Functional Chiropractic Upper Cervical Clinic (FC) chiropractors and staff have a duty to make the care of patients their first concern and to practice safely and effectively. They must be ethical and trustworthy. Patients trust chiropractors because they believe that, in addition to being competent, chiropractors will not take advantage of them and will display qualities such as integrity, truthfulness, dependability, and compassion.

**Patient-Centered Care**

Making decisions about chiropractic care is the shared responsibility of the chiropractor and the patient (or their representative).

FC chiropractors and staff commit to:

 a) treating patients with respect at all times

 b) investigating and treating patients on the basis of clinical need within the scope of chiropractic and general health

Practicing patient-centered care includes encouraging patients to take an interest in, and responsibility for the management of their health and supporting them in this.

Function Chiropractic reserves the right to decline care at any time, based on clinical evidence indicating FC's care is not in the patient's best interest.

**Right to Privacy**

Doctors of Chiropractic have ethical and legal obligations to protect the privacy and right of confidentiality of people requiring and receiving care. FC chiropractors and staff commit to holding all information about patients in confidence, unless information is required to be released by law. Any request for release of a patient's information by any outside group will require a signed consent form from the patient.

**The Chiropractor's Role**

FC chiropractors must display a standard of behavior that warrants the trust and respect of the community. This includes observing and practicing the principles of ethical conduct.

FC chiropractors commit to maintaining and developing his or her knowledge, skills, and professional behavior as core aspects of good practice. They have a duty to keep their skills and knowledge up-to-date, refine and develop their clinical judgment as they gain experience, and contribute to their profession.

Our chiropractors and staff choose to protect and promote the health of individuals and the community.

**The Patient's Role**

A good partnership between a chiropractor and the person he or she is caring for also involves the patient to contribute to the effective therapeutic partnership by:

 a) working cooperatively and in partnership with the chiropractor

 b) communicating effectively and with sincere intent

 c) being fair, honest, and accurate in providing feedback