

10 THINGS YOU DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT DCS



There are plenty of misconceptions and flat-out myths about chiropractic care. The fact is, chiropractic care is a 125-year-old, evidence-based, licensed healthcare practice that helps millions of people worldwide reduce pain, increase mobility and improve their overall health and well-being – all without drugs or surgery. If you already knew those facts, then here are 10 other things that you might not know about chiropractic care and the doctors who deliver it.

- 1 DC stands for doctor of chiropractic.
- 2 Doctor of chiropractic programs typically take four years to complete and require at least three years of undergraduate college education for admission, a total of seven years of post-high school education.
- 3 In many states, DCs can order advanced imaging studies such as MRI, CT and Ultrasound. [More than half](#) of DCs have their own radiology equipment.
- 4 Doctors of chiropractic focus on patients' overall health. DCs believe that malfunctioning spinal joints and other somatic tissues interfere with a person's neuro-musculoskeletal system and can result in poor health.
- 5 Doctors of chiropractic are not wannabe doctors. They choose the DC profession because they want to help the body heal itself and avoid pharmaceutical interventions.
- 6 The percentage of female DCs has more than doubled — from [13.3%](#) in 1991 to [27.1%](#) in 2014.
- 7 [Over 40%](#) of DCs are self-employed and own their own clinic.
- 8 In addition to operating a general chiropractic practice, some DCs specialize in areas such as sports, neurology, orthopedics, pediatrics, or nutrition, among others.
- 9 The DC profession began at [Palmer School and Cure](#) (now Palmer College of Chiropractic) in Davenport, Iowa in 1897. By 1922, enrollment grew to more than 3,000 students.
- 10 Doctors of chiropractic practice in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands and in many other countries, including Canada, Mexico, Great Britain, Switzerland, Australia, Philippines and Japan.

Learn more about becoming a doctor of chiropractic by [watching](#) videos featuring interviews with current students as well as practicing doctors.

