<u>Chapter 13</u> The Chiropractic Patient in New Zealand

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, ethnic origin, occupation, and condition. A typical patient is an individual who enters a chiropractor's office complaining of some specific pain symptomatology: 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.

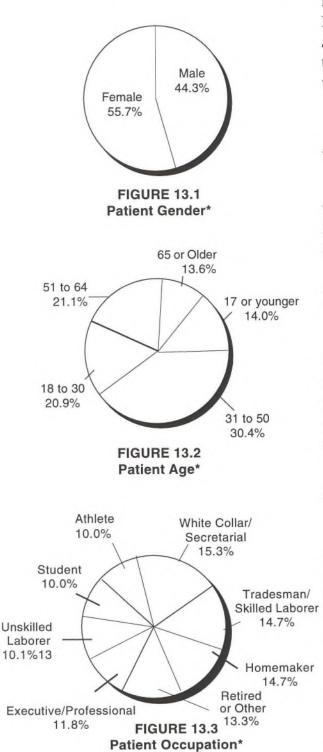
In completing the portion of the survey relating to the patient, the respondent chiropractors were asked to estimate the distribution of patients in each of the indicated categories.

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 13.1 and in charts throughout this chapter.

		ſſ	Feel (1,25%) Hall of	ſ
New Zea	land Patient Demographics			AVG
GEY	Male Female			2.01
AGE	17 or younger 18 to 30 31 to 50 51 to 64 65 or older			.99 1.47 2.14 1.49 .96
ethnic Origin	European Descent			.03 .54 2.83 .21 .09 .26 1.19 .07 .96
	Executive/Professional White Collar/Secretarial Professional/AmateurAthlete Tradesman/Skilled Laborer Unskilled Laborer Homemaker Student Retired or Other			1.21 1.57 1.03 1.51 1.04 1.51 1.03 1.37

TABLE 13.1

Sex/Gender of Patients



* See page 64 for explanation of percentages.

Chiropractors estimated that more than half of their patients are female (55.7%%) while less than half (44.3%) are male (Figure 13.1). In comparison, information from the *United States Job Analysis of Chiropractic* indicated that 40.7% of chiropractic patients are female while 59.3% are male.

Age of Patients

In relation to age, 14.0% of patients were age 17 or younger; 20.9% were 18 to 30; 30.4% were 31 to 50; 21.1% were 51 to 64; and 13.6% were 65 or older (Figure 13.2).

Ethnic Origin

Almost half of the patients (45.8%) were of European descent (Table 13.1). This was followed by patients from the United Kingdom (19.2%), Polynesia (15.5%), China (8.8%), Italy (4.2%), Greece (3.5%), Indonesia (1.4%), and Vietnam (1.2%).

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 15.3% of chiropractic practice (Figure 13.3).

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

TABLE 13.2 (Continued on next page) Presenting and Concurrent Patient Conditions

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

TABLE 13.2 (Continued on next page) Presenting and Concurrent Patient Conditions

RARELY SEEN (CONT.)	Endocrine or metabolic bone disorder
	Male infertility or impotency
	Arterial aneurysm
	Measles/German measles
	Appendicitis, cholecystitis or pancreatitis
	Tearing or rupture of nerve/plexus
	Chickenpox
	Tumor of breast or female reproductive system
	Joint tumor or neoplasm
	Mumps
	Cardiovascular congenital anomaly
	Aseptic necrosis or epiphysitis
	Muscular dystrophy
	Pituitary disorder
	Hereditary disorder
	Bone tumor
	Whooping cough
	Chronic kidney disease or failure
	Parasitic disorder
	Thymus or pineal disorder
	Bacterial infection of joint
	Tumor of gastrointestinal tract
	Cancer of the marrow or lymphatic system
VIRTUALLY NEVER SEEN	Brain or spinal cord tumor
VIRTUALLY NEVER SEEN	Tumor of lung or respiratory passages
	Herpes II Atelectasis or pneumothorax
	Tumor of male reproductive system
	Tumor of eye, ear, nose or throat
	Chlamydia
	Endocrine tumor
	Muscle tumor
	Tumor of the kidney or bladder
	Polycythemia
	Male reproductive congenital anomaly
	Venereal warts
	AIDS-related complex
	Gonorrhea

