



## Relevant research subjects and criteria 2013-2018

First of all, all research funded by the ECU should ultimately be to the benefit of the patients. In addition, PhD or post-doc projects will receive first priority. Furthermore, the following criteria must be fulfilled:

1. Acceptable methodological quality
2. High chance of completion and include a high quality research team
3. Aids in building the ECU chiropractic research capacity and/or has relevance for the profession
4. Have a high chance of implementation of the findings
5. Result in a favourable cost-benefit ratio to the profession
6. Meet our research priorities (further defined in the 'research agenda'- see below)

### Studies fitting with the areas of interest as they are listed in the ECU Research Fund Policy

The areas of interest that this policy addresses are those that are related to the practice of chiropractic. These include but are not limited to basic, clinical and population research.

#### 1.1. Basic Sciences Research

Research in this field deals primarily with biomechanics and neurophysiology. It includes the study of:

- spinal and articular bio-mechanics and their control;
- the relation between the spine and body functions;
- the neurological control of body function;
- the effects of manipulation

#### 1.2. Clinical and population Sciences Research

Research in this field will be primarily aimed at evaluation of the role of chiropractic in health care. It includes:

- the evaluation of the validity of chiropractic diagnostic procedures;
- the evaluation of the outcomes of chiropractic therapy;
- epidemiological and sociological studies;
- the role of chiropractic in preventive care;
- economic evaluations/cost-effectiveness.

#### 1.3. Chiropractic related research

Research projects in fields, which do not belong to chiropractic itself, will also be considered if it appears that they can foster the knowledge, the understanding and the practice of chiropractic.

The new research priorities identified in the publication from Rubinstein et al., *Establishing a research agenda for chiropractic in Europe, Chiropractic & Manual Therapies* 2013, will be used as one of the last deciding factors when all the other criteria are fulfilled.

Updated October 2013