The Oklahoma Board of Chiropractic Examiners recently became aware that chiropractic physicians were performing Platelet Rich Plasma Therapy. On October 18, 2018, the Board determined that Platelet Rich Plasma Therapy is outside the scope of chiropractic in Oklahoma. The Board also became aware that Platelet Rich Plasma Therapy has been taught in the injectable recertification course. The Board did not approve the curriculum and such therapy will not be taught in future courses.

In order to clear up any confusion regarding Platelet Rich Therapy, the Board directed its staff to notify physicians licensed in Oklahoma that such therapy is outside the scope of practice in Oklahoma. This letter serves as that notice.

Chiropractic is defined at Title 59 O.S. § 161.2 which states:

Chiropractic is the science and art that teaches health in anatomic relation and disease and abnormality in anatomic disrelation, and includes hygienic, sanitary and therapeutic measures incident thereto in and procedures which have been taught by an accredited chiropractic college and have been approved by the Board of Chiropractic Examiners.

As a result, for a procedure to come within the scope of chiropractic, it must be taught in an accredited chiropractic college and be approved by the Board. Platelet Rich Plasma Therapy is not taught in an accredited chiropractic college and has not been approved by the Board.

Moreover, the only therapeutic agents that chiropractic physicians are authorized to administer by injection are vitamins, minerals and nutritional supplements.

Title 59 O.S. § 161.12 provides grounds for the Board to take disciplinary action against a physician. Subsection (b)(7) states:

Unlawfully possessing, prescribing or administering any drug, medicine, serum or vaccine. This section shall not prevent a chiropractic physician from possessing or administering by a needle or otherwise, vitamins, minerals or nutritional supplements, or from practicing within the scope of science and art of chiropractic as defined in Section 161.2 of this title[.]
A.G. Opinion 02-22 analyzed the scope of a chiropractic physician’s authority to administer therapeutic agents by injection. The Opinion states at ¶7 that “[o]nly vitamins, minerals or nutritional supplements are permitted to be injected. No ‘other therapeutic agents’ are permitted to be injected.”

As a result, chiropractic physicians in Oklahoma are not authorized to perform Platelet Rich Plasma Therapy.

Sincerely,

Beth Kidd
Executive Director