

NUCCA Spring Conference 2017
Newport Beach, CA
April 20-22, 2017

INTRO/Level 1

NUCCA Protocol – Johnson

This class will clearly lay out step by step what is considered NUCCA treatment protocols including but not limited to supine leg check, anatometer postural readings, thermography assessment, adjusting steps, x-ray taking and analysis and even NUCCA approved equipment.

Intro to Biomechanics I and II – Flory

This class serves as an introduction to the biomechanics of the NUCCA protocol. It's focus is on the concept of the condylar-axial relationship and how this important factor influences frontal plane movement at the craniocervical junction.

4 Elements – Flory

This class will be an overview of the NUCCA biomechanics, explaining the 4 elements that comprise the height vector and the purpose of each.

Structural Analysis Part I – Sesker

Overview x-ray analysis, height vector, rotation vector, and torque. Criteria for good films and examples of unacceptable films. Specific analysis on the lateral x-ray and the points on the vertex x-ray.

Film Quality – Lapenski

Participants will learn when to use which filters to get the best image for each film. They will find out what to look for to determine if they have good quality images. Participants will discover how to change mAs and filter combinations to get the most crisp films. They will learn what doctors are looking for to pass films for certification. Discussion of atlas position, head rotation and proper S factors.

Structural Analysis Part 2 – Sesker

Analysis of the nasium x-ray. Establishing points and line drawing. Calculating the height vector and combining it with the rotation vector.

Image Positioning – Zabelin

A level one class beginning with a power point presentation on the requirements and procedures in correct patient placement for the NUCCA views. The remainder of the class will be practical, with live demonstration and attending DCs and students setting classmates for the views.

Introduction to Adjusting I and II – Johnson

The 8 phases and 27 individual steps of the NUCCA adjustment. Explain each phase and step so doctors understand what is accomplishing with each step. Practice drills with individual feedback on performance

Objective assessment of the ASC – Foran

The atlas subluxation complex can be objectively measured on x-ray and the doctor must clinically correlate these findings with exam findings such as a supine leg check, ananometer readings and thermographic readings. This class will discuss how to correlate these exam findings with objective x-ray findings and making clinical decisions on daily visits with patients.

Headpiece Placement – Foran

Lecture, demonstration and participation providing an understanding and practical application in the use of the mastoid headpiece.

INTERMEDIATE AND ADVANCED COMBINED CLASSES

Standards Update - Flory, Lapenski

The Standards committee of NUCCA will present the latest on accepted NUCCA protocol for topics such as x-ray analysis so doctors are clearly aware of what acceptable standards are for determining things such as skull rotation on the nasium film, measurable standards of the axial surface of C2, etc. The latest acceptable findings from the standards committee will be presented so doctors have a clear direction of what fits within tolerance of NUCCA protocol.

Certified Film Review – Dickholtz

This class will review recently submitted and passed Level 3 certified NUCCA series of films so doctors can see an example of a series of case submission of films that meet the top criteria to become Board Certified in the NUCCA technique.

The Craniocervical Junction: Scholten

Overview:

- Upper Cervical History (Where we came from and where we're going.)
- The CCJ Overview
 - Anatomy, Biomechanics, Neurology, Neurophysiology, Advanced Imaging (MRI, CBCT), Current developments in Cerebellar Tonsillar Ectopia (Understanding Chiari)
- CCJ Examination & Integrative care considerations

Learning Objectives:

- Develop a greater understanding of UC history and update on current events shaping the UC profession.
- Sharpen understanding of basic principles of the CCJ anatomy, biomechanics, neurology, and neurophysiology (subluxation hypotheses, CSF flow).

- Enhance knowledge of when to utilize Advanced Imaging of the CCJ and how to interpret results.
- Understand current evidence and ongoing investigations into CTE, CSF Flow, Glymphatics; how they are impacted by intervention at the level of the CCJ.
- Deliver overview examination recommendations to allow enrollees to recognize when there may be other variables that may need to be investigated.

NUCCA Business Meeting – NO CE CREDIT

Research Overview – Woodfield

This class summarizes ongoing UCRF funded research projects. Presentations include results of ongoing projects as they apply to reliability and validity of NUCCA assessments, fine-tuning of the NUCCA protocol, and improvements in providing NUCCA patient care as a result of conducted research.

INTERMEDIATE/Level 2

Adjusting Phases Part 1 – Lapenski

This class is designed to help doctors learn how to develop and practice the adjusting portion of the NUCCA procedure. This part will involve hands on learning and practicing the initial adjusting phases in small groups with certified instructors. Part 1 will focus on the approach, settleback and turn in phases.

