

## *Personal Injury Patient Responsibility*

We are delighted to help you with the healing of your injuries that occurred directly from your accident. It is our job to get you feeling better than you were before the accident ever occurred! To do this we are very aggressive with your treatments. With our approach we can quickly get you feeling better and secondarily prevent any abnormal biomechanics that could lead to future degeneration and arthritis.

We want to discuss in detail how personal injury (PI) cases work.

Hopefully, you were evaluated at the Emergency Room (ER) or Minor emergency room in the cases where there were extensive amounts of vehicular property damage.

As your chiropractor we will be responsible for addressing and treating your injuries. We are the quarterback for your case. **It is our responsibility to take a proper history, detailed physical exam, render a proper diagnosis, conservative treatments and/or refer to specialist when needed.** Many times we will order x-rays to evaluate your spine and/or extremities. We want to make sure that there are no fractures. X-rays used to be done in the ER, however we are noticing that many of them are not doing them. As a chiropractor we look for different biomechanics than what a medical radiologist addresses. So viewing your foundation is important.

Second, we may refer you to a medical doctor for evaluation and they will sometimes prescribe medications. These can help your chemical based pain and inflammation while we work on the mechanical injuries. If prescribed, get the medication filled at the pharmacy and take it as recommended. It's also beneficial to have two doctor's evaluations confirming your injuries, and need for subsequent treatments.

Thirdly, it is very important that you come to every one of your prescribed chiropractic/therapy sessions. This is to maximize your healing potential, and also not to have any gaps in your treatment plan. If you were a professional athlete you would be getting treated everyday to help you get back on the field. **It is your responsibility to come to treatment.** *If you do not come to your scheduled appointments, fail to reschedule or do not prioritize your treatment for your case, we reserve the right to call your lawyer to let them know of your non-compliance.* We have dropped cases and asked patients to find other providers. That is not of course our first intention, but we do take your treatment very seriously as should you.

Specialty testing such as a magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) may be ordered if you do not respond to conservative treatment and/or if we need to fully evaluate the extent of your



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injuries. X-rays only show us the bones, and MRIs show us the soft tissue, especially the intervertebral discs. If there are positive findings, we may send you to a specialist, such as a pain management doctor or orthopedic surgeon for evaluations. If they do recommend more minimally invasive procedures, then afterwards, it is very important to take advantage of the pain relief window to get more aggressive with active based treatments to stretch and strengthen the injured tissues.

Finally, at the end of your case, we will send detailed daily notes and narratives of all your treatments, results of your diagnostic testing and address your future medical needs concerning your case. **It is the lawyer's responsibility to negotiate the best possible settlement to cover your medical bills, your pain and suffering and the lawyer's fee.**

It takes all 3 parties: patient, doctors and lawyers to effectively manage your accident/case. By following this strategy, you will maximize your ability to once again become pain free and also allow the lawyers to do their job properly.

We look forward to joining you on th path to recovery! We are here for you.

Best,  
Dr. Darin Mitchell  
Dr. Kennedy Tyer  
Dr. Jodie Wilson