<u>Chapter 8</u> The Chiropractic Patient in Canada

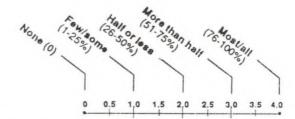
In this chapter, information gathered from Pages 4-8 of the job analysis survey is explored. This portion of the survey relates to the chiropractic patient as perceived by the practitioner/ respondent.

The survey asked that practitioners describe their patients in terms of gender, age, place of birth, occupation, and condition. A typical patient is an individual who enters a chiropractor's office complaining of some specific pain symptomology: a headache of one type or another; a pain in the middle or lower back, neck, shoulder, arm, leg, or other area, all of which may or may

not be concurrent with a spinal subluxation or other joint dysfunction. As a result of proper history taking, physical examination, neuromusculoskeletal examination, and other diagnostic procedures, a diagnosis is made which may or may not include a subluxation.

In completing the portion of the survey relating to the patient, the respondent chiropractors were asked to estimate the distribution of patients in each of the indicated categories.

A five-point scale combining percentages with a corresponding label for each segment of the scale was used. The responses in each category were averaged. The results appear in Table 8.1 and in charts throughout this chapter.



Canadia	an Patient Demographics	AVG
OFV	Male	1.91
SEX	Female	2.61
	17 or younger	0.98
AGE	18 to 30	1.44
AVE	31 to 50	2.27
	51 to 64	1.38
	65 or older	0.99
	Canada	3.69
PLACE OF BIRTH	U.S.A.	0.63
	Britain	0.50
	France	0.27
		0.14
	Switzerland	0.18
	Australia	0.23
	New Zealand	0.17
	Other	0.42
	Executive/Professional	1.22
	White Collar/Secretarial	1.64
OCCU- PATION	Professional/AmateurAthlete	0.94
	Tradesman/Skilled Labor	1.63
	Uliskilled Labor	1.24
	Homemaker	1.36
	Student	1.02
	Retired or Other	1.14

TABLE 8.1

Sex/Gender of Patients

Chiropractors estimated that half or fewer of their patients are male (40.6%) while more than half (59.4%) are female (Figure 8.1). These data are consistent with information from the United States Job Analysis of Chiropractic that indicated 40.7% of chiropractic patients are male while 59.3% are female.

Age of Patients

In relation to age, 11.2% of patients were age 17 or younger; 20.6% were 18 to 30; 37.2% were 31 to 50; 19.4% were 51 to 64; and 11.6% were 65 or older (Figure 8.2).

Place of Birth

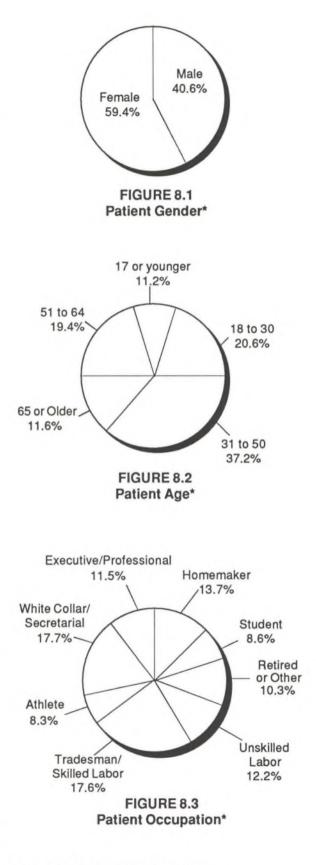
The patient's place of birth was primarily in Canada. Patients born in the U.S.A., Britain, and "other" were the next most frequently treated group of patients (Table 8.1).

Patient Occupation

Concerning patient occupation, no single occupational group is one which chiropractors treat predominately. All groups are represented and no single occupational group appears to represent more than 17.7% of chiropractic practice (Figure 8.3).

Patient Conditions

Following the section on patient demographics, chiropractors were asked to consider their practices during the past two years, and indicate how often they had seen patients with



* See page 62 for explanation of percentages.

the **presenting and/or concurrent** conditions listed. A zero-to-four rating scale was used. The list of conditions used on the survey form and reflected in this report was not meant to be all-inclusive. Listed below are conditions seen by chiropractors in descending order of frequency.

