council on Education-Australasia from 2009 to 2017. *Chiropr Man Therap* 28, 30 (2020). <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12998-020-00315-8>
 8. Innes, S.I., Leboeuf-Yde, C. & Walker, B.F. How comprehensively is evidence-based practice represented in councils on chiropractic education (CCE) educational standards: a systematic audit. *Chiropr Man Therap* 24, 30 (2016). <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12998-016-0112-0>
 9. Innes, S.I., Leboeuf-Yde, C. & Walker, B.F. A failed review of CCE site inspection standards and processes. *Chiropr Man Therap* 27, 49 (2019). <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12998-019-0270-y>

The self-appointed elite status of this group as researchers has been called out by Joyce Miller as sabotage, especially when it comes to the provision of care to children.¹⁰ The prompt for Joyce's indignation was a deeply flawed paper¹¹ from this minority tail which also certainly failed to impress me.¹² It was a tale of a supposed global summit.

So what is the relevance in me spending this time to introduce these people to you? Specifically so that you know that there is a minority within the profession with no idea about *chiropractic philosophy* and an absence of ability to undertake the academic discipline of the *philosophy of chiropractic*.

So let's ignore them and put our efforts into conventional chiropractors, the magnificent 4 out of 5 or 80% who get the big idea that chiropractic is about the identification and analysis of small dysfunctions within and about the spine for the purpose of correcting them by hand or specialised instrument specifically help an individual patient move towards their ideal expression of health and well-being.

This majority of 80% has a grip on Stephenson's 33 Principles¹³ and other writings which explains one view of what chiropractic is. From this we get the substance of chiropractic philosophy which is *belief*, as a belief in Stephenson's first principle of universal intelligence.

Chiropractic philosophers have credible explanations of the place of belief in chiropractic. The paradox is that a belief in universal intelligence and subsequent beliefs in its expression, hinderance, and correction to allow restoration, are condemned by those with an equally strong belief in the scientific method.

If you wish, you can describe 'science' as a belief system that is testable. In this conversation I don't need to get into how Copernican Science upended Ptolemaic Science, just appreciate that it did in a significant scientific revolution.

We can describe chiropractic as a belief system that is not testable. Except that to do so would be wrong.

10. Miller J. Is chiropractic care for children being sabotaged by its own research elite? [editorial]. *J Clin Chiropr Pediatr*. 2021 Jul;20(1):1728-30. URL <https://jccponline.com/miller20-01.html>

11. Cote P, Hartvigsen J, Axen I et al. The global summit on the efficacy and effectiveness of spinal manipulative therapy for the prevention and treatment of non-musculoskeletal disorders: a systematic review of the literature. *Chiropr Man Therap*. 2021; 29(1):8. URL <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12998-021-00362-9>

12. Ebrall P. New moon rising [Editorial]. *Asia-Pac Chiropr J*. 2021;1.4. URL <https://apcj.net/editorial--ebrall-april-2021/>

13. Stephenson RW. *Chiropractic Textbook*. Davenport. Palmer School of Chiropractic. 1927. xiii (Introduction).

By selecting certain personal philosophical positions, everything that happens within chiropractic can be shown to be credible. In particular, my work on *perspectival truth*¹⁴ will demonstrate why this is a sound position, but we are left with the problem that the question of universal intelligence is, strictly speaking, a non-testable belief.

I argue however that its *effects* are testable and by logic and inference, universal intelligence is a *'thing'*. What matters is what you actually make happen in your clinic with your patient's lives, and for a clinical science, which chiropractic is, these effects have ultimate validity. What is more, they are largely replicable, a matter of concern to those with a belief in evidence-based processes of science.

In particular, the Case-Report literature of chiropractic is overwhelming with its evidence of association between a chiropractor's therapeutic intervention and management, and a positive outcome in the health and well-being of the patient. At the time of recording this video there were 2,894 case reports or studies or series indexed in the chiropractic literature.¹⁵ This evidence can not be ignored, nor dismissed as merely 'n of 1', the fall-back derogatory position of the elite.

The strength of this literature is such that we can state with confidence that chiropractic is an evidence-based discipline. There is much more to this question of 'evidence' and I address that in another video series.

So my next question is, are *philosophers of chiropractic* evidence-based? This is actually a very challenging question that causes philosophers to argue among themselves. This, along with other characteristics is what separates the academic pursuit of explaining chiropractic with the tools of philosophy, from the more admirable clinical pursuit of achieving positive health results in your patients through your belief and acceptance of the corpus of chiropractic philosophy.

This video is indexed at ebrall.com as '01-2 Who's who'

Indexing terms: Bruce Walker; Timothy Mirtz; Charlotte Leboeuf; Stanley Innes; Kenneth Young; Gregory Kawchuk; Jan Hartvigsen; Joyce Miller; Chiropractic is ... ; Perspectival Truth.

14. Ebrall P. The perspective-dependent knowledge claim as an explanation of chiropractic's subluxation conundrum. *J Contemp Chiropr*. 2021;4:52-65. URL <https://journal.parker.edu/index.php/jcc/article/download/157/70>.

15. Chiropractic Library Consortium. Index to Chiropractic Literature. Data retrieved 18 January 2022 15:13:02