



## *Nova Scotia College of Chiropractors*

### *Position Statement: the Term “Drug”*

*Approved by  
the NSCC*

*Effective  
May 29, 2004*

*Revised*

*Pages  
1*

Section 2, subsection (c), point (i) of the Chiropractic Act 2000 states that chiropractic includes “diagnosis, examination and treatment of persons principally by hand and without the use of drugs or surgery of the spinal column, pelvis, extremities and associated tissues, and...”

Question has been raised with respect to the term “drugs” as stated above. Specifically what constitutes a drug?

The Board of the Nova Scotia College of Chiropractors sought legal counsel to assist in the understanding of issues regarding the definition of “drug”.

The use of restricted or prescription drugs would be limited to those in the health care profession, who are licensed and authorized to prescribe drugs and distribute them in terms of diagnosis and treatment (e.g. MD, Dentists and Pharmacists). **The Doctor of Chiropractic as regulated by the Chiropractic Act 2000, does not have the legal authorization to prescribe, administer and/or distribute restricted or prescription drugs.**

Nutritional substances, natural health products, over the counter liniments and analgesics are considered to be “over the counter drugs.” Over the counter drugs refer to substances/products that are not restricted and that do not require a prescription. **The Doctor of Chiropractic as regulated by the Chiropractic Act 2000, is not prohibited from recommending, administering and/or the distribution of non-restricted or non-prescription drugs.**

The Nova Scotia College of Chiropractic recognizes the individual’s right to freedom of choice in health care, based on the risks, advantages and potential side effects of such choice.