ROUTINELY SEEN	Spinal subluxation/joint dysfunction
	Headaches
OFTEN SEEN	Osteoarthritis/degenerative joint disease
	Vertebral facet syndrome
	Muscular strain/tear
	Extremity subluxation/joint dysfunction
	Tendinitis/tenosynovitis
	Peripheral neuritis or neuralgia
	High or low blood pressure
	Allergies
	Hyperlordosis of cervical or lumbar spine
	Intervertebral disc syndrome
	Sprain or dislocation of any joint
	Obesity
	Radiculitis or radiculopathy
	Kyphosis of thoracic spine
	Bursitis or synovitis
SOMETIMES SEEN	Scoliosis
	Menstrual disorder
	Asthma, emphysema or COPD
	Osteoporosis/osteomalacia
	Upper respiratory or ear infection
	Pregnancy
	Acne, dermatitis or psoriasis
	Respiratory viral or bacterial infection
	Nutritional disorders
	Articular joint congenital/developmental anomal
	Carpal or tarsal tunnel syndrome
	Skeletal congenital/developmental anomaly
	TMJ syndrome
	Ear or hearing disorder

TABLE 8.2 (Continued on next page) Presenting and Concurrent Patient Conditions

Frequency of Prese	enting and Concurrent Patient Conditions
SOMETIMES SEEN (CONT.)	Psychological disorders
	Thoracic outlet syndrome
	Eye or vision disorder
	Loss of equilibrium
	Systemic/rheumatoid arthritis or gout
	Diabetes
	Occupational or environmental disorder
	Hiatus or inguinal hernia
	Gastrointestinal bacterial or viral infection
	Ulcer of stomach, intestine or colon
	Eating disorders
	Thyroid or parathyroid disorder
	Angina or myocardial infarction
	Colitis or diverticulitis
	Infection of kidney or urinary tract
	Muscular atrophy
	Hemorrhoids
RARELY SEEN	Peripheral artery or vein disorder
	Integument bacterial or fungal infection
	Herpes simplex or zoster
	Disorder of throat or larynx
	Anemia
	Murmur or rhythm irregularity
	Prostate disorder
	ALS, multiple sclerosis or Parkinson's
	Fracture
	Non-cancerous disorder of breast
	Immunological disorder
	Spinal canal stenosis
	Disorder of nose or sense of smell
	Kidney stones
	Cranial nerve disorder
	Female infertility
	Adrenal disorder
	Pigment disorders
	Appendicitis, cholecystitis or pancreatitis
	Endocrine or metabolic bone disorder

Frequency of Prese
Frequency of Prese RARELY SEEN (CONT.)

TABLE 8.2 Presenting and Concurrent Patient Conditions

Articular/Joint

Articular/Joint conditions were considered first by respondents (Table 8.3). Spinal subluxations or joint dysfunctions were seen routinely in chiropractors' offices. Articular/Joint conditions such as osteoarthritis, degenerative joint disease, vertebral facet syndrome, and intervertebral disc syndrome were often seen. Most other conditions in the Articular/Joint area were seen often or sometimes. Only four of the conditions listed in this area were rarely seen.

Neurological

Neurological conditions were considered next (Table 8.3). Patients presenting with a headache were seen routinely in chiropractors' offices. Peripheral neuritis or neuralgia was seen often, as was radiculitis or radiculopathy. Other related conditions were seen sometimes, rarely or never.

Skeletal

The next section involved Skeletal conditions (Table 8.4). Osteoporosis/osteomalacia and congenital developmental anomalies were sometimes seen. According to response data, all other skeletal conditions were rarely seen.

Muscular

In the Muscular section, muscular strain/tear was seen often, as was tendinitis/tenosynovitis (Table 8.4). Other muscular conditions were seen sometimes, rarely or never.

Cardiovascular

In the Cardiovascular section, high or low blood pressure was seen often (Table 8.4). All other conditions were sometimes or rarely seen.

Respiratory

In the Respiratory section, asthma, emphysema or COPD, viral or bacterial infection, and occupational or environmental disorders were sometimes seen (Table 8.4). The other two conditions were rarely or never seen.

Integument

In the section addressing Integument conditions, it was noted that acne, dermatitis or psoriasis was sometimes seen (Table 8.4). All other conditions were rarely seen.

