

NYS CA

ON THE AGENDA



JUNE 2026



Shaping the Future of Chiropractic in NY

- Scope Modernization
Advances in Albany
- What Expanded Scope
Could Mean for Your Practice
- AI Risks Facing
Healthcare Offices
- Modern Therapies and
Emerging Clinical Trends
- The Brain-Body Connection



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2025-2026

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WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

The NYSCA would like to welcome new and returning members! Your participation in professional organizations is essential to the advancement of our work for our members and our patients. Thank you!

Dr. Jennifer Barnes
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Association Members,
Colleagues, and Friends,

Every day across New York, we as chiropractors distinguish ourselves through something simple yet profoundly powerful: we put our hands to work for our patients.

In too many cases, patients are fed into a system where they are seen and diagnosed without ever being properly examined or heard.

In a healthcare landscape that is increasingly automated, distant, and rushed, our profession stands apart because we choose connection over detachment, engagement over observation, and action over abstraction.

We don't just talk about care—we deliver it. We assess, we adjust, we mobilize, we guide. We listen with our ears, our minds, and our hands.

That physical connection is not just a technique; it is a state-

ment of who we are. It says to every patient: You are seen. You are heard. You are worth the time and the touch required to help you heal.

This is why chiropractic continues to thrive. Our patients leave our offices, not to have fill a prescription, but to experience the healing power of the human body that we help to facilitate.

People are hungry for clinicians who do more than diagnose—they want partners who participate in their recovery. They want professionals who understand the human body not only through imaging or data, but through skilled, compassionate, hands-on expertise and experience.

As we look ahead, let us continue to champion the values that have always defined us: service, skill, presence, and the courage to practice a form of healthcare that requires us to show up fully.



Christopher M. Piering DC
NYSCA President

Our hands are our tools, but they are also our promise—one we renew with every adjustment and every patient we serve.


As we head into summer, the NYSCA remains dedicated to making NY a better place for our members and for those who place their trust in us.

Thank you for the work you do, the lives you change, and the profession you elevate every day.



Christopher M. Piering DC

President, New York State
Chiropractic Association

 **STATUSFI** Compliance Dashboard for Doctors of Chiropractic
—FREE to New York State Chiropractic Association Members

Start Addressing the Elephant in the Practice

Statusfi **EMPOWERS** Doctors of Chiropractic to track, complete, and renew their practice compliance.

Stay informed and engaged with the latest developments impacting our profession.

We encourage you to turn to [page 32](#) to review the comprehensive update from the NYSCA lobbyist, Amy Kellogg of Harter Secrest & Emery, offering timely insights into current legislative activity. Then, continue to [page 33](#) for an important message from the Chair of the New York Chiropractic Political Action Committee (NYC PAC) on how your involvement helps shape the future of chiropractic in New York. Your awareness and participation truly make a difference.

2026

FALL CONVENTION AT THE HILTON GARDEN INN ROSLYN

EARN UP TO 16 CE CREDITS ACROSS 3 DAYS
ON BEAUTIFUL LONG ISLAND



OCTOBER 9
OCTOBER 10
OCTOBER 11



FRI 2PM-6PM
SAT 8AM-6PM
SUN 8AM-12PM



HILTON GARDEN INN ROSLYN
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PORT WASHINGTON NY



Register online: www.NYSCA.com/fall-convention

Questions: call 518-785-6346



License Renewal: Continuing education credits provided by Northeast College of Health Sciences. Pre-approved in multiple states, with additional approvals pending. Registration deadlines, hotel accommodations, and eligibility requirements apply. For pricing, full CE details, state approvals, and policies, please visit our website. [View CE Details & Policies](#)

Share Your Voice with the New York State Chiropractic Community

We are now accepting submissions for the next edition of *On the Agenda*. If you've written an article, blog post, or professional piece that advances knowledge in chiropractic care, we encourage you to share it with us. Our members appreciate practical tools, research-based insights, and perspectives that support growth in daily practice. Please note that submissions must be educational and non-commercial in nature (**advertorials are not accepted**). Multiple submissions are welcome and may be considered for future issues.

Publication Schedule & Deadlines

On the Agenda is published electronically in March, June, September, and December. Articles must be submitted by the 10th of the month prior to publication: February 10 for the March edition, May 10 for the June edition, August 10 for the September edition, and November 10 for the December edition. Articles submitted after the deadline may be considered for the next edition.

Email your submission and author attribution to newsletters@nysca.com.

We look forward to hearing from you and sharing your expertise with our statewide audience!

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Dr. Abigail Riutta

*Riutta Chiropractic
Gouverneur, NY (District 10)*

Abigail Riutta, DC, is the owner and chiropractor at Riutta Chiropractic, located in Gouverneur, NY. Immediately upon graduation, Dr. Riutta moved back to her hometown and opened up her own practice, where she focuses on providing personalized, evidence-informed care to the members of her community.

Dr. Riutta earned her Doctorate of Chiropractic from Northeast College of Health Sciences, graduating with honors. Dr. Riutta is a board-certified chiropractor and is licensed to practice in New York State. Additionally, Dr. Riutta furthered her education by receiving her Webster Technique certification, so that she can better serve her prenatal patients. Dr. Riutta is also currently working to earn her Diplomate in Pediatrics through the American Chiropractic Association.

As a student, Dr. Riutta served as President of the Student NYSCA at Northeast College. She was a key player in the activation of SNYSCA,



which now has active branches at both Northeast and D'Youville, and has its own section at NYSCA's semiannual Conventions. Additionally, Dr. Riutta currently serves at the NYSCA Communication Rep between SNYSCA & NYSCA, and serves as NYSCA District 10 Delegate. In January 2026, Dr. Riutta spoke at the NCMIC Starting into Practice Conference regarding her experience owning her own practice immediately upon graduating. Dr. Riutta was awarded New Practitioner of the Year by the NYSCA at the Spring 2026 Convention.

SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT



Lewin & Baglio, LLP has been a valued and enduring partner of the Association, consistently contributing their expertise and energy as both a featured speaker and exhibitor at NYSCA events. With more than two decades of experience in No-Fault, Workers' Compensation, and commercial reimbursement, their team brings a highly focused and personalized approach to supporting medical providers.

Their commitment to achieving optimal outcomes is matched by a hands-on style that helps practitioners confidently navigate complex reimbursement challenges. Founding partners Lev Lewin, Esq., and Michael Baglio, Esq. are widely respected litigators and educators, generously sharing their knowledge to strengthen the profession and empower providers with practical, actionable insights.

Lewin & Baglio's reputation for tenacious advocacy and high-quality service continues to make a meaningful impact for providers across NYS. We are grateful for their ongoing support, trusted partnership, and dedication to advancing the success of our members and the broader chiropractic community.

!! Healthcare Provider Education and Training !!

•NYS Sexual Harassment Prevention

(required annually) <https://www.ny.gov/combating-sexual-harassment-workplace/>

•Medicare Fraud and Abuse Training

(required annually) <https://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/>

• Mandated Reporter Training (Updated 09/01/2025) - Due November 2026

www.op.nysed.gov/about/training-continuing-education/child-abuse-identification-reporting

•Cultural Competency Training

(required annually by some networks) <https://thinkculturalhealth.hhs.gov>

•No Surprises Act's Good Faith Estimates

<https://www.cms.gov/files/document/gfe-and-ppdr-requirements-slides.pdf>

NYSCA 2026 Board of Directors Elections Results

The New York State Chiropractic Association is proud to announce the results of our May 2026 elections.



NYSCA Elections give our members the opportunity to shape the future of the profession in New York State by nominating and electing representatives from across the state to the NYSCA Board of Directors.

How NYSCA is Governed

The NYSCA is governed by a democratically elected Board of Directors and House of Delegates. All governing officials are licensed Chiropractors who volunteer their time and efforts and pay membership dues. Many of these officials also serve on committees, often more than one, which are tasked with specific projects as needs arise.

Director positions in Region 2 (Long Island) and Region 4 (Western NY) were up for election in 2026.

This was an uncontested election in Region 2.

This occurs when the number of open leadership positions equals or exceeds the number of campaigning candidates. In an uncontested election, the individuals running for office are elected by a single ballot cast by the current Secretary of the NYSCA.

This was a contested election in Region 4.

This occurs when the number of candidates running for office exceeds the number of open leadership positions. Individuals eligible to vote in this year's NYSCA Region 4 elections received an email with instructions on how to cast their vote. The election period ran from 12:00 p.m., May 1, 2026, to 11:59 p.m., May 15, 2026.

