



Oregon

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School Physicals by Chiropractic Physicians



SB 160

Policy Statement Approved at July 18, 2002 OBCE meeting:

The Oregon Board of Chiropractic Examiners reaffirms that chiropractic physicians are qualified by “clinical training and experience to detect cardiopulmonary diseases and defects.” SB 160, enacted by the 2001 Oregon Legislature, specified that chiropractic physicians may perform school physicals provided they have this training.

Chiropractic physicians have extensive training in diagnosis. This includes the ability to detect cardiopulmonary diseases and defects, as well as a range of other conditions.

Chiropractic professional education covers this subject in physiology, physical diagnosis and cardiorespiratory diagnosis classroom hours as well as internships in student clinic and outpatient clinic experience.

Further, cardiovascular diseases and defects and related diagnosis are tested on four qualifying examinations performed by the National Board of Chiropractic Examiners (NBCE). NBCE Parts I, II, and III are given to chiropractic students as they proceed through college. The NBCE Part IV practical examination is required for licensure in Oregon.

State law requires doctors to use the School Sports Pre-Participation Examination form approved by the Oregon Department of Education. This form also includes suggested exam protocols. It can be obtained from the Oregon School Athletics Association web page at <http://www.osaa.org/forms/PhysicalExamination-June2005.pdf>

Chiropractic physicians are further reminded that performing a school physical examination creates a doctor-patient relationship. The resulting records must be retained by the chiropractic physician for seven years or until the student (patient) is eighteen. These records may be stored off site (such as at the school), as long as the DC has access and confidentiality is maintained. (However HIPAA requirements should be reviewed if this is done.)

ORS 336.479