TABLE 13.2 Presenting and Concurrent Patient Conditions

Articular/Joint

Articular/Joint conditions were considered first by respondents (Table 13.3). Spinal subluxations or joint dysfunctions were seen routinely in chiropractors' offices. Articular/ Joint conditions such as osteoarthritis, degenerative joint disease, vertebral facet syndrome, extremity subluxations/joint dysfunctions, hyperlordosis of the cervical or lumbar spine, intervertebral disc syndrome, scoliosis, articular joint congenital/developmental anomaly were often seen. Most other conditions in the Articular/Joint area were sometimes seen. Only four of the conditions listed in this area were rarely seen.

Neurological

Neurological conditions were considered next (Table 13.3). 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 or rarely.

Skeletal

The next section involved Skeletal conditions (Table 13.4). Osteoporosis/osteomalacia and congenital developmental anomalies were often seen. According to response data, all other skeletal conditions were rarely seen.

Muscular

In the Muscular section, muscular strain/tear was often seen, as was tendinitis/tenosynovitis (Table 13.4). Other muscular conditions were seen rarely or never.

Cardiovascular

In the Cardiovascular section, high or low blood pressure was often seen (Table 13.4). All other conditions were sometimes or rarely seen.

Respiratory

In the Respiratory section, asthma, emphysema or COPD, and viral or bacterial infections were often seen; occupational or environmental disorders were sometimes seen (Table 13.4). The other two conditions were so infrequently seen as to be termed "never".

Integument

In the section addressing Integument conditions, it was found that acne, dermatitis or psoriasis, bacterial or fungal infections, and herpes simplex or zoster, were sometimes seen (Table 13.4). Skin cancer and pigment disorders were rarely seen.

Gastrointestinal

In the Gastrointestinal area, hernias, bacterial or viral infections, ulcers, hemorroids, colitis and diverticulitis were sometimes seen (Table 13.5). Patients having the other conditions listed were rarely seen.

Renal/Urological

In the Renal/Urological area, infection of the kidney or urinary tract was sometimes seen (Table 13.5). Other conditions listed were rarely or never seen.

Male Reproductive

In the Male Reproductive area, patients presenting with concurrent conditions in this area were rarely or never seen in most chiropractic offices (Table 13.5).

Female Reproductive

In the Female Reproductive area, menstrual disorders were often seen, and pregnancy was sometimes seen. Other conditions listed were rarely seen (Table 13.5).

Hematological/Lymphatic

In the Hematological/Lymphatic area, all conditions were rarely or never seen in the typical chiropractor's office (Table 13.5).

Endocrine/Metabolic

In the Endocrine/Metabolic area, obesity was often seen in chiropractors' offices; thyroid or parathyroid disorders, and diabetes were sometimes seen (Table 13.6). 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 seen in a chiropractor's office (Table 13.6).

Venereal

In the Venereal area, the conditions listed were typically never seen in a chiropractor's office (Table 13.6).

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 13.6).

Miscellaneous

In the miscellaneous section, patients with allergies were often seen. Nutritional, psychological, and eating disorders were sometimes seen (Table 13.6). 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.