The results are in, and the following individuals have been elected to serve on the Board of Directors:

Region 2—Long Island

- Joseph Merckling DC
- Bruce Silber DC
- Robin Stein DC

Region 4—Western NY

- Bethany Buryta, DC
- Brenda Covell, DC
- William Lauretti DC

These will be joining our current Board of Directors incumbents:

Region 1—NYC Metro

- Christine Antoldi DC
- Joseph Campisi DC
- Mariangela Penna DC

Region 3—Eastern NY

- Jason Brown DC
- Robert Martin DC
- Michael O'Leary DC

Additionally, Caitlin Simpson DC will continue to serve as the ACA Affiliate to the Board of Directors.

The Board of Directors works along-side the NYSCA Officers, who are:

- Chris Piering DC
– President
- Gerald Stevens DC
– Vice President
- Lloyd Kupferman DC
– Treasurer
- Allison Fleming DC
– Recording Secretary
- James Walters DC
– Communications Secretary
- Anthony Palumbo DC
– Immediate Past President

The NYSCA thanks all candidates who participated in this year's election and extends its congratulations to the selected nominees. The terms of office of the newly elected board members will take effect as of July 1, 2026, and each will serve a two-year term.

To learn more about NYSCA elections, visit www.nysca.com.

UPCOMING CE WEBINARS



Earn Continuing Education credits from the comfort of your office

In addition to CE available at our statewide conventions, the NYSCA offers continuing education credit via webinar through Northeast College of Health Sciences Post-Grad. NYSCA Webinars are held most months, usually on a Wednesday at 1pm EST.

The Roadmap to Success: Implementing Evidence-Based Nutrition in Everyday Clinical Practice

Register Online

Presented by: Dr. Robert Silverman
June 10, 2026 | 1pm-2pm (1CE)

In this new and insightful presentation, Dr. Robert Silverman offers a comprehensive exploration of evidence-based nutrition's pivotal role in augmenting everyday practice within the realm of functional nutrition. The session delves into integrating flowcharts, protocols, and case studies to elucidate the practical implementation of nutrition in diverse patient scenarios. By amalgamating empirical data with clinical expertise, attendees will gain insights into personalized lifestyle strategies that align with individualized healthcare needs.

Mastering Gait Analysis

Register Online

Presented by: Allison Carlson, DC, CCEP, DICCP
August 12, 2026 | 1:00pm-3:00pm (2CE)

Discover the art and science of Gait Analysis in this dynamic continuing education course designed for chiropractic professionals. Unveil the secrets of normal gait patterns, equip yourself with advanced tools to swiftly identify aberrations, and acquire practical techniques to effectively address and alleviate abnormal signs. Elevate your chiropractic practice by mastering the intricacies of gait analysis and enhancing patient care outcomes.

Support the Profession by Sharing Your Expertise

We are actively expanding our webinar programming and welcome member participation as speakers. If you have expertise, research, or clinical insights that you would like to share with your colleagues, we invite you to submit a speaker application. Contributing as a presenter is a meaningful way to support the profession, highlight your expertise, and engage with fellow members across the association.

Tuition Discount

Association Members are eligible to receive a discount on tuition for NYSCA-sponsored webinars via coupon code at registration check-out. Please be sure to check your email for the discount code, which is included for all NYSCA members. You must have your discount code BEFORE registering. Please note, once you register, the discount code cannot be applied retroactively. Contact the NYSCA Administrative Office at 518-785-6346 for more information.

Registration Deadline

Attendees MUST be registered and paid via credit card or check by 3:00 pm, one week before the course is to take place, to avoid additional fees. All unpaid/late registrations and at door registrations are subject to the following non-refundable fees: add \$5 (1-hr webinars).

License Renewal

Continuing education credit (CE) is provided by Northeast College of Health Sciences. These seminars are valid for CE credits in "pre-approved" states, so long as they fall within the scope of practice as outlined by the corresponding state board. It remains attendees' responsibility to contact the state board(s) from which they seek continuing education credits for purposes of ensuring said board(s) approves both the delivery method and content as they relate to this event. Neither a speaker's or exhibitor's presence at said event, nor product mention or display, shall in any way constitute Northeast College endorsement. Northeast College's role is strictly limited to processing, submitting, and archiving program documents on behalf of course sponsors.

Learn More: [Northeast College Continuing Education Policy](#)

2026 Spring Convention

EVENT RECAP

April 17-19, 2026 at Mohegan Sun Casino & Resort

The 2026 Spring Convention at Mohegan Sun brought together an exceptional community of chiropractors, students, and industry partners for a meaningful and energizing weekend. With more than 300 attendees and over 45 exhibitors participating, this year's event was one of our strongest, enriched by our partnership with the Connecticut Chiropractic Physicians Association (CT Chiro). We are grateful to everyone who joined us in making this gathering such a success.

Friday Sessions

Educational programming began Friday afternoon with a diverse slate of sessions. Dr. Jeffrey Poplarski delivered hands-on CPR and AED Basic Life Support training, offering participants an important clinical competency. Members of the NYSCA Insurance Committee led several key updates, including Dr. Robert Martin, Dr. Joseph Merckling, Christine Antoldi, Dr. Robin Stein, and Dr. Mariangela Penna. Their sessions on workers' compensation, no fault, commercial insurance, and Medicare requirements equipped clinicians with

knowledge they can use immediately. The day concluded with an evidence-based lecture from Dr. Louis Crivelli of Clinical Compass, highlighting how current research continues to shape chiropractic care.

Saturday Sessions

Saturday offered a full day of high-level CE. Dr. Alicia Yochum presented Real Life Radiology, sponsored by Foot Levelers, bringing clinical imaging to life with practical case examples. Dr. Eric Russell, sponsored by NCMIC, led a deep and engaging exploration of chiropractic philosophy and the normal complete cycle. In the afternoon, Dr. Kurt Juergens, also sponsored by Foot Levelers, taught clinical interventions for lower extremity sports injuries, while Dr. Kristina Napoli, sponsored by NCMIC, delivered essential content on ethics and risk management. Throughout the day, attendees enjoyed dedicated networking breaks and high-energy engagement with exhibitors.

Sunday Sessions

Sunday morning wrapped up with four strong sessions. Drs.

Russell and Scott Sursky presented a thought-provoking look at neurological interventions and their potential impact on chiropractic. Dr. James Forster and Dr. Cal Forster, both sponsored by NutriWest NY, offered valuable insights in pediatrics and precision nutrition. Dr. Tom DeVita, sponsored by Activator Methods International, provided a focused overview of Activator technique fundamentals.

Exhibitors and Sponsors

The exhibit hall was a central highlight of the weekend. With more than 45 exhibitors representing legal services, nutritional support, office technology, diagnostic tools, practice resources, and chiropractic education, participants had many opportunities to explore the latest advances in the profession. Exhibitors also enhanced the attendee experience through raffles, in-booth promotions, scavenger hunt participation, and dedicated product demonstrations. Their support helps sustain the high quality of this event year after year.

We also extend special appreciation to our speaker spon-



sors: NCMIC, Foot Levelers, NutriWest NY, Activator Methods International, and Clinical Compass. Their commitment to professional development directly strengthens the depth and relevance of our continuing education program.

NYSCA Governance

In addition to educational programming and exhibitor engagement, this year's governance meetings provided meaningful opportunities for leadership and collaboration. CT Chiro and NYSCA held their respective membership meetings on Saturday afternoon, creating space for discussion, updates, and shared priorities. The NYSCA House of Delegates convened earlier in the day, followed by a productive meeting of the NYSCA Board of Directors. These sessions remain essential to shaping the direction

of our associations and the advancement of the chiropractic profession in our region.

Final Notes

Social events throughout the weekend added connection and camaraderie to the experience. The President's Welcome Reception on Friday evening was a lively and well-attended gathering. Saturday's luncheon brought together members, sponsors, and partners for updates from organizational leadership and our lobbyist team. Attendees continued to enjoy conversation and networking during refreshment breaks and throughout the exhibit hall.

Thank you once again to every attendee, exhibitor, sponsor, volunteer, and partner who made this year's Spring Convention such a success. Your commitment strengthens our profes-

sional community and ensures that this event remains a valuable resource for learning, collaboration, and inspiration.

Future Events

The NYSCA Fall Convention will return to Long Island in October 2026. We look forward to gathering again for another weekend of education, collaboration, and member engagement. Registration is expected to open in late spring, and additional details will be shared as they become available.

