

From: [David Dalgardno](#)
To: [Murdo, Patricia](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Chiropractic Scope of Practice re: Dry Needling
Date: Thursday, June 25, 2020 5:34:41 PM

Dear Members of the Economic Affairs Interim Committee,

My name is Dr. David C. Dalgardno, DC, and I am writing to request that you allow the moving forward of Department of Labor and Industry's MAR 24-126-37 New Rule I Dry Needling. After being notified of the informal objection to the rule, and upon reviewing the transcript and video of your April 30 meeting pertaining to this issue, I would like to submit my comment in support of allowing chiropractors to continue to administer Dry Needling treatments to patients in Montana.

Some background on me: I have been in clinical practice as a chiropractor formerly in Washington state for 6 years, and here in Montana for 3 years. In addition to my training as a chiropractor, I have postdoctoral certifications in Functional Movement Taping, Graston Technique, and am well versed in strength and conditioning. I also commonly use physiotherapy modalities, having passed the NBCE Physiotherapy board examinations. I am also the team chiropractor and trainer for the Bozeman Icedogs Tier 3 Hockey team.

Addressing soft tissue dysfunction is as important to my treatment approach as providing chiropractic manipulation. Dry needling has been a revolutionary addition to the modalities at my disposal, and hugely beneficial to my athletes and patients.

In my practice, there are patients whose chronic soft tissue dysfunction does not respond to simple manual or instrument assisted adjusting, or soft tissue manipulation. It is often the case that referral to physical therapy or escalating their care pathway to orthopedic surgery, does not serve them well. Having the useful modality of dry needling at my disposal helps to significantly reduce pain, and reestablish normal tissue function in tandem with chiropractic adjusting.

It is appropriate, and in the public's best interest to allow for the provision of dry needling by chiropractors.

Sincerely-

-Dr. David C. Dalgardno, D.C.