Never Barely	2/3 ^{rl} Sometimes Often 2/4 ^{kl}
	///"
0 0.5 1.0 1.5 2	0 2.5 3.0 3.5 4.0
Presenting and Concurrent Condition:	AVG
Chinal aubluvation/joint ducturation	3.86
Spinal subluxation/joint dysfunction Extremity subluxation/joint dysfunction	3.10
	2.19
Sprain or dislocation of any joint	3.14
Vertebral facet syndrome	2.76
Intervertebral disc syndrome	2.00
Thoracic outlet syndrome	3.01
Hyperlordosis of cervical or lumbar spine	2.61
Kyphosis of thoracic spine Aseptic necrosis or epiphysitis	0.77
Scoliosis	2.74
Congenital/developmental anomaly	2.66
Osteoarthritis/degenerative joint disease	3.47
Systemic/rheumatoid arthritis or gout	1.83
Bacterial infection of joint	0.60
Bursitis or synovitis	1.93
Carpal or tarsal tunnel syndrome	2.11
TMJ syndrome	2.17
Joint tumor or neoplasm	0.79
Spinal canal stenosis	1.27
Presenting and Concurrent Condition: Neurological	AVG
Headaches	3.73
Peripheral neuritis or neuralgia	3.41
ALS, multiple sclerosis or Parkinson's	1.19
Tearing or rupture of nerve/plexus	0.89
Stroke or cerebrovascular condition	1.34
Vertebrobasilar artery insufficiency	1.34
Cranial nerve disorder	1.40
Radiculitis or radiculopathy	2.51
Loss of equilibrium	2.27
Brain or spinal cord tumor	0.57



	Never Rarely 2) ^(r) Sometimes Offer 2) ^(wh) Never Rarely 2) ^(r) Sometimes Offer 2) ^(wh) (p) 0 0.5 1,0 1.5 2,0 2.5 3,0 3.5 4.0
Presenting and Concurrent Condition: Skeletal	AVG
Fracture	1.29
Osteoporosis/osteomalacia	2.75
Congenital/developmental anomaly	2.54
Endocrine or metabolic bone disorder	1.06
Bone tumor	0.72
Presenting and Concurrent Condition: Muscular	AVG
Muscular Strain/Tear	2.93
Tendinitis/tenosynovitis	2.71
Muscular dystrophy	0.75
Muscular atrophy	1.45
Muscle tumor	0.29

Presenting and Concurrent Condition: Cardiovascular	AVG
High or low blood pressure	3.22
Angina or myocardial infarction	1.70
Arterial aneurysm	0.96
Peripheral artery or vein disorder	1.29
Murmur or rhythm irregularity	1.30
Congenital anomaly	0.78

Presenting and Concurrent Condition: Respiratory	AVG
Viral or bacterial infection	2.52
Asthma, emphysema or COPD	2.81
Occupational or environmental disorder	1.88
Atelectasis or pneumothorax	0.41
Tumor of lung or respiratory passages	0.49
Presenting and Concurrent Condition: Integument	AVG
Acne, dermatitis or psoriasis	2.42
Bacterial or fundal infection	1.67

Bacterial or fungal infection	1.67
Herpes simplex or zoster	1.52
Pigment disorders	1.23
Skin cancer	1.55

TABLE 13.4 Frequency of Skeletal, Muscular, Cardiovascular, Respiratory, and Integument Conditions

Presenting and Concurrent Condition:	
Gastrointestinal	AVG
	1.00
Bacterial or viral infection	1.68
Appendicitis, cholecystitis or pancreatitis	0.94
Ulcer of stomach, intestine or colon	1.54
Hiatus or inguinal hernia	1.99
Colitis or diverticulitis	1.55
Hemorrhoids	1.65
Tumor of gastrointestinal tract	0.58
Presenting and Concurrent Condition:	
Renal/Urological	AVG
Infection of kidney or urinary tract	1.61
Kidney stones	1.10
Chronic kidney disease or failure	0.67
Tumor of the kidney or bladder	0.26
Presenting and Concurrent Condition:	
Male Reproductive	AVG
Male infertility or impotency	1.00
Prostate disorder	1.45
Congenital anomaly	0.23
Tumor of reproductive system	0.36
Presenting and Concurrent Condition:	and the second sec
Female Reproductive	AVG
Female infertility	1.20
Pregnancy	2.49
Menstrual disorder	2.61
Non-cancerous disorder of breast	1.30
Tumor of reproductive system	0.80
Presenting and Concurrent Condition:	
Hematological/Lymphatic	AVG
Anemia	1.45
Immunological disorder	1.23
Hereditary disorder	0.72
Polycythemia	0.23
	0.58

Never Rarely 2191 Sometimes Often 2198 (or 2198)