Scan the QR code below to visit and bookmark the fall convention webpage and to learn more about the upcoming event!



314 Route 94 S, Unit 4
Warwick, NY 10990
Phone: 1-888-227-5469
Fax: 845-987-6223
www.nutriwest.com
Amber@NutriwestNY.com



Celebrating Excellence: Honoring Leaders at the 2026 Spring Convention

At this year's Spring Convention at Mohegan Sun, the New York State Chiropractic Association paused to recognize the people who move the profession forward. From rising leaders to seasoned experts, each honoree reflects the strength and vision of chiropractic care across New York State.

Recognizing Professional Achievement and Leadership

First, NYSCA honored doctors who lead through care, service, and advocacy.

Dr. James Walters earned the Chiropractor of the Year Award. As NYSCA Communications Secretary and Affiliate Delegate to the ACA, he has driven meaningful progress over the past year.

Next, **Dr. Joseph Merckling** received the Leadership Recognition Award. As Region 2 Director, he has strengthened committees and supported district efforts across the Association.

In addition, **Dr. Michael Senzamici** received the Rising Star Award. As a District 4 Delegate, he shows strong leadership early in his career and brings fresh energy to the profession.

Dr. Abigail Riutta earned the New Practitioner of the Year Award. As District 10 Delegate, she has already shown clinical skill, dedication, and active engagement.

Special Recognition for Service and Partnership

NYSCA also recognized individuals and partners who support the profession in key ways.

Dr. Michael Mestan, President of Northeast College of Health Sciences, received the Special Commendation for Distinguished Service. He continues to lead through service and advocacy. Ms. Christine Pluretti accepted the award on his behalf.

Meanwhile, **Ms. Kaila Markland** received the Student Leadership Award. As a student member, she has shown initiative, strong engagement, and clear leadership potential.

NYSCA also honored **Mr. Michael Martin** with the Award of Appreciation. As Executive Vice President of Professional Affairs, he provides steady and meaningful support to NYSCA programs.



In addition, **Lewin & Baglio LLP** received the Community Partner Award. Their work continues to support chiropractic care and community wellness.

Honoring a Lifetime of Impact

NYSCA reserves its highest honors for those who shape the profession over time.

Dr. Robin Stein received the Malcolm H. Levitin Award. As Region 2 Director, she has made a lasting impact through her leadership and service.

Dr. Lloyd Kupferman earned the Lifetime Achievement Award. As NYSCA Treasurer and Convention Committee Chairman, he has devoted decades to the Association and the profession.

In a heartfelt moment, NYSCA presented the Unseen Strength Award to Dr. Kupferman's wife, Rory. Her steady support behind the scenes has made a real difference.

Finally, **Dr. Anthony Palumbo** received the Ernest G. Napolitano Award. As a past president and active committee leader, he has advanced both NYSCA and the chiropractic profession for many years.

A Shared Commitment

Each honoree tells a story of service and leadership. Together, they show what is possible when people commit to a shared purpose.

NYSCA thanks all award recipients for their work, their leadership, and their continued impact across New York State.

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Balance Distribution



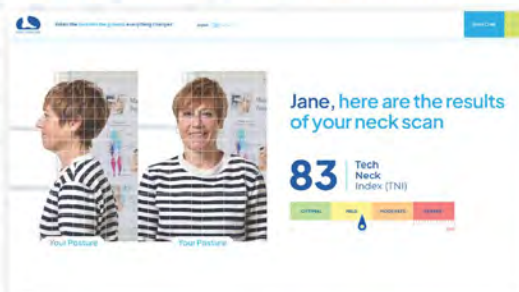
Pronation Stability Index



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Bill to Update the New York State Chiropractic Scope of Practice on the Move in Assembly!

As the state legislature enters the homestretch of its 2026 regular session, we have some good news: A4706-C (Assemblymember Clark)/S5860-C (Senator Gounardes), which updates the chiropractic scope of practice, was reported out of the Assembly Higher Education Committee on May 19 and sent to the Codes Committee, where it was reviewed and approved on May 28.

The bill now heads to the Assembly Ways and Means for review. From there, it will go through the Assembly Rules and then can go to the floor for a vote by the full Assembly. The Senate version of the bill passed in that house last year, and based on the Assembly movement, we are hopeful they will pass it again this year.

Why Scope Modernization Matters

The New York chiropractic scope of practice was established in 1963 and has had only minimal updates since then, the last in 1982. In the 63 years since the licensed profession of chiropractic was recognized in New York,

there have been significant advances in the educational standards and training for doctors of chiropractic, and this bill seeks to sync the legal scope of practice with those changes in chiropractic education and training.

Building Support Across the State

The NYSCA Board and its government relations team remain focused on getting this bill through both houses of the legislature this session. We spent the past year strengthening and expanding a coalition of partners to support our efforts and talking with groups that had concerns, including the NY Chiropractic Council, to ensure that this important legislation passes both houses of the legislature.

While we have been hard at work building support our bill still faces significant opposition. The Medical Society of New York State, New York Society of Orthopaedic Surgeons and American Association of Neuromuscular & Electrodiagnostic Medicine have all issued memos of opposition to our legislation. As we've continued to move

through the process, we have seen their opposition and pushback increase. Our government affairs team is hard at work pushing back on their opposition, but it is important to note that this opposition is significant and will make our efforts more difficult.

A Critical Moment for the Profession

It is imperative that everyone who wants a more modern scope of practice for the chiropractic profession in New York State work together now more than ever to give this important legislation its best chance of success. If the Assembly passes this bill, and the Senate passes it again before the end of session, the bill will be sent to the Governor for her review. At that point, we would be hopeful she will sign the bill into law. Until then, we will remain vigilant and cautiously optimistic.

Looking Ahead

We hope you are as excited and encouraged by this news as we are. Stay tuned for updates.

Virtual Credit Card Law Goes into Effect on June 17

One of NYSCA's main legislation priorities last year was the virtual credit card bill, which was sponsored by Assemblymember Alex Bores and Senator Jeremy Cooney, A3986-A/S2105-A. The bill requires that any insurer that uses a credit card, virtual credit card, or electronic funds to pay a provider's claim for reimbursement to notify the provider in advance if there is a fee to process the payment and provide an alternative payment method that does not impose a fee. The bill passed both houses last year and was signed into law by Governor Hochul on 12/19/2025.

The provisions of this bill will take effect on June 17, 2026.

For details on what healthcare providers can expect and recommended steps, please visit www.nysca.com/2026/2848/virtual-credit-card-law-goes-into-effect-on-june-17/ (access limited to NYSCA members).



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WHY IT MATTERS

Why New York's Chiropractic Scope Needs Modernization

Healthcare continues to evolve, and patients today are increasingly seeking conservative, non-pharmacological approaches to neuromusculoskeletal conditions, mobility concerns, injury recovery, and overall functional health.

Chiropractors play an important role in meeting that need.

However, portions of New York's chiropractic scope law were written decades ago and do not fully reflect the education, training, and clinical responsibilities of today's chiropractic profession.

The proposed scope modernization legislation seeks to address that issue by updating and clarifying statutory language to better align with modern chiropractic practice and contemporary patient care.

Chiropractic Has Evolved Alongside Healthcare

Today's chiropractic education includes extensive training in:

- physical examination,
- diagnosis,
- orthopedics,
- neurology,
- biomechanics,
- rehabilitation principles,
- imaging interpretation,
- and evaluation of neuromus-

culoskeletal conditions affecting both the spine and extremities.

At the same time, patient expectations have changed. Individuals increasingly seek conservative care options that emphasize function, movement, mobility, and quality of life while avoiding unnecessary reliance on drugs or invasive procedures whenever appropriate.

Chiropractors routinely help patients manage:

- neck and back pain,
- sports injuries,
- repetitive stress conditions,
- postural dysfunction,
- gait abnormalities,
- extremity complaints,
- and other musculoskeletal concerns that impact daily activity and overall wellbeing.

Scope modernization legislation helps ensure that New York law more accurately reflects the education and competencies already present within the profession.

Clarity Benefits Patients and Providers

One of the central goals of scope modernization is clarity.

Clear statutory language benefits:

- patients seeking conservative care,
- chiropractors providing neuromusculoskeletal evaluation and treatment,
- insurers reviewing claims,
- employers and attorneys interpreting documentation,
- and healthcare professionals coordinating patient care.

