

WAC 246-808-655 Duties of a chiropractor who retires or withdraws from practice. Any chiropractor who ceases practice in their community for any reason, including retirement, illness, disability, or relocation shall comply with the following duties:

(1) The chiropractor shall notify all current patients that they shall not be able to provide chiropractic services and shall notify the patient to seek another chiropractor to continue their care.

(2) The chiropractor shall offer to deliver to the patient, or to another chiropractor or licensed health care professional chosen by the patient, the originals or copies of all patient examination and treatment records and X-rays or notify the patient of a community area location where the records and X-rays shall be maintained and accessible for at least one year after the notice is sent to the patient.

(3) The chiropractor shall refund any part of fees paid in advance that have not been earned.

(4) The commission requests that the executor or executrix of a deceased chiropractor comply with the duties set forth herein to the fullest extent possible. The commission staff shall provide advice and assistance to such executor or executrix upon request.

(5) For the purpose of this section, any relocation or restriction of practice which substantially interferes with a patient's reasonable access to their chiropractor shall be cause for the chiropractor to comply with the duties set forth.

(6) Willful failure to comply with this section shall be cause to suspend a chiropractor's license until the required duties are fulfilled.

[Statutory Authority: Chapter 18.25 RCW. WSR 96-16-074, § 246-808-655, filed 8/6/96, effective 9/6/96.]