

HEALTH



Dr. Billy R. Flowers (above center) and his skilled staff are ready to help those in need.

THE SPINAL COLUMN™

An ongoing series of questions and answers about America's natural healing profession.

Part 36. Healing Time

Q: How long will it take until you get well?

A: Your body possesses tremendous healing powers. In fact, by correcting the subluxations which interfere with healing, your chiropractor helps make you well again.

However, your body establishes its own priorities of healing. It is now uncommon for a patient to come in with a history of allergies, sinus trouble, headaches, low back pain, constipations and menstrual irregularity. All at once.

Q: Can you imagine your body healing them all at once?

A: You need to be patient. But, to help you understand which priorities your body may select, your chiropractor will want to know which problems developed first, which bother you the most and whether any might be hereditary.

Your diet and sleep habits could be hindering. Anyone who smokes two packs of cigarettes a day can understand why their lungs aren't clearing up. However, with proper diet, sleep and chiropractic adjustments, you can be sure you're doing everything possible to help your body help you.

And now that you'll understand the role your body plays in healing, you'll understand the role in healing, you'll understand the role your chiropractor plays.

There are three basic phases of treatment.

1. Eliminating the pain.

Though your chiropractor does not treat pain per se, he or she will work very hard to eliminate any pain you might have. In many instances, it is impossible to make any corrective adjustments on your spine until the pain has been eliminated. During this phase, your chiropractor will need to see you often.

2. Helping your body help itself.

This second phase of treatment is very important. This is when your chiropractor corrects your subluxations, allowing your body to start making the necessary repairs. Ligaments will begin to tone up, muscles will start to provide support again and tissues will cleanse themselves. You may find yourself more alert, less depressed and even desiring healthier food. During this phase

of treatment, you will need to see your chiropractor less often. But be patient and keep all your appointments. Remember, your body is going to repair the worst damage first and even though a different problem may seem more urgent to you, your body will get to it in time.

3. Preventative Maintenance

During this phase, you will probably have forgotten the aches and pains of Phase 1. The important thing, though, is not to forget the need for regular checkups. To protect the investment you have made in good health and make sure you haven't gotten any new subluxations, which would start the process all over again.

By this time, you will obviously know and appreciate the benefits of proper chiropractic care. And if you're like most people, you want to make sure your friends and loved ones share the same healthy advantage too.

Without drugs. Without surgery. Without question.

Flowers' Chiropractic Office

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HEALTHWATCH

Cholesterol Profiles -- Get the resources to help you keep an eye on your cholesterol and other indicators of heart health. Educational material provided. For more information, call 503-261-6611.

Bereavement Support Groups -- Free, safe confidential group meetings for those who have experienced the death of a loved one offered on various nights and locations. For information and registration, call 503-215-4622.

Maternity Water Workout -- Helping new moms regain muscle tone, strength, and flexibility, all in the support and freedom of the water. Call 503-256-4000 for more information.

Senior Aerobics -- A low-impact workout geared specifically toward seniors. Call 503-449-0783 for current schedule.

Mind Body Health Class -- Learn and practice techniques to help you improve your mood, health and wellbeing, including effective ways to manage difficult emotions and chronic stress or illness. Registration is \$70 for Kaiser Permanente members and \$95 for nonmembers. Call 503-286-6816.

Red Cross Certification -- The Oregon Trail Chapter Red Cross now offers credits to help professionals maintain licensing or certification. For a cumulative list, visit pdxinfo.net.

Chronic Pain Support Group -- Meets the first Wednesday at 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. and the third Wednesday of each month, from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. For more information, call 503-256-4000.

Cardiac-Rehab Exercises -- A medically supervised exercise program for people dealing with heart conditions. For information, call 503-251-6260.

Stroke Alert Screening -- Check your carotid arteries with a painless ultrasound to assess your risk. Fee \$40. To schedule a screening, call 503-251-6137.

Managing Chronic Hepatitis C -- Third Wednesday of each month at 5 p.m. The informative session is led by a registered nurse to help you manage side effects of medications and dosage preparations and administration; doctor referral required. To register, call 503-251-6313.

Better Breathers -- An asthma educational support group meets on the 1st Tuesday of the month from 1:15 p.m. to 2:45 p.m. at Adventist Medical Center. For information, call

503-251-6830.

Powerful Tools For Caregivers -- 6-week educational series designed to help family caregivers take care of themselves while caring for relatives or friends with chronic illness. Class size is limited, and registration is required. Call 503-413-8018.

Leg Alert Screening -- Check for peripheral arterial disease with this safe, simple screening using ankle and arm blood pressure. The fee is \$40. To schedule an appointment, call 503-251-6137.

Smoke-Free Support Group -- Meets Mondays, 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. For information, call 503-256-4000.

Osteoporosis Screening -- An ultrasound bone density screening with personalized education; fee \$30. To schedule an appointment, call 503-261-6611.

Family Caregiver Support Group -- This topic-oriented group offers a safe place to discuss the stresses, challenges and rewards of providing care to an older relative or friend. Meets the first Thursday of each month at 3 p.m. at Legacy Good Samaritan Hospital.

Free Body Basics -- This physician recommended class is appropriate for all ages and health conditions. Plan to attend this one-session class and learn the simple guidelines for safe exercises, including stretching. Call 503-256-4000 to register.

Empowerment through Relaxation -- Free informal meditation classes that address breathing techniques, some gentle ancient African yoga poses and mental balancing techniques. People have left these classes joyful and with a peaceful view of their lives. Call Dr. Marcellette Failla at 503-228-6140.

Tenderfoot Care -- Treat your feet with a soak, nail trim, buffing and massage from a licensed nurse at one of six clinics or at your home. Call 503-251-6303 for more information.

Lead Poisoning Prevention -- Learn how to protect your family from lead poisoning. Ideal for folks in live in older homes with children or pregnant women. Qualified participants receive a free kit of safety and testing supplies. Call 503-284-6827.

Parenting Classes -- Newborns don't come with instruction manuals but parents and parents-to-be can learn about a variety of topics from pain and childbirth to breastfeeding to infant CPR and much more. For a schedule of events, call 503-574-6595 or visit providence.org/classes.