Modernized language can help reduce confusion regarding the role chiropractors play within today's healthcare environment while improving understanding of the services chiropractors are trained and qualified to provide.

Supporting Conservative, Non-Pharmacological Care

As conversations continue nationally regarding pain management, mobility, function, and quality of life, conservative care options have become increasingly important.

Chiropractic care offers patients a non-pharmacological approach focused on:

- restoring function,
- improving mobility,
- supporting recovery,
- and promoting musculoskeletal health.

(Continued on page 31)

NEW YORK STATE CHIROPRACTIC SCOPE MODERNIZATION

THE TIME IS NOW!

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What Scope Modernization Could Mean for Your Practice

For many chiropractors, scope modernization is not about dramatically changing what happens in practice each day. It is about ensuring that New York law more clearly reflects the realities of modern chiropractic education, patient needs, and conservative neuromusculoskeletal care.

Here are several practical ways modernization could impact chiropractors across New York.

Greater Clarity in Diagnosis

Under current law, the ability of New York chiropractors to render diagnoses largely rests on interpretations issued by the State Education Department rather than clearly defined statutory language.

Scope modernization would help provide greater clarity and stability regarding the chiropractor's role in evaluating and diagnosing neuromusculoskeletal conditions within the profession's education and training.

Clear statutory recognition helps support consistency, professional certainty, and long-term protection for the profession.

Performing Physical Examinations

Modernization could also help clarify the chiropractor's authority to perform examinations for individuals who are not necessarily active chiropractic patients.

This may include:

- scoliosis screenings,
- sports screening examinations,
- DOT examinations,
- and other functional or musculoskeletal evaluations that fall within chiropractic education and competency.

As healthcare continues emphasizing conservative, preventative, and functional care approaches, these types of services represent growing opportunities for the profession.

Treating Extremity Complaints

Patients frequently seek conservative care for complaints involving:

- shoulders, wrists, elbows,
- knees, ankles,
- and other extremity-related musculoskeletal conditions.

Modernized scope language could help provide clearer statutory recognition of the chiropractor's role in evaluating and treating extremity complaints as part of conservative neuromusculoskeletal care.

For many practices, this represents both improved patient access to conservative care and additional opportunities for practice growth within modern musculoskeletal healthcare.

Modern Diagnostic Imaging and Testing

Healthcare technology continues to evolve, and chiropractors increasingly receive training related to advanced diagnostic imaging and electrodiagnostic testing.

Scope modernization could help create clearer pathways for chiropractors seeking advanced credentials and collaborative opportunities involving modern imaging and diagnostic procedures.

This includes the potential for expanded professional opportunities in areas such as radiological interpretation, fellowship training, and multidisciplinary collaboration.

Supporting Conservative, Non-Pharmacological Care

At its core, scope modernization reflects the growing demand for conservative, non-pharmacological approaches to neuromusculoskeletal care.

Patients increasingly seek providers focused on:

- function,
- mobility,
- movement,
- rehabilitation,
- and quality of life.

Modernized statutory language helps ensure that New York chiropractic law reflects the education, training, and real-world role chiropractors already serve in meeting those patient needs.



NYS Updated Mandated Reporter Training Now Available Online; Due November 2026

As part of New York State’s ongoing commitment to protecting vulnerable children, recent legislation has [expanded training requirements](#) for mandated reporters. This is a new requirement that applies even to those who previously completed the mandated reporter training required by April 1, 2025.

The NYSCA Education and Events Committee has been coordinating with the Northeast College of Health Sciences Frank J. Nicchi School of Continuing Education in the development of a course that fulfills the new training requirements.

This half-hour course is available from Post-grad on June 8, 2026 from 1:00-1:30pm. This course will offer 0.5 category 1 credit hours and will be presented by Heather Frederick MS LMHC. It is anticipated that additional dates will be scheduled in advance of the November due date.

Learn more and register online: <https://ce.northeastcollege.edu/courses/view/NYSUpdatedAddendum>

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When AI Impersonates Clinicians: What Private Practice Need to Know

by Michael L Brody, DPM
TLD Systems

Artificial intelligence is rapidly entering everyday workflows—from documentation support and patient messaging to clinical decision support and triage tools. While these technologies can improve efficiency in private practice settings, a recent Pennsylvania lawsuit highlights an important and emerging risk: AI systems that appear to “act like clinicians” may be crossing into the unlicensed practice of medicine.

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has filed suit against Character Technologies Inc., the company behind Character.AI, after an AI chatbot allegedly presented itself as a licensed psychiatrist and provided responses that resembled clinical evaluation and treatment recommendations.

This case carries direct implications for private practices who are increasingly adopting AI tools in clinical and administrative workflows.

What Happened

According to the complaint, a Pennsylvania Department of State investigator interacted with a chatbot posing as a psychiatrist on the Character.AI platform.

The chatbot allegedly:

- Identified itself as a “Doctor of psychiatry”
- Suggested possible mental health conditions based on symptoms
- Conducted clinical-style

“assessments”

- Claimed medical training and psychiatric experience
- Asserted licensure in Pennsylvania and other jurisdictions
- Generated a fabricated medical license number

The state confirmed the license number was invalid and argues the behavior may constitute misleading representation of licensed medical practice.

Why Regulators Are Taking Action

Pennsylvania has asked the court to stop AI systems from presenting themselves as licensed clinicians or engaging in behavior that could be interpreted as practicing medicine under false credentials.

The state is also advancing broader oversight measures, including:

- Reporting mechanisms for suspected AI-driven unlicensed medical activity
- An AI task force focused on “companion” and conversational technologies
- Proposed safeguards such as age verification, self-harm escalation protocols, and clear AI disclosure requirements

The direction from regulators is increasingly clear: when AI behaves like a clinician, it may be regulated like one.

Why This Matters for Private Practices

Even though this case targets a technology company, the down-

stream effects are directly relevant to medical practices.

Patients are already using AI before visits

Many patients now arrive with AI-generated explanations for:

- Heel pain and plantar fasciitis
- Neuropathy symptoms
- Nail and skin conditions
- Surgical “recommendations” they found online

These outputs can sound authoritative even when inaccurate or incomplete.

AI can mimic clinical reasoning

Modern chatbots often present:

- Structured “diagnoses”
- Confident treatment suggestions
- Medical-sounding language that resembles clinician guidance

This increases the risk that patients confuse AI content with real medical advice from their doctor.

AI is already entering practice workflows

Private practices are increasingly using AI for:

- Charting and note generation
- Patient messaging drafts
- Prior authorization support
- Intake summarization

Without proper controls, these tools can blur the line between administrative assistance and clinical interpretation.

Read More:

What You Should Do Now

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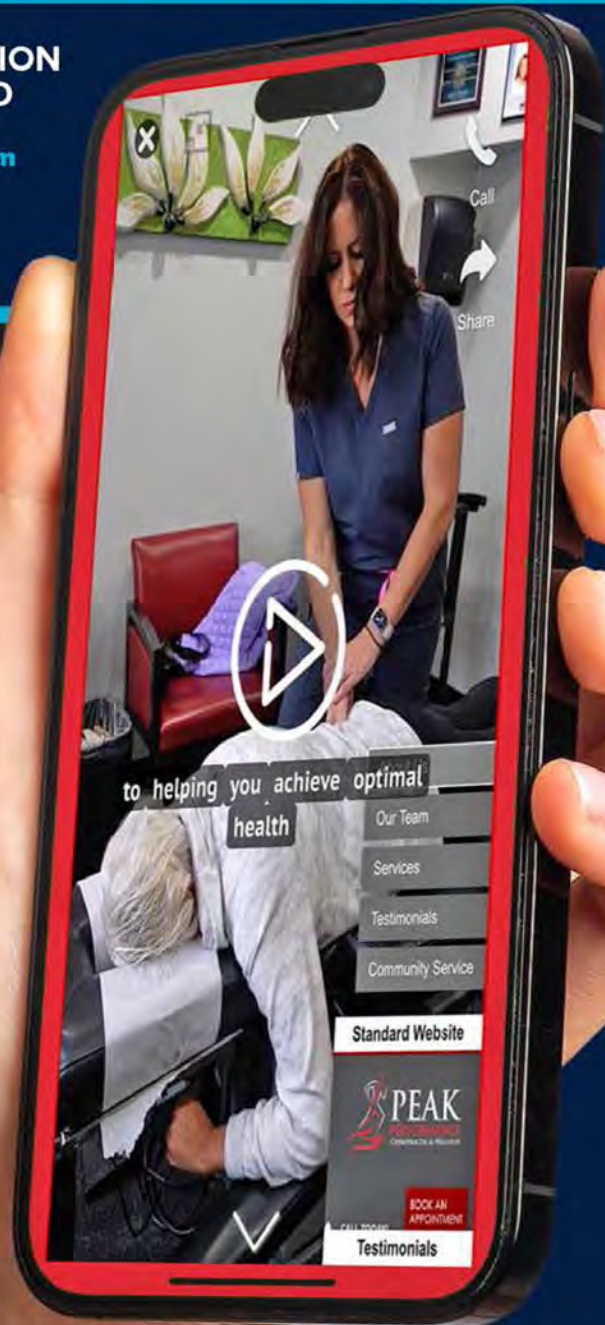
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Modern Therapies Shaping Chiropractic Practice

Written by Christopher Proulx | Reprinted with appreciation to Chiropractic Economics

Chiropractic practices that integrate modern therapies, track real results and communicate clearly are better able to engage patients with chronic conditions and help them manage long-term health.

