



Dear Chiropractor:

The *American Chiropractic Association and American Chiropractic College of Radiology* encourage you to participate in the ***Nationwide Evaluation of X-ray Trends (NEXT) survey of Chiropractic X-ray Practices***. This survey is a cooperative effort of the Food and Drug Administration and state radiation programs through the *Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors (CRCPD)*, with support from the *American Chiropractic Association*, the *American Chiropractic College of Radiology*, the *American College of Radiology*, the *American Association of Physicists in Medicine*, and the *Medical Imaging Technology Alliance*, a division of the *National Electrical Manufacturers Association*. The goal of this effort is to characterize radiological aspects of clinical practice at chiropractic facilities that perform cervical and lumbar x-ray procedures. *There is no regulatory activity associated with this survey.*

Your facility was randomly selected for participation from a nationwide database of clinical facilities. *Any responses you provide during this survey are kept in strict confidentiality.* Only aggregate statistical results are compiled and published. Individual facility responses are *not* released. You can view published outcomes from previous NEXT surveys at <http://www.crcpd.org/NEXT.asp>.

This survey is comprised of two components:

1. A trained radiation control surveyor employed by your state government will visit your site to gather radiation output and other data from your x-ray system(s) used for conducting **cervical and lumbar x-ray** procedures in your office. They will require the assistance of staff to operate the equipment, but should only need approximately one hour of time with the x-ray unit.
2. Your facility is asked to complete a brief questionnaire that seeks additional information regarding your clinical practice. Several questions request x-ray procedure workloads (how many cervical and lumbar spine studies you perform in an average month, and how many views per study you perform). Close estimates are sufficient for this survey.

Significant effort has been made to minimize the inconvenience to your staff. The benefits of participation are the professional satisfaction of contributing to this public health effort, and the clinical value of having available a means to directly compare your facility with the population of the U.S. clinical facilities.

We hope that you find value in participating in this NEXT survey. If you would like further information you may contact:

ACA/ACCR contact (Gary Guebert dacbr131@aol.com or 314-954-7012)

FDA contact (David Spelic, david.spelic@fda.hhs.gov / 330-665-2308)

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ray Tuck'.

Ray Tuck, D.C.
President, American Chiropractic Association

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Robyn Mitchell'.

Robyn Mitchell, DC, DACBR
President, American Chiropractic College of Radiology