

Dr. Margaret Colucci, FCLB

Vice President

By The American Chiropractor Staff

Behind every chiropractic licensee is an international, nonprofit organization seeking to reduce costs, streamline processes, and improve patient care. The Federation of Chiropractic Licensing Boards (FCLB) is a support system for governmental chiropractic licensing boards and the licensees whom they oversee, and for the first time in its 90-year history, a woman sits in an officer position. Dr. Maggie Colucci is a 1989 Palmer College graduate with an additional chiropractic sports physician degree from New York Chiropractic College. She currently serves as vice president of the Federation of Chiropractic Licensing Boards (FCLB), as well as the Chiropractic Physicians' Board of Nevada and the National Board of Chiropractic Examiners (NBCE). Dr. Colucci practices in Las Vegas, Nevada. She is the recipient of multiple awards who earned a Palmer College of Chiropractic Research Honor Award, as well as being named the 2009 Nevada Chiropractic Association Chiropractor of the Year. Her work with the FCLB has included chairing multiple committees, including the Chiropractic Sports Mobility Task Force and the Providers of Approved Continuing Education—Chiropractic (PACE) Committee. As PACE Committee chair, Dr. Colucci was instrumental in expanding the program to offer a searchable online database of approved continuing education (CE) courses as well as online access to CE records for any licensee who completes a course from a PACE recognized provider. In an interview with *The American Chiropractor* Dr. Margaret explains Chiropractic Regulation.



TAC: What kind of relationship does the FCLB have with the NBCE?

MC: The FCLB and NBCE have different but intimately connected missions. Both nonprofit organizations are concerned with helping licensing boards promote the competent and safe delivery of chiropractic to the public. We share resources and work together to solve common goals. In fact, each spring we host a joint annual conference for the chiropractic profession. This April, we'll be meeting in Phoenix, Arizona where both organizations will hold their business meetings as well as provide valuable educational sessions on regulation, testing, and ethics. This year also marks the ninetieth anniversary of the FCLB. In addition to the NBCE, the Chiropractic Summit will be conferencing with us in Phoenix. Finally, state licensing board members also serve in key areas relating to NBCE testing, including test development, selection, and administration to a number of NBCE exams.

TAC: Does the FCLB participate in license regulation creation? How do you see that changing in the future?

MC: The state and provincial legislatures are the ultimate authorities in each chiropractic licensing board's jurisdiction. FCLB offers pooled resources for our member boards. We help them connect with each other to share best practices for existing legal language, and as new issues arise, draft model language that each board may adopt or adapt for its own use.

TAC: How do you see regulation of chiropractic changing in the coming years?

MC: Like so many other things, chiropractic regulation is going to continue to be heavily influenced by technology. The connectivity and immediacy offers great opportunities for licensees and regulators to interact and streamline regulatory processes. An example includes the FCLB's long-standing CIN-BAD system—an international database for tracking licensees who commit board violations. Technology also involves other aspects of health care that regulators and licensees have to consider. For example, how do advertising and federal HIPAA rules apply to social media? When are doctor-patient relationships established during travel-to-treat (athletic events and disaster care), travel-to-teach (seminars and symposiums), and telehealth (remote practice) scenarios? Licensing boards are working to resolve these questions and communicate answers to their licensees.



and consider candidates for potential licensure. The Councils on Chiropractic Education—International (CCE-I), composed of the various chiropractic accreditation organizations across the globe, has a “Statement on Equivalence” that can help licensing boards evaluate chiropractic degree programs located outside of the US.

TAC: Will chiropractors ever have the ability to travel around the country with one license? Why/why not?

MC: The FCLB is working with our member licensing boards to develop a mechanism for license portability. The FCLB PASSPORT program is something you may soon be hearing about. Like all of our programs, this will be a service to our member licensing boards, so its use and acceptance is ultimately up to each individual jurisdiction.

TAC: Can you tell us about the chiropractic assistant (CA) certification program the FCLB recently created? How does this affect CAs?