Many heard this statistic and the implication of opportunity in the profession: National survey data show roughly 11% of US adults used chiropractic care in 2022.¹ That number is not a referendum on clinical value; it's a signal chiropractic is still too often framed narrowly as episodic back pain care, with relevance fading once symptoms improve.

The opportunity before the profession is to expand beyond that ceiling by modernizing how chiropractic is positioned within healthcare. This does not require abandoning manual care. It requires building a complete conservative model that integrates treatment, education, prevention and measurable outcomes.

The market is already moving in this direction.

Patients are increasingly investing in prevention, performance and longevity long before disease thresholds are met. The Global Wellness Institute estimates the global wellness economy reached \$6.8 trillion in 2024 and projects growth to \$9.8 trillion by 2029.² Overall, most analysts place the value of the wellness market well into the trillions.³

This shift also creates an opportunity to manage chronic disease



burden conservatively, where disability and cost, not pain alone, drive healthcare utilization. Arthritis affects tens of millions of Americans and frequently results in activity limitation.⁴ Osteoarthritis alone impacts more than 32.5 million US adults, many of whom cycle through care only after function has already declined.⁵

Diabetes-related complications follow a similar pattern. An estimated 15.8% of US adults have diabetes and peripheral neuropathy is common yet often under-recognized until balance, gait and mobility are compromised; however, intervention can rapidly mitigate these limitations.^{6,7}

Modern Therapies

Modern conservative therapies expand chiropractic's ability to intervene earlier and manage these conditions more effectively when they are applied programmatically rather than as stand-alone tools. **Spinal decompres-**

sion was one of the earliest examples of this evolution. When used as part of a structured care pathway, rather than as a mechanical substitute for traction, it helped chiropractors manage discogenic and degenerative presentations more effectively, reinforcing chiropractic's role in long-term conservative management rather than episodic symptom relief.

High-intensity laser therapy represents a similar advancement. Rather than serving solely as a pain-modulating modality, it is increasingly used to mitigate inflammatory burden and support tissue recovery in conditions such as diabetic peripheral neuropathy, where early functional decline may occur in the absence of significant pain.⁸

Radial pressure wave therapy has further expanded conservative options, particularly in recalcitrant musculoskeletal condi-

(Continued on page 21)

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tions and earlier-stage osteoarthritis. When applied early, shockwave therapy may influence tissue remodeling and load tolerance, helping delay or reduce the need for surgical escalation.⁹

Defining Features of Modern Practice

A defining feature of modern chiropractic practice is the move beyond pain as the primary outcome. Pain remains clinically relevant, especially early in care, but it is a poor stand-alone indicator of disease risk, functional decline or long-term capacity. This concept also necessitates objective measures such as movement analysis, gait assessment, balance testing and functional capacity metrics, which often identify impairment well before pain emerges, particularly in chronic and degenerative conditions.¹⁰ These data-driven insights allow chiropractors to intervene earlier, demonstrate progress more clearly and conduct review-of-findings conversations that shift patients from being passive recipients of care to acting as informed participants in their issue prevention and recovery.

Modernization also extends to communication and accountability. Digital platforms and AI-assisted tools are increasingly used to reinforce care plans, provide education, track progress and maintain engagement between visits. These systems help sustain adherence after pain resolves and allow chiropractic care to function as a longitudinal health strategy rather than a series of isolated visits.

The profession's growth will not come from competing in the same pain-relief space as medications or injections. It will come from owning the conservative care lane those approaches cannot deliver: Function-first, prevention-oriented, cost-effective management across the lifespan.

When chiropractic bridges innovation with proven conservative care, it moves beyond being a visit-based service and becomes a primary conservative healthspan strategy. This is how the profession expands its reach and relevance in a rapidly changing healthcare economy.

Final thoughts: Implications for Clinical Practice

Practices that integrate modern therapies, objective outcome measures and education-driven communication models are better positioned to engage younger, prevention-focused populations,

while delivering meaningful value to patients managing chronic conditions. By modernizing thoughtfully, chiropractors can serve as primary conservative care managers within a healthcare system increasingly focused on function, value and long-term capacity.

Christopher M. Proulx, DC, PhD(ABD), CSCS, is a doctor of chiropractic and sport scientist with advanced training in clinical neuroscience, exercise physiology and conservative sports medicine. He has authored peer-reviewed articles and lectures nationally on therapeutic technology integration, injury recovery models and evidence-based rehabilitation. Proulx is currently the Vice President of Clinical Affairs and Strategy for [Medray Laser and Technology](#).

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For a full list of references, please visit <https://www.chiroeco.com/modern-therapies-shaping-chiropractic-practice/>



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The Brain-Body Connection

How Chiropractic Care Enhances Neural Communication

Chiropractic care is an effective, drug-free and long-established approach to injury prevention, chronic pain treatment and overall optimization of musculoskeletal health. However, studies suggest that chiropractic care can positively impact nervous system function, specifically, the brain's command center, helping to improve mood, sleep and overall health and well-being. These benefits are based on natural responses in our brain-body connection.

Research also reveals potential links between chiropractic adjustments and improved muscle control and motor function. This may involve neuroplasticity, the brain's ability to adapt following injury or reorganize and form new connections between neurons, which could help the nervous system adapt and heal. Neuroplasticity is often described as the brain's gift for "rewiring" itself in response to injury, experience, or new learning.

For example, many people who lose the ability to speak following a stroke regain it over time as the brain strengthens secondary language centers to compensate for damaged areas. Similarly, if your dominant hand is in a cast, neuroplasticity helps you adapt by training your non-dominant hand to perform tasks like signing your name.

Think of your brain as a drone pilot and your body as a drone. The brain sends signals through the nervous system, like the drone's remote controller, to direct the body's muscles, fine-tune bal-

ance or react to the environment.

Meanwhile, sensors in the body — the drone's cameras and instruments — send information back to the brain about our body position, a touch we felt, some pain, or the temperature so that the brain can respond appropriately.

If the signal between the pilot and the drone is disrupted, say there's interference or a lag, the drone might move erratically or not respond. Similarly, if the brain-body connection is off, your movements can become uncoordinated or your muscles may not function properly.

Testing the Brain-Body Connection

In one study, researchers examined the [effects of chiropractic care on brain function](#) by dividing patients with chronic low back pain into two groups with 38 patients each.

Using electroencephalogram (EEG) to study brain signals, somatosensory evoked potentials (SEPs) to factor in the brain's management of touch and sensations, Fitbit data to gauge activity levels, and sleep data, researchers were able to draw objective conclusions. By having each patient complete questionnaires to report how they felt in a more subjective way, researchers could draw more nuanced conclusions throughout the study.

One group received actual chiropractic care while

(Continued on page 24)

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In order to access your membership benefits, you must first activate your online account. To do so, please follow the steps listed below:

- 1 Visit www.f4cp.org/package/member/forgotpassword and enter your email address (the email address you provided to NYSCA).
- 2 Go to your email account to get the temporary password.
- 3 Return to the F4CP website and **LOGIN** on the top right with your email address and the temporary password.
- 4 Scroll down to **PASSWORD** – Click **CHANGE** and input temporary password and new password then click **SAVE**.
- 5 To update or edit your F4CP Find-A-Doctor Directory listing, Click **Update Profile**, make changes and click **SAVE**.
- 6 If your email address is not currently in our system, please opt in at www.f4cp.org/associations. Once we verify your state association membership, we will set up your account and send you a welcome email with login information.