Certification Testing Review – Zabelin

This class prepares the DCs for the written exam for the Level 2 certification exam by going over the material needed for this section of the certification process. Attending DCs are encouraged to bring a laptop/notebook/tablet to take the exam while at the conference.

Biomechanical Theory – Packer

This class will discuss the fundamental concepts of understanding the biomechanical challenges of each case including overcoming resistance and using fulcrums to get proportional reductions. First and second class lever systems will be addressed as well as vector selection as it impacts moving the head by putting force into the condylar circle and moving the cervical spine by putting force into the superior articulating surface of C2.

X-ray Analysis – Yardley

Pre-analyzed x-rays will be distributed to participants (without the solution) to perform a detailed analysis and proposed biomechanical solution. A reference library of the cases with analysis and biomechanical solution will be available. This will then be reviewed by a certified doctor with the textbook solution available to compare. This is a workshop to further develop case analysis to a more intermediate to advanced level.

Adjusting Phases Part 2 – Lapenski

This class is designed to help doctors learn how to develop and practice the adjusting portion of the NUCCA procedure. This part will involve hands on learning and practicing the initial adjusting phases in small groups with certified instructors. Part 2 will focus on the arch, roll-in, conversion and triceps pull phases.

Improving Image Quality – Lapenski

This course covers reviewing many x-rays and having the participants discover common obstacles to excellent image quality. It will also incorporate biomechanical discussions and theory as well as headpiece placement relative to the subluxation and its reduction

Scientific Literature Review – Woodfield

In this class students will discover the elements of a suitable research paper, while learning the required components of each section. Manuscript assessment checklists guide students to proper interpretations of their perceived assessment of the paper. Close examination of one controversial paper helps in understanding the strengths and shortcomings of the paper leading to a bitter attack on the journal's editor. At the end of the class, students are reading and correctly interpreting the scientific literature and can make constructive suggestions for improvement.

Intermediate Headpiece Placement – Packer

This class is a practical application of proper patient positioning on the mastoid support headpiece. The head acts as the greatest lever in the upper cervical spinal correction and this class will review every micro detail to ensure the head is placed properly to allow the headpiece to be used as a fulcrum to add or decrease resistance of movement of the head to achieve better quality corrections.

ADVANCED/Level 3

Concepts in Advanced Imaging – Dickholtz

This class is designed for NUCCA practitioners with a moderate to high degree of skill level in regards to understanding the technical aspects of radiographic analysis and structure identification. The course will specifically cover structure identification, imaging techniques, errors in analysis and osseous abnormality's. Attendees will leave with an increased capacity to understand and effectively relate to the common concerns in the reduction of the atlas subluxation complex.

Settleback Phase – Packer

The settleback phase is the most important phase of the adjustment for establishing the doctor's base of support and weight control and sets the foundation for the successful implementation of the other phases of the adjustment. This class will go into depth theoretically and practically how doctors can establish a solid base of support that is maintained throughout the correction of the patient.

Advanced Biomechanics - Yardley/Fitzpatrick

This is to be a series of case presentations accompanied by discussion of Biomechanical Rationals for addressing cases exhibiting High Plane Lines, greater than usual Vertical Axis deviations and larger C1 and C2 Transverse Plane issues. Dr.'s Yardley and Fitzpatrick will be accessing their combined 60+ years' experience to engage in exploring strategies and alternative approaches to more difficult cases. Drawing from their own practical experience this should provide more advanced practitioners approaches and understandings they can take back to their offices and implement Monday morning.

Advanced Adjusting – Cripe

The advance adjusting class will incorporate both lecture and practical techniques to assist the doctors in developing and improving their adjusting skills. Time will be spent on discovering each doctor's strengths and weaknesses. Recommendations and tips will be taught by various certified doctors on an individual basis.

Advanced Imaging- Zabelin

This class will focus on several aspects of patient X-rays: PowerPoint presentation on efficient patient placement for the views required by NUCCA, with an emphasis on meeting the metrics outlined in the protocols. The next topic will cover image clarity, with an emphasis on increasing detail, collimation, filtration, and darkroom hygiene, for those using plain film. There will be time for Q&A, as well as images for review submitted by attending Doctors.

Squaring Off – Flory

This class will cover the purpose, steps and common errors to using the squared off stance to deliver the NUCCA adjustment. Participants will have time to practice with feedback from a Board Certified NUCCA doctor.

Out of Pattern Biomechanics – Cripe

In the Out of Pattern Biomechanics class we will be exploring the different ways of getting out of pattern cases to reduce. We will look at the influence of head piece placement and a rationale for changing the vector.