



In this Issue:

- National Association
- Country Topics
- Newsletter policy

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION - Building the profession

Chiropractors serve the people of some 100 countries today where the profession exists at different levels of organization and accessibility for their entire populations. As the number of practitioners grow, there is a natural need to co-exist while expanding the number of people who become chiropractic patients and the need to firmly establish and regularly upgrade a National Association. History shows us that failure to establish a formal organization only opens the door to struggling growth and the usual polarization we see within the profession plus the additional cultural segregation between the Native vs the Imported DCs.

Country associations that have attained some degree of legal protection have different needs than those Pioneer chiropractors that may still not have a formally working association. In part, it is the lack of an organized presence or working structure that hinders the ability to acquire legal recognition. To these ends the following listing is offered with a variety of ideas and objectives suggested for each respective stage of professional growth that reflect the relative needs of each stage of professional growth in a country.

PIONEER STAGE ISSUES - Countries with less than 1 DC per 100,000 to 1 Million people.

- ◆ Getting the National Association organized, using standard By-Laws adapted to their laws.
- ◆ Recruiting 100% of the few DCs into membership - being totally inclusive.
- ◆ Initiating legal recognition efforts with local government.
- ◆ Holding regular monthly meetings and set up 5 or 6 committees as needs dictate.
- ◆ Put together a bulletin or newsletter as the number of DCs grows.
- ◆ Coordinating with humanitarian mission groups to maximize benefits to all concerned.
- ◆ Set up a "Student Abroad Support" program to assure the new DC will return home.
- ◆ Initiate local university prospects then seek foreign school partnership.
- ◆ Develop policies on Public Relations efforts and actively work to see 2% of the population.
- ◆ Begin sending a representative to International conferences to help build DC numbers.

ADVANCING STAGE ISSUES - Countries with 1 DC per 10,000 to 100,000 people.

- ◆ Finalize law effort to include formal Registration Protocols.
- ◆ Coordinate national PR programs thru magazine articles and sports (goal is now 10%)
- ◆ Start a chiropractic school that meets the full International Curriculum standards.
- ◆ Upgrade any defects in law for DCs into Primary Provider and full legal protection.
- ◆ Establish a broad complement of committees that address all local issues.
- ◆ Publish a regular newsletter or periodical filled with articles of local professional interest.
- ◆ Hold an Annual Conference with continuing education programs.
- ◆ Raise funds for research and identify studies of local interest.
- ◆ Increase participation in International representation.

A well-run National Association helps to support the needs of the individual practitioner, protect the profession as it encourages ongoing professional growth and, increase market share in the healthcare industry. The possible range of member benefits increases as the organization grows in size, influence and leadership. In itemizing the different functions of a State or National Association we find 6 main areas of responsibilities:

1. Executive

Official representation
Regular meetings
Multi-year goals
By-Law adoption
Leadership training

2. Membership

Tied to licensing
Student inclusion
Committees as needed
School recruitment
Student recruitment

3. Services

Practice building
Student recruitment
Annual seminars
Family support
Chiro Assistants

4. Administrative

Budget and Dues
Local corporate sponsors
Operating designs S M L

5. Public Relations

PR materials/ scope
Sports event tie-ins
Humanitarian Mission Co-op

6. Legislative

Model Law
Lobbying tips
Professional Equality

Argentina - ([statistics page link](#))

There are now about 12 DCs reportedly in practice throughout Argentina. There is a recognized National Association, no official law expected for another 3-5 years, and no DC school at present. Support has been shown for interest within an established group of Kinesiologists to create a conversion program to raise their level of educational training to a DC degree - one that meets CCE requirements thru a local university system.

Bolivia - ([statistics page link](#))

Dr. Ron Firestone and his son, Homer now a DC, are the pioneers in Bolivia. The Law that recognizes chiropractic in Bolivia requires citizenship status to be issued a license. However, you may work under another's license as an employee if you are a foreigner making the total practicing DCs there at three (3). There has been talk about a school being started but the ingredients required to do so do not favor this outcome. Raising the awareness of chiropractic to the Bolivian families who can afford to send their children abroad for college seems the best route to take at present - so it will continue to be slow growth.

Brazil - ([statistics page link](#))

Over the past several years Brazil has managed to establish two DC schools within separate university systems. As of last year the total count was 34 DCs but that is expected to climb steadily. In Brazil, a profession cannot be considered officially until it has a formal education program within the country. So, it was necessary to push for schools first, then a law to follow. Not unlike many advancing countries where the larger populations can support many DCs under unregulated conditions, the clinics do well - very well in fact. There is no great push to see an official law there in the short outlook. The catch is that the DC needs to speak Portuguese, the country's official language.

Chile - ([statistics page link](#))

Chile purports having only 5 DCs in a country that can support over 1,000 and one DC school. There is an official National Association but to official recognition as a separate profession. Permission to practice is given individually with proof of formal education and whatever residence visa requirements that apply to the applicant.

Columbia - ([statistics page link](#))

There are 4 reported DCs without a law, a national Association and very high unemployment. Definitely a tough place to be with the exception of a few "safer communities" that offer the more normal socio-political environment that is required to cultivate the chiropractic seed. Good intelligence information is a must when considering a practice in Columbia.

Ecuador - ([statistics page link](#))

Chiropractic has been practiced in Ecuador for over 20 years but 8 total DCs makes for a very slow growth rate. That raises many questions considering that the population of 4 million can support over 400 DCs and we only are meeting 2% of that potential. Here as well there has been talk of a DC school but there seems to be a dampening effect on growth in Ecuador.

Peru - ([statistics page link](#))

Neighbor to Ecuador with a population six times larger there are some 18 reported DCs in Peru, a 100% increase in just a few years. According to recent requests for more associate DCs there are definitely plenty of opportunities for a successful practice. Having just consolidated all DC factions under one official National Association, Peru is poised to see growth with the number of practitioners and support for the linking of Life University with the San Ignacio de Loyola University in Lima, Peru.

Venezuela - ([statistics page link](#))

The DCs in this country have been keeping a low profile... holding on to the secret of a good thing. There are problems with an unstable political regime to consider but that hasn't deterred the 9 DCs there. Even though the country can support a DC school there hasn't been much talk in this area. Similar to other Latin American countries, the right to practice is not based on an official license but under a somewhat tolerated condition. There is an official National Association that was active in the Pan American games when held in Caracas.

Miscellaneous - No Shows

There are a few other South American countries that are not mentioned here (French Guyana, Guyana, Paraguay, Surinam and Uruguay) for the simple reason that there is nothing to report. There are no practicing DCs - no nothing! It appears they are geographically or demographically undesired so far. If anyone has information on chiropractic activity in these countries we would welcome the update and put them on the map.

NEWSLETTER POLICY:

This newsletter is intended to inform and encourage the International growth of Chiropractic. If you know someone who may be interested in receiving this newsletter, please have them go to www.ChiropracticDiplomatic.com/register and complete the Foreign Service Registry form, their address will then be added to future mailings. If you do not wish to receive this newsletter, simply notify us by replying to the delivery email.