For any questions, please contact Membership Director, Marta Cerdan ✉ marta@F4CP.com

(Continued from page 22)

the other received simulated chiropractic treatment. EEGs and SEPs were performed before the study's start, immediately following the first chiropractic session and again after four weeks of care. The questionnaires were completed at the beginning of the study and repeated after the fourth week. Fitbit data collection was continuous throughout.

Following chiropractic care, EEGs showed significant increases in beta, alpha and theta brainwave frequencies and a marked drop in delta brainwave power. Delta brainwaves are slow and typically dominant during heavy sleep. Theta brainwaves are also connected to sleep, particularly deep, meditative states and drowsiness. On the other hand, Alpha brainwaves tend to be most active when we're awake, but calm, as when we daydream or meditate. Beta brainwaves are faster and associated with analytical thinking.

The study suggests that chiropractic care could cause our brains to pivot from comparatively sluggish and diminished brain power to become brains that are relaxed yet alert. More specifically, chiropractic may cause neuroplastic alterations of brain structure and function related to how we experience pain, manage sleep and regulate our moods.

This multinational study, involving researchers from New Zealand, Denmark and Turkey, revealed that **chiropractic may benefit muscle control and motor function**, including signals sent by the brain to muscles in our arms and legs.

This suggests that chiropractic adjustments might enhance the brain's control over muscle function. In addition, there is potential for spinal manipulation to improve motor function, possibly benefiting persons with movement disorders or muscle control impairment. If true, chiropractic is a possible avenue for treatment in rehabilitation settings for patients seeking to improve muscle control and coordination.

What Physical Fitness Does for Neuroplasticity

Exercise boosts blood flow, meaning more oxygen and nutrients reach our brains, making us more alert and mentally focused. It enhances neuroplasticity by helping the brain forge new neural connections, especially in learning and memory, and it triggers the release of chemicals such as Brain-Derived Neurotrophic Factor (BDNF), to help neurons survive and grow.

Doctors of chiropractic help patients become or remain physically fit because a whole-being, drug-free approach makes that focus natural, in every sense of the word.

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The public comment period ends June 13, 2026

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Northeast College of Health Sciences

High Praise for Northeast Community at NYSCA Convention, College President Receives Distinguished Service Award

Northeast College of Health Sciences was prominently recognized by the New York State Chiropractic Association (NYSCA) at the Spring 2026 Convention, including multiple members of the College community receiving top honors.

The NYSCA convention, held in conjunction with the Connecticut Chiropractic Association, took place April 17–19, 2026, at Mohegan Sun Casino and Hotel in Uncasville, Connecticut. Eight Northeast chiropractic students and two faculty members attended the weekend of educational and social events, which brought together professionals and students from across New York state for learning, connection and professional development. The program featured a student-doctor panel on real-world practice insights, 16 hours of continuing education and multiple opportunities for networking.

During the event, Northeast College President Dr. Michael Mestan was awarded a Commendation for Distinguished Service, while Northeast Levittown Health Center Clinician and Assistant Professor Dr. Lloyd Kupferman earned the Lifetime Achievement Award.

Additional Northeast honorees included Kaila Markland (D.C. '26), immediate past Student NYSCA chapter president, who received the Student Leadership Award; alumna Abigail Riutta (D.C. '25), who was recipient of the New Practitioner Award; and alumnus James Walters (D.C. '19), who was named Chiropractor of the Year.



Eight Northeast chiropractic students attended the weekend-long Spring 2026 convention, representing the College through its Student NYSCA chapter while participating in educational and social events.

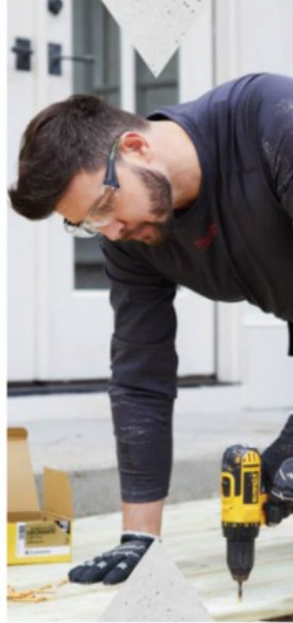
D'YOUVILLE UNIVERSITY

Please join us in congratulating D'Youville chiropractic student interns Cole McGaeghan and Christina Brown on presenting their research project, "Massive Ureterolithiasis in a Duplicated Ureter: A Case Report," at the ACC-RAC Conference.

Cole and Christina collaborated with NYSCA member, Dr. Lauren Tollefson on this important work, showcasing the continued commitment of D'Youville's chiropractic program to research and academic excellence.

Their research was also featured during Catalyst Research Day 2026, which highlighted innovative student and faculty scholarship from across the university. Additional information and event highlights are available through D'Youville University's [Catalyst Research Day recap](#).





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The NYSCA Announces Launch of New Compliance Support Benefit

The New York State Chiropractic Association (NYSCA) is pleased to announce the launch of a new member benefit designed to support chiropractic practices in managing regulatory compliance.

Eligible regular members now have access to the **Statusfi Dashboard New York**, an intuitive, centralized practice compliance tool that helps providers efficiently track, complete, and renew a wide range of compliance requirements. This benefit is available at **no additional cost** to all regular members of the association.

The Statusfi Dashboard was developed specifically to meet the needs of healthcare providers navigating complex regulatory environments. Through this platform, chiropractic physicians can monitor compliance tasks, visualize progress, and receive timely reminders for renewals and updates.

By consolidating critical compliance requirements into a single, easy-to-use dashboard, members can reduce administrative burden, improve operational confidence, and devote more time to patient care and practice growth.

“We are thrilled to provide this practical, high-value benefit at no extra cost to our regular members,” said Dr. Christopher M. Piering, President of the NYSCA. “In an era of increasing

regulatory expectations, the Statusfi Dashboard gives our members a clear advantage in maintaining compliance with confidence and precision. This investment in innovative tools reflects our commitment to helping members thrive now and in the future.”

Access to the Statusfi Dashboard is automatically included with regular membership, and members will receive detailed instructions via email on accessing their personalized dashboard.

Key features of the Statusfi Dashboard include:

- Visual tracking of compliance tasks across regulatory categories
- Automated reminders for upcoming renewals and expirations
- Links to trusted resources and industry guidance
- Progress visualization to help prioritize compliance actions

This new member benefit strengthens the NYSCA’s suite of professional resources and supports our ongoing mission to deliver meaningful, practical value that directly enhances members’ day-to-day operations.

For additional information about this benefit, or to confirm eligibility, members may contact the association’s Member Services team at 518-785-6346.

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Important Workers' Compensation / FCS Administrators Update

FCS Administrators (FCS) has been awarded the contract to become the primary administrator for the Workers' Compensation Board's 25A, Uninsured Employer Fund, Defaulted Employers, and Disability Claim files. Please log in to NYSCA.com for important updates sent to NYSCA by the President of FCS.

[Read more](#) (members only)

2026 Medicare and Medicare Advantage Updates

As discussed during the past year, the NIC anticipated significant changes in insurance offerings and benefits, especially within the 2026 Medicare Advantage market. Some carriers no longer offer a Medicare Advantage benefit, discontinued their programs in numerous counties throughout the country or changed their offerings.

[Read more](#) (members only)

UnitedHealthcare Announces Prior Authorization Reform Efforts

On May 5, 2026, UnitedHealthcare announced it would be reducing prior authorization requirements for a variety of services by the end of this year. Unfortunately, there has been a fair amount of misinterpretation regarding UnitedHealthcare's statement.

[Read more](#) (members only)

Deadline May 11: Enroll Vendors with HETS Now to Prevent Disruption in Medicare Eligibility Checks

Providers using third-party vendors to check Medicare beneficiary eligibility must now enroll these vendors with CMS for HETS access by linking each vendor to your NPI.

[Read More](#) (members only)

New York City Employee PPO Claims Processing Issue

The New York City Employee (NYCE) PPO plan is a new product and a new partnership between EmblemHealth and UnitedHealthcare. The product launched on January 1, 2026. The NYSCA Insurance Committee identified a claim processing issue and has been working to resolve the delays in payment.

[Read more](#) (members only)

NYS WCB TPA Changes and Other Updates

The NIC continues to communicate and work with the NYS Workers' Compensation Board (WCB) to keep our members updated on current and forthcoming changes that may impact your care of New York's injured workers.

