

# Chiropractic and Dentistry

by Michael Pierce, D.C.

What in the world does chiropractic have to do with teeth? Anyone who has returned to the dentist for multiple bite adjustments or crown adjustments knows that tiny misalignments in the teeth can cause tooth and face pain. The dentist grinds down very small portions of teeth or crowns to correct this. Have you ever considered how large spinal misalignments are? We commonly find and reduce misalignments of millimeters to centimeters in the neck, spine, pelvis, legs and even feet. That is like a football field to a dentist! Bite balance is dependent upon the alignment of the head, spine, pelvis and feet.

Clearly a dentist and patient can become confused and frustrated when a bite remains unstable. The chiropractor can be called into the case to examine for:

- Functional short leg
- Fallen arch of the foot
- Improper gait (stride)
- Unlevel pelvis
- Head tilt (may be found with eyes closed)
- Unlevel shoulder
- TMJ dysfunction of muscles, joint, or other
- Skull suture pain and restriction, and more

If the cranial bones are not moving, the *cerebral spinal fluid* flow may become turbulent, resulting in headaches and local spinal or sacral pain, and breathing restrictions. In addition, some people with need for *root canal* find relief with a proper bite. This may halt the progressive root damage, possibly saving nearby teeth.

We have found that co-examination and treatment of these difficult bites greatly aids in their diagnosis and resolution, and costs less. Please ask us about your case or an explanation of these concepts.