Gastrointestinal

In the Gastrointestinal area, hernias, bacterial or viral infections, ulcers, colitis and diverticulitis were sometimes seen (Table 8.5). The other conditions listed were rarely or never seen.

Renal/Urological

In the Renal/Urological area, infection of the kidney or urinary tract was sometimes seen (Table 8.5). Other conditions listed were rarely or never seen.

Male Reproductive

In the Male Reproductive area, concurrent conditions were rarely or never seen in most chiropractic offices (Table 8.5).

Female Reproductive

In the Female Reproductive area, menstrual disorders, and pregnancy were sometimes seen. Other conditions listed were rarely seen (Table 8.5).

Hematological/Lymphatic

In the Hematological/Lymphatic area, anemia, immunological, and hereditary disorders were rarely seen (Table 8.5); other conditions were generally never seen in the typical chiropractor's office.

Endocrine/Metabolic

In the Endocrine/Metabolic area, obesity was often seen in chiropractors' offices; thyroid or parathyroid disorders, and diabetes were sometimes seen (Table 8.6). Other conditions were rarely or never seen.

Childhood Disorders

In the area of Childhood Disorders, upper respiratory or ear infections were sometimes seen (scoliosis and congenital/developmental anomalies are listed with Articular/Joint conditions). All other conditions were rarely or never seen in a chiropractor's office (Table 8.6).

Venereal

In the Venereal area, the conditions listed were typically never seen in a chiropractor's office (Table 8.6).

EENT (eye, ear, nose, and throat)

In the EENT (eye, ear, nose, and throat) section, eye or vision disorders were sometimes seen, as were ear or hearing disorders. Disorders of the nose, throat, and larynx were rarely seen. Tumors of the eye, ear, nose, or throat were typically never seen (Table 8.6).

Miscellaneous

In the miscellaneous section, allergies were often seen. Nutritional, psychological, and eating disorders were sometimes seen (Table 8.6). The other area listed, AIDS-related complex, was typically never seen in a chiropractic practice.

The following tables present the frequency of presenting and concurrent conditions as they were rated on a zero-to-four scale.

	Hever Refer 2011 cometimes of end of the of	Routine.
Presenting and Concurrent Condition: Articular/Joint		AVG
Spinal subluxation/joint dysfunction		3.96
Extremity subluxation/joint dysfunction		3.20
Sprain or dislocation of any joint		2.60
Vertebral facet syndrome		3.26
Intervertebral disc syndrome		2.68
Thoracic outlet syndrome		1.92
Hyperlordosis of cervical or lumbar spine		2.72
Kyphosis of thoracic spine		2.54
Aseptic necrosis or epiphysitis		0.69
Scoliosis		2.48
Congenital/developmental anomaly		2.04
Osteoarthritis/degenerative joint disease		3.39
Systemic/rheumatoid arthritis or gout		1.86
Bacterial infection of joint		0.47
Bursitis or synovitis		2.53
Carpal or tarsal tunnel syndrome		2.03
TMJ syndrome		2.00
Joint tumor or neoplasm		0.66
Spinal canal stenosis		1.08
Presenting and Concurrent Condition: Neurological		AVG
Headaches		3.76
Peripheral neuritis or neuralgia		3.10
ALS, multiple sclerosis or Parkinson's		1.19
Tearing or rupture of nerve/plexus		0.67
Stroke or cerebrovascular condition		0.89
Vertebrobasilar artery insufficiency		0.86
Cranial nerve disorder		1.04
Radiculitis or radiculopathy		2.54
Loss of equilibrium		1.88
Brain or spinal cord tumor		0.44