[Read more](#) (members only)

Updated Medicare ABN Form –Required Use as of May 13, 2026

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has recently updated the Advance Beneficiary Notice of Non-coverage (ABN), a form providers use to inform patients when Medicare may not cover a service. [Read More](#).

Verify Your Professional Corporation Status & Avoid Medicare PECOS Issues

The NYSCA Insurance Committee has been made aware of situations in which a chiropractic Professional Corporation (PC) may not be properly registered with the NYSED Office of the Professions as an active business entity. Failure to maintain active registration can create significant issues with Medicare recertification and revalidation through the PECOS system, particularly when the required triennial registration has not been filed with the NYSED.

[Read more](#) (members only)

(Continued from page 14)

Scope modernization helps ensure that statutory language appropriately reflects the role chiropractors already serve in providing conservative neuromusculoskeletal care.

Looking Toward the Future

Healthcare delivery will continue to evolve, and patients will continue seeking providers who focus on conservative, functional approaches to care.

Scope modernization is not about fundamentally changing chiropractic. Rather, it is about ensuring that New York law keeps pace with modern chiropractic education, contemporary healthcare delivery, and the growing demand for non-pharmacological musculoskeletal care.

By modernizing statutory language, New York has the opportunity to better reflect the current realities of chiropractic practice while supporting improved clarity, communication, and integration within the broader healthcare system.

NCMIC's Credit Card Processing

Gives you **MORE**

At NCMIC, we think you and your practice deserve more. It starts with our credit card processing program.



MEMBER PRIVILEGES THAT DELIVER REAL VALUE



INCLUDED WITH YOUR MEMBERSHIP

Exclusive savings, tools, and services designed to support your practice and your life.



1 CLINICAL & PROFESSIONAL RESOURCES

Support your clinical excellence and professional reputation.



Evidence-based tools for better patient care.



Positive press and credibility for the profession.



2 PRACTICE OPERATIONS & BUSINESS TOOLS

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Practice management software support.



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Legal services consultation.



Digital marketing tools and support.



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Reduce overhead and improve your financial health.



Member discounts up to 75%.



Exclusive credit union member benefits.



Student loan consultation.



Vendor Savings Center access.



4 LIFESTYLE & EVERYDAY SAVINGS

Extend your membership value beyond the office.



Special member rates at thousands of hotels.



Save on car rentals with Avis and Budget.



Exclusive savings on entertainment and more.



5 EXCLUSIVE OFFERS & PARTNERSHIPS

Take advantage of member-only opportunities.



Special partner program with savings for you and your patients.



NYSCA MERCHANDISE
Exclusive member discounts.



WHY IT MATTERS

These privileges are included with your membership at no additional cost, delivering meaningful savings and trusted resources you can use every day.



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Log in to your member account to unlock exclusive offers and **start saving today!**

May 27, 2026—The New York State budget is negotiated, and final voting is happening now, 56 days after the April 1 budget deadline. This is the latest State budget since 2010. Although the Governor announced there was a general budget agreement on May 7, significant negotiations still needed to be completed to arrive at a final budget deal.

As you know from our previous budget updates, 15 budget extenders were passed to keep government running while the final budget bills were negotiated. The final enacted budget totals \$268.5 billion, which is an \$8.5 billion increase from the Governor’s initial budget proposal, and a \$14.5 billion increase over last year’s final enacted budget. Much of this increase is due to the increasing costs of Medicaid, especially following the enactment of federal legislation last July which scaled back federal funding for Medicaid.

The proposed spending plan does not include any income tax increases, but it does include a three-year extension on the current New York corporate tax rate, which was set to expire at the end of this year and applies to businesses that net over \$5 million in profits. The plan also includes a 75% tax on tobacco-free nicotine pouches, like ZYN. This tax is estimated to bring in around \$54 million annually to the State. The final budget also includes the Governor’s proposal to create a statewide universal childcare program.

In addition to these items, the final budget also includes several high-profile policy proposals, including automobile insurance liability changes, immigration

protections, changes to the 2019 Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA), and changes to the Tier 6 public employee pension plan, which were a large part of the delay for the final enacted budget. Of these issues, only a few of them were included in the Governor’s original proposed budget. The Governor added the other policy issues into the mix in March, adding more issues to be negotiated later in the process than is usual, which also led to the significant delay towards achieving a final budget deal.

Here is a quick summary of a few of the policy proposals included in the final budget:

Automobile Insurance

Changes - One of the Governor’s top priorities was changing New York’s automobile insurance laws, as New Yorkers pay some of the highest premiums in the nation. The final budget includes provisions to crack down on fraudulent claims, including staged accidents. The final budget also includes new language which will prevent auto insurance companies from using a person’s employment, education, home ownership and zip code in determining auto insurance rates and included language to require insurance companies to seek approval from the Department of Financial Services before raising rates.

Climate Law Changes - In March, the Governor announced that she wanted to amend New York’s groundbreaking climate change law (known as CLCPA) to help address rising energy costs. The final budget makes changes to this law by extending the regulation implementation of this law from early 2024 to Decem-

ber 31, 2028, and the final budget pushes the 2030 statutory goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 40% from 1990 levels to 2040. The budget also changes how the State accounts for greenhouse gas emissions now using a 100-year timeframe for accounting emissions, which is used in most other laws rather than a state specific 20-year timeframe accounting.

Tier 6 Public Pension Plan Changes

- A top priority of public sector unions during this budget was changing the 2012 Tier VI retirement law to improve public pension benefits. These changes will impact more than 500,000 public sector employees across the State, including teachers, bus operators, firefighters, police officers, and office workers. Many public employees will now have a lower contribution rate into their pensions while others will see changes to overtime rules and their statutory retirement age.

Protecting Our Wallets Energy Rebate Program

- The final budget will include the Protecting Our Wallets Energy Rebate program, which will allow for a tax credit to New York taxpayers under certain income thresholds to help offset rising energy prices in New York. This is part of the affordability agenda that both the Governor and Legislature were focused on this year.

Next Steps

This is a high-level overview of some of the issues included in the final budget. We are still in the process of reviewing the final budget provisions and language, and we will be sending

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along specific provisions of interest to you.

Now that the budget process has concluded, we will turn to non-budgetary legislative issues through the remainder of the session, which is scheduled to end next Thursday, June 4. This means that there are only six scheduled days of session left in the year. Given how late the State budget process concluded, there is a possibility that the legislative session will spill beyond June 4 though, for now, both houses are saying that will not happen. However, there is a lot of legislation to be done still, so we will see if the calendar holds or if more session days will be necessary. Regardless, with only a handful of days left of session, we will pivot to non-budget issues and be in touch regarding your legislative priorities.

Please let us know if you have any questions.



Assemblywoman Sarah Clark Visits Pinnacle Hill Chiropractic for 10-Year Anniversary Celebration

Local chiropractors gathered at Pinnacle Hill Chiropractic this past Friday to celebrate the practice's 10th anniversary in business. They were joined by Assemblywoman Sarah Clark, a longstanding advocate for chiropractic care in New York and lead sponsor of the chiropractic scope modernization bill. Her attendance reinforced the importance of collaboration between doctors of chiropractic and legislative leadership in improving access to healthcare in New York, particularly access to musculoskeletal care across New York.



The PAC Needs Your Support

The current New York Chiropractic enabling law (often referred to as our 'Scope of Practice') was crafted and signed into law in 1963. Up until that time, New York State chiropractors were being jailed for "practicing medicine."

For context, this is the same time period when:

- Martin Luther King Jr. delivered his "I Have a Dream" speech
- JFK was assassinated
- Touch tone phones were introduced by AT&T
- Smoking was still permitted in hospitals and doctors' offices
- US healthcare was still operating in a pre-Medicare and pre-Medicaid environment.
- MRI and CT had not yet even been invented

Over the past 60+ years, healthcare has dramatically changed.

For our scope to be updated, we must pass legislation, and we are close to accomplishing this goal. To help in this effort, we need to support legislators who understand this need. We do this through the New York Chiropractic Political Action Committee (NYCPAC), which supports candidates that are pro-chiropractic.

Organized medicine, managed care organizations, and other anti-chiropractic forces continue to spend hundreds of thousands of dollars each year to elect candidates that do not value the chiropractic profession.

Become a Monthly Contributor

[Click here](#) or scan the QR code to donate via credit card, either by a one-time donation or on a recurring basis. Or [click here](#) to download the donor form to make a donation by check.

No contribution is too small or large

We must do all we can to help support the profession and the thousands of chiropractic patients we serve. I am asking you to seize this opportunity to advance our profession.