MC: The FCLB launched its Certified Chiropractic Clinical Assistant (CCCA) program about three years ago. It’s a national recognition for the work that these important professionals perform. It also closes a gap in public safety. Everyone agrees that anyone conducting clinical or therapeutic interactions on patients needs to be knowledgeable, appropriately trained, and held accountable. As a growing number of

TAC: There are international schools that have been educating chiropractors in Spain, Brazil, Europe, and Australia. How does the FCLB expect to deal with these chiropractors as they attempt to enter into the United States’ regulatory fabric?

MC: Each individual chiropractic licensing board is charged with applying its jurisdictional statutory legislation and developing interpretive regulations for practical application. We’re offering guidance and resources. NBCE examinations are seeing increased international use, which creates a comparable standard for licensing boards to assess

High Power Laser - Make Money From Day 1!

Try risk free for one month
at no charge*
Then lease for \$349/month**

* Limited offer. Please
contact us for details.

** Upon approved
credit.



**Evaluate the Zimmer OptonPro
high power laser risk free for one month!**

Our class IV laser operates in continuous power
so your patients can actually feel the healing effects.

- > Intuitive and easy to use
- > Unique safety features
- > Effective deep tissue penetration

Zimmer
MedizinSystems

25 Mauchly, Suite 300
Irvine, CA 92618
www.ZimmerUSA.com
info@ZimmerUSA.com

800-327-3576

“The goal of the CCCA program is to protect patients and enhance the care that chiropractic offices provide.”

licensing boards recognize this fact, they've begun looking for a way to verify minimal standards of training and enact accountability. With resources stretched thin for our member licensing boards, the CCCA program can reduce this burden by creating a centralized legitimate standard for all clinical CAs. The goal of the CCCA program is to protect patients and enhance the care that chiropractic offices provide. A properly trained CCCA is less likely to accidentally burn or injure his or her patient and more likely to serve as a supplemental set of eyes for his or her employer. The added bonus we're seeing from this program is that insurance companies are more willing to reimburse for adjunctive therapies when provided by a certified CA.

TAC: How does the FCLB interact with the chiropractic colleges and also the CCE?

MC: FCLB has a great working relationship with schools and the CCE. As many already know, our current executive director, Dr. Jon Schwartzbauer, is a former chiropractic college president. Since our member licensing boards will eventually regulate the students the schools are training, it's vital that we maintain healthy communication with the colleges throughout a student's education. Chiropractic accreditors (the CCE) and educators are committed to a shared goal of producing competent, ethical practitioners, as seen in the increasing prominence of ethics and boundaries training in all areas of the chiropractic curriculum.

TAC: Any final words or thoughts for our readers?

MC: Good oversight and regulation ensures that the public can trust and rely on their professional doctor of chiropractic. Proper documentation, lifelong learning, respect for patients of all ages and backgrounds, and thoughtful, competent clinical care are certainly the keys to public protection, and essential ingredients to practice success.

TAC: Thank you for your time.



You may contact Dr. Colucci at Maggie Colucci, DC
FCLB Vice President
702-880-5335
drmrcc@cox.net
2085 Village Center Circle, Suite 110
Las Vegas, NV 89134




**Affordable Support,
Quality Comfort!**

- Great Cash Business
- No Paperwork

Comfo-Arch

Only \$7.35 per pair

A molded featherweight orthotic

- Excellent for sport, work, casual and dress shoes
- Deep heel cup for great hind foot control
- Sized XS, S, M, L, XL



Prothotics™ Motion Control

Only \$15.00 per pair

**Great choice for
postural alignment**

- Metatarsal rise and heel cup
- Structural stabilizer to prevent pronation and rolling ankles



Powerstep® ProTech

Only \$18.10 per pair

Strong polypropylene shell

- Prevents over pronation to properly align the foot and reduce associated ankle, knee and lower back pain
- Stabilizing heel cradle and Comfort Cushion™



Bintz Company

A family business for over thirty years

www.bintzco.com/chiro

800-235-8458 • 630-665-3113

BIRKENSTOCK
Made in Germany • Tradition since 1774

pedaq
INTERNATIONAL

Spenco