TABLE 8.3 Frequency of Articular/Joint, and Neurological Conditions

	Never Referred 2911 sometimes 30 0.5 1.0 1.5 2.0 2.5 3.0 3.5 4.0	Uninely (Daily)
Presenting and Concurrent Condition: Skeletal	A	VG
Fracture	1.	.17
Osteoporosis/osteomalacia	2.	.38
Congenital/developmental anomaly	2.	.01
Endocrine or metabolic bone disorder	0.	.95
Bone tumor	0.	.64
Presenting and Concurrent Condition: Muscular	A	VG
Muscular Strain/Tear	3.	22
Tendinitis/tenosynovitis	3.	14
Muscular dystrophy	0.	77
Muscular atrophy		50
Muscle tumor	0.	25
Presenting and Concurrent Condition: Cardiovascular	A	VG
High or low blood pressure	2.9	95
Angina or myocardial infarction	1.	55
Arterial aneurysm	0.1	70
Peripheral artery or vein disorder		44
Murmur or rhythm irregularity		25
Congenital anomaly	0.3	82
Presenting and Concurrent Condition: Respiratory	A	VG
Viral or bacterial infection	2.	21
Asthma, emphysema or COPD	2.	.41
Occupational or environmental disorder	1.	.81
Atelectasis or pneumothorax	0.	51
Tumor of lung or respiratory passages	0.	.48
Presenting and Concurrent Condition: Integument	A	VG
Acne, dermatitis or psoriasis	2.	.23
Bacterial or fungal infection		.40
Herpes simplex or zoster		36
Pigment disorders		.97
Skin cancer	0.	.80

TABLE 8.4 Frequency of Skeletal, Muscular, Cardiovascular, Respiratory, and Integument Conditions

		H	NOY	RE	rely	21411	moun	2000	heron	2NHK)	(Daily)
0 0.5 1.0 1.5 2.0 2.5 3.0 3.5 4.0	1		1		1		1		1		

Presenting and Concurrent Condition: Gastrointestinal	AVG
Bacterial or viral infection	1.72
Appendicitis, cholecystitis or pancreatitis	0.95
Ulcer of stomach, intestine or colon	1.66
Hiatus or Inguinal hernia	1.76
Colitis or diverticulitis	1.51
Hemorrhoids	1.50
Tumor of gastrointestinal tract	0.49
Presenting and Concurrent Condition: Renal/Urological	AVG
Infection of kidney or urinary tract	1.51
Kidney stones	1.05
Chronic kidney disease or failure	0.58
Tumor of the kidney or bladder	0.26
Presenting and Concurrent Condition: Male Reproductive	AVG
Male infertility or impotency	0.86
Prostate disorder	1.25
Congenital anomaly	0.30
Tumor of reproductive system	0.29
Presenting and Concurrent Condition: Female Reproductive	AVG
Female infertility	1.01
Pregnancy	2.37
Menstrual disorder	2.46
Non-cancerous disorder of breast	1.15
Tumor of reproductive system	0.83
Presenting and Concurrent Condition: Hematological/Lymphatic	AVG
Anemia	1.30
Immunological disorder	1.13
Hereditary disorder	0.78
Polycythemia	0.30
Cancer of marrow or lymphatic system	0.38

TABLE 8.5

Frequency of Gastrointestinal, Renal/Urological, Male Reproductive, Female Reproductive, and Hematological/Lymphatic Conditions

Never RF	20 2.5 3.0 3.5 4.0
Presenting and Concurrent Condition: Endocrine/Metabolic	AVG
Obesity	2.56
Thyroid or parathyroid disorder	1.56
Adrenal disorder	0.98
Pituitary disorder	0.60
Thymus or pineal disorder	0.47
Diabetes	1.84
Endocrine tumor	0.32
Presenting and Concurrent Condition: Childhood Disorders	AVG
Upper respiratory or ear infection	2.38
Measles/German measles	0.64
Mumps	0.51
Chickenpox	0.74
Whooping cough	0.57
Parasitic	0.40
Presenting and Concurrent Condition: Venereal	AVG
Herpes II	0.40
Gonorrhea	0.18
Chlamydia	0.30
Venereal warts	0.20
Syphilis	0.09
Presenting and Concurrent Condition: EENT (eye, ear, nose, throat)	AVG
Eye or vision disorder	1.91
Ear or hearing disorder	1.95
Disorder of nose or sense of smell	1.07
Disorder of throat or larnyx	1.32
Tumor of eye, ear, nose, or throat	0.25
Presenting and Concurrent Condition: Miscellaneous	AVG
Allergies	2.82
Nutritional disorders	2.11
Eating disorders	1.61
	1.61 1.93 0.25

TABLE 8.6

Frequency of Endocrine/Metabolic, Childhood Disorders, Venereal, EENT, and Miscellaneous Conditions