TABLE 13.5

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

Never Rarely of A	
Presenting and Concurrent Condition:	2.5 3.0 3.5 4.0
Endocrine/Metabolic	AVG
Obesity	2.67
Thyroid or parathyroid disorder	1.73
Adrenal disorder	1.39
Pituitary disorder	0.74
Thymus or pineal disorder	0.61
Diabetes	1.96
Endocrine tumor	0.29
Presenting and Concurrent Condition:	AVG
Upper respiratory or ear infection	2.41
Measles/German measles	0.96
Mumps	0.79
Chickenpox	0.81
Whooping cough	0.70
Parasitic	0.61
Venereal Market Herpes II Market	AVG 0.46
Gonorrhea Chlamydia Chlamydia Syphilis	0.10 0.30 0.14 0.03
Chlamydia Venereal warts Syphilis Presenting and Concurrent Condition:	0.30
Chlamydia Venereal warts Syphilis Presenting and Concurrent Condition: EENT (eye, ear, nose, throat)	0.30 0.14 0.03 AVG
Chlamydia Venereal warts Syphilis Presenting and Concurrent Condition: EENT (eye, ear, nose, throat) Eye or vision disorder	0.30 0.14 0.03 AVG 2.46
Chlamydia Venereal warts Syphilis Presenting and Concurrent Condition: EENT (eye, ear, nose, throat)	0.30 0.14 0.03 AVG 2.46 2.44
Chlamydia Venereal warts Syphilis Presenting and Concurrent Condition: EENT (eye, ear, nose, throat) Eye or vision disorder Ear or hearing disorder	0.30 0.14 0.03 AVG 2.46 2.44 1.59
Chlamydia Venereal warts Syphilis Presenting and Concurrent Condition: EENT (eye, ear, nose, throat) Eye or vision disorder Ear or hearing disorder Disorder of nose or sense of smell	0.30 0.14 0.03 AVG 2.46 2.44
Chlamydia Venereal warts Syphilis Presenting and Concurrent Condition: EENT (eye, ear, nose, throat) Eye or vision disorder Ear or hearing disorder Disorder of nose or sense of smell Disorder of throat or larynx Tumor of eye, ear, nose, or throat	0.30 0.14 0.03 AVG 2.46 2.44 1.59 1.67 0.31
Chlamydia Venereal warts Syphilis Presenting and Concurrent Condition: EENT (eye, ear, nose, throat) Eye or vision disorder Ear or hearing disorder Disorder of nose or sense of smell Disorder of throat or larynx Tumor of eye, ear, nose, or throat Presenting and Concurrent Condition: Miscellaneous	0.30 0.14 0.03 AVG 2.46 2.44 1.59 1.67
Chlamydia Venereal warts Syphilis Presenting and Concurrent Condition: EENT (eye, ear, nose, throat) Eye or vision disorder Ear or hearing disorder Disorder of nose or sense of smell Disorder of throat or larynx Tumor of eye, ear, nose, or throat	0.30 0.14 0.03 AVG 2.46 2.44 1.59 1.67 0.31 AVG
Chlamydia Venereal warts Syphilis Presenting and Concurrent Condition: EENT (eye, ear, nose, throat) Eye or vision disorder Ear or hearing disorder Disorder of nose or sense of smell Disorder of throat or larynx Tumor of eye, ear, nose, or throat Presenting and Concurrent Condition: Miscellaneous Allergies Nutritional disorders	0.30 0.14 0.03 AVG 2.46 2.44 1.59 1.67 0.31 AVG 2.81 2.21
Chlamydia Venereal warts Syphilis Presenting and Concurrent Condition: EENT (eye, ear, nose, throat) Eye or vision disorder Ear or hearing disorder Disorder of nose or sense of smell Disorder of throat or larynx Tumor of eye, ear, nose, or throat Presenting and Concurrent Condition: Miscellaneous Allergies	0.30 0.14 0.03 AVG 2.46 2.44 1.59 1.67 0.31 AVG 2.81

TABLE 13.6 Frequency of Endocrine/Metabolic, Childhood Disorders, Venereal, and EENT Conditions