We ask that you support your profession by donating to the NYC PAC today!

Dr. Chris Piering, Jr
NYC PAC Chair





OSHA, Infection Control, and Office Safety Compliance: Promoting a Culture of Safety

Maintaining a safe and compliant office environment is essential for protecting both patients and staff. New York State and federal guidelines, including OSHA standards and infection control best practices, provide a framework to reduce workplace hazards, prevent the spread of infectious diseases, and ensure a professional clinical environment.

Get step-by-step guidance in this **members-only** [Compliance & Practice Management](#) article.

Cultural Competency and Implicit Bias Training: Enhancing the Quality of Patient Care

Providing equitable, patient-centered care requires awareness of cultural differences and the ability to recognize and address implicit bias. Many insurance networks and healthcare organizations now require annual cultural competency training for staff, and it has become a best practice in chiropractic offices to ensure inclusive and respectful patient interactions.

Learn practical steps and access official resources in this **members-only** [NYSCA Compliance & Practice Management](#) article.

Cybersecurity Alert for New York Chiropractors

Federal agencies are warning healthcare providers about a rise in scams targeting licensed professionals. Recent alerts from the DEA, CMS, and the AMA describe scammers pretending to be DEA agents or other government officials.

Learn how the scam works and ways to protect your practice [in this members-only article](#).

Important Updates Regarding Student Loan Payments That Might Impact You

As many of you are aware, the SAVE plan is on its way out. Starting soon, borrowers will begin receiving notices from their loan servicer, no later than July 1st, with about 90 days to choose a new repayment plan.

Learn more [in this members-only article](#).

Staying Safe When Using Classified Ads

We have received reports of suspicious outreach in response to classified ads. We want to take a moment to remind members how our system is designed to protect you, along with steps you can take to avoid potential scams. [Read More](#)

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MEMBER CLASSIFIEDS

Opportunities. Practices. Equipment. Careers.

Explore the latest professional listings from members across the profession.

[VIEW CURRENT LISTINGS](#)

<https://nysca.ce21.com/classifiedads/>

NEW LISTINGS ADDED WEEKLY

Member classifieds are included with your membership.

- CAREERS** Associate & Full-Time
- PRACTICES** For Sale & Share
- EQUIPMENT** Buy, Sell & Trade
- OFFICE SPACE** Lease & Share
- CONTRACT OPPORTUNITIES** Independent & Locum Tenens

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NYSCA Enhances Member Savings Through Updated Webinar CE Partnership

The New York State Chiropractic Association is pleased to announce an updated continuing education webinar partnership with Northeast College of Health Sciences Frank J Nicchi School of Continuing Education designed to provide greater value, improved accessibility, and a more streamlined educational experience for members. [Read More](#)

Step Forward: Leadership Opportunities for NYSCA Members

Leadership is more than a title—it's a chance to guide your profession, support your peers, and make a lasting impact on chiropractic care in New York. NYSCA offers members numerous ways to take an active role in shaping the association and advancing the profession. Learn more [in this members-only article](#).

US Department of HHS OCR Releases HIPAA Risk Management Video

This video presentation by the Office for Civil Rights is intended to raise awareness and provide practical education to HIPAA covered entities and business associates of the HIPAA Security Rule's Risk Management requirement.

[Watch the video.](#)

MEMBERSHIP HAS ITS ADVANTAGES



Supporting your practice, your profession, and your future.

As a member of the NYSCA, you're part of the largest community of practicing Doctors of Chiropractic in New York State—connecting you with colleagues, resources, and opportunities that make a difference.



1 ADVOCACY & PROFESSIONAL STRENGTH



Representation through active legislative monitoring



Protection and advancement of chiropractic practice rights



Strength in a unified statewide professional voice



2 PRACTICE SUPPORT & EVERYDAY RESOURCES



Direct access to NYSCA administrative staff for guidance



Expert insight from committee chairpersons who are practicing doctors



Members-only online resources and content



Free classified ads for career opportunities



Update your listing in our Find-a-Chiropractor directory



3 PROFESSIONAL GROWTH & EDUCATION



Semi-annual continuing education events with exclusive member pricing



Monthly CE webinars with exclusive member discounts



Opportunities to stay current in a rapidly evolving healthcare environment



4 COMMUNITY & CONNECTION



Engage through local district forums



Attend events that bring the profession together



Participate in leadership opportunities and annual elections



Build meaningful relationships with colleagues across New York State



Be part of the largest network of practicing DCs in NYS



5 EXCLUSIVE MEMBER OPPORTUNITIES



Access the Member Privileges Program, including group membership with F4CP



Participate in the mentorship program, as a mentor or mentee



Enhance your professional visibility and reach



WHY IT MATTERS

Membership is more than a list of benefits. It is a commitment to **strengthening your profession** and **supporting your livelihood** through collective effort.



New York State Chiropractic Association

PO Box 557, Chester NY 10918 | 518-785-6346 | 518-785-6352 FAX



APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Contact Information

Last Name:	First Name:	MI:	<input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> NB
Business Address:		County:	
City:	State:	Zip:	
Office Phone:	Office Fax:	Email:	
Referred to NYSCA by:		All fields required unless otherwise specified.	

License Information

NY Chiropractic License Number:	Date of Issuance: (MM/DD/YYYY):
Other State Chiropractic License(s):	

Education Information

Chiropractic College:	Degree(s):
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Personal Information (optional)

Date of Birth:	Home Phone:	Mobile Phone:
Home Address:		County:
City:	State:	Zip:

Membership Categories

Dues

Regular Membership	Annual / Monthly
<input type="checkbox"/> Regular Full Time – practicing more than 20 hours per week	\$540 or \$50/month
<input type="checkbox"/> Regular Part Time – practicing 20 hours or fewer per week	\$300 or \$25/month
<input type="checkbox"/> Regular Associate – spouse/employee of a regular FT member	\$300 or \$25/month
<input type="checkbox"/> Regular Early Career	
<input type="checkbox"/> New Licentiate – up to 1 year from date of NY licensure	\$0 – No Dues
<input type="checkbox"/> Early Career 1 – up to 2 years from date of NY licensure	\$120 or \$10/month
<input type="checkbox"/> Early Career 2 – up to 3 years from date of NY licensure	\$240 or \$20/month
<input type="checkbox"/> Early Career 3 – up to 4 years from date of NY licensure	\$360 or \$30/month
<input type="checkbox"/> Early Career 4 – up to 5 years from date of NY licensure	\$480 or \$40/month
Affiliate Membership – must be licensed to practice chiropractic in New York	
<input type="checkbox"/> Out of State Affiliate – licensed in NYS but practicing/residing exclusively outside NYS <i>Note: out-of-state affiliate members may neither vote in NYSCA elections nor hold office</i>	\$60/year
<input type="checkbox"/> In State Affiliate – licensed and residing in NYS but not in active practice due to one of the following:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Permanently disabled and/or retired from practice	\$60/year
<input type="checkbox"/> Employed full-time as faculty of a NY-based chiropractic college or other accredited NY-based university, college, school, or institution	\$60/year
<input type="checkbox"/> Employed full-time as supplier/vendor of chiropractic products and services or other practice equipment	\$60/year

Payment Information

Select One: Annual ¹Monthly

Payment Method

VISA MasterCard DISCOVER AMERICAN EXPRESS

²Card Holder:

Card#:

Security Code:

Billing Address:

Check Enclosed; Please make checks payable to: New York State Chiropractic Association PO Box 557, Chester NY 10918

Check here if you do **NOT** want 7% of your dues monies earmarked for NYCPAC. Refusal to contribute will not affect your membership rights.

³Signature:

For Office Use Only Date Received: District Assigned:

¹ I understand that monthly membership requires a 12-month minimum commitment and cannot be cancelled during that period. After 12 months, I may cancel at any time using an easy and accessible method, provided notice is received at least 30 days before renewal. Membership benefits will continue through the end of the paid period.

² By supplying my credit card information, I authorize the NYSCA to charge my payment method automatically. Membership will automatically renew on my membership anniversary date at the applicable membership category and dues rate, which may change based on eligibility.

³ By signing, I acknowledge that, if my application is accepted, I agree to abide by the Certificate of Incorporation, Bylaws, and Membership Policy of the New York State Chiropractic Association, as well as all rules and policies adopted by its Board of Directors. I understand that professional conduct standards are set and enforced by the New York State Board for Chiropractic and the New York State Education Department, and I agree to comply with all applicable New York State laws and regulations.