NUCCA
NATIONAL UPPER CERVICAL CHIROPRACTIC ASSOCIATION

Spring 2024 NUCCA Conference Schedule
April 25-27, 2024 / Newport Beach, CA

BASIC / INTRO

Thursday, April 25th

NUCCA Protocol
Instructor: Dr. Barbara Read, Board Certified
This class is an overview of NUCCA treatment protocols and basic terminology. Topics include a brief history of NUCCA, the unique complexities of the upper cervical region, terminology related to NUCCA x-ray analysis and biomechanics, and assessment protocols utilized by NUCCA.

Intro to Biomechanics I and II
Instructor: Dr. Hannah Orem & Dr. Kurt Sherwood, Board Certified
This class serves as an introduction to the biomechanics of the NUCCA protocol. Its focus is on the concept of the condylar-axial relationship and how this important factor influences frontal plane movement at the craniocervical junction.

Vector Calculation
Instructor: Dr. Michael J. Foran, Board Certified
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
Instructor: Dr. Barbara Read, Board Certified
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.

Friday, April 26th

Structural Analysis Part II
Instructor: Dr. Barbara Read, Board Certified
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.

S-Line
Instructor: Dr. Kurt Sherwood, Board Certified
This class will be an introduction of the purpose of the S-Line, how to draw it, and how to then properly take a Nasium radiograph. It will briefly review how to tell what S-Line a Nasium view was taken at.

Intro to Adjusting Part I
Instructor: Dr. Kurt Sherwood, Board Certified
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.

Saturday, April 27th

Research Overview/Update
Instructor: Dr. Craig Lapenski, Board Certified
This class will be an overview of the current research NUCCA colleagues, and the Upper Cervical Research Foundation (UCRF) are working on.

Headpiece Placement
Instructor: Dr. Jack Stockwell, Board Certified
Lecture demonstration and participation providing an understanding and practical application in the use of the mastoid headpiece.

Leg Check
Instructor: Dr. Michael Foran, Board Certified
Review the protocol and hands-on experience for the supine leg check portion of the examination.

Intro to Adjusting Part II
Instructor: Dr. Kurt Sherwood, Board Certified
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.

All Level Practical Adjusting Workshop
Instructor: Dr. Glenn Cripe, Board Certified
This advanced adjusting class will review the details of the mechanics of the triceps pull with the most of the time focusing on the practical aspects of this phase of the adjustment. As a result, the doctor will have a much broader and fuller understanding of the triceps pull. This will translate into more control and powerful adjustments.

INTERMEDIATE / ADVANCED

Thursday, April 25th

NUCCA Standards Update
Instructor: Dr. Craig Lapenski, Board Certified
This class will review any updates to the standards and protocol of the National Upper Cervical Chiropractic Association (NUCCA).

Certification Image Review
Instructor: Dr. Daiki Ishiyama, Board Certified
This class is designed to demonstrate what constitutes a well taken radiograph of the head and cervical vertebra required to perform a NUCCA analysis. Actual x-rays submitted by certification candidates will be used to illustrate both proper positioning as well as common errors.

Intermediate Biomechanics
Instructor: Dr. Kerry Johnson, Board Certified
Basic Types with the resistances encountered and what to do with LOD and Mastoid Support to overcome those resistances as a review for the first part of the Class followed by Pre-and Post-Case studies. If I get enough Type 1's I will show the variations and how the Biomechanics changes.

Advanced Adjusting I
Instructor: Dr. Michael Zabelin, Board Certified
Focusing primarily on the final step in the seven phases of performing a NUCCA adjustment, the Triceps pull phase. Common errors as well as practical exercises to enhance the performance of a NUCCA adjustment to restore the atlas subluxation to normal will be discussed. Physical demonstration will be highlighted while attending doctors will have an opportunity to work with other instructors on their own skill sets.

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Advanced Adjusting II
Instructor: Dr. Michael Zabelin, Board Certified
Focusing primarily on the final step in the seven phases of performing a NUCCA adjustment, the Triceps pull phase. Common errors as well as practical exercises to enhance the performance of a NUCCA adjustment to restore the atlas subluxation to normal will be discussed. Physical demonstration will be highlighted while attending doctors will have an opportunity to work with other instructors on their own skill sets.

Torque
Instructor: Dr. Barbara Read, Board Certified
This class addresses how Torque is generated and when to apply in accordance with the position of Axis Spinous. The class begins with the definition of torque then leading into how NUCCA classifies torque as either superior or Inferior relative to Transverse plane displacement of Axis Spinous. Some discussion will be dedicated to the effects of Torque in the Sagittal Plane and how that affects the Transverse Plane. After this verbal explanation the class will be divided into groups for Practical application with a Certified NUCCA Doctor working one on one with each person in that group.

Advanced Imaging (CBCT)
Instructor: Dr. Kerry Johnson & Dr. Daiki Ishiyama, Board Certified
This class offers insight into aspects of image quality, from alignment to patient placement, to filtration, and covers digital components as well as analog. Attending DCs are encouraged to bring images from practice for evaluation and constructive ways to improve quality and consistency. Concepts in digital x-ray will be discussed as well.

Saturday, April 27th

Research Overview/Update
Instructor: Dr. Craig Lapenski, Board Certified
This class will be an overview of the current research NUCCA colleagues, and the Upper Cervical Research Foundation (UCRF) are working on.

Adjusting Drills
Instructor: Dr. Kerry Johnson, Board Certified
This course will be a breakout using the tools we've learned in adjusting classroom courses and provide hands on technique feedback from credentialed instructors.

NUCCA Rationale
Instructor: Dr. Glenn Cripe, Board Certified
The NUCCA Rationale class explores the structural, muscular, and neurological relationships that make up the Atlas Subluxation Complex Syndrome. In this class, the doctors/students will gain a clearer and deeper understanding of NUCCA. The participants will be asked to explain the rationale to each other making sure they understand the work on different levels.

Advanced Adjusting III – Challenging Vectors
Instructor: Dr. Barbara Read, Board Certified
This is an advanced class where we will be discussing how to adjust patients who require a vector that is difficult to deliver using the ideal Settleback adjusting phases. This will be a combination of lecture, discussion, demonstration, and one-on-one practical workshop. This class will attempt to clarify how best to address low vectors with very little rotation, large vectors requiring high degrees of pelvic angulation or a steep spinal lever, hard to reach contact points and tips to protect the doctor from injury while adjusting.

All Level Practical Adjusting Workshop
Instructor: Dr. Glenn Cripe, Board Certified
This advanced adjusting class will review the details of the mechanics of the triceps pull with the most of the time focusing on the practical aspects of this phase of the adjustment. As a result, the doctor will have a much broader and fuller understanding of the triceps pull. This will translate into more control and powerful adjustments.

ALTERNATE

Thursday, April 25th

Working Through Challenging Cases I
Instructor: Dr. Craig Lapenski, Board Certified
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.

Friday, April 26th

Structural Asymmetrics
Instructor: Dr. Craig Lapenski, Board Certified
This class will review the frequently observed structural asymmetries see on the NUCCA radiographs, how they can influence the NUCCA analysis protocols, and how to accommodate the analysis to accurately identify the biomechanical misalignment factors contributing the Atlas Subluxation Complex.

Headpiece Placement (hands on)
Instructor: Dr. Vince Fitzpatrick, Board Certified
Lecture demonstration and participation providing an understanding and practical application in the use of the mastoid headpiece.

Saturday, April 27th

Working Through Challenging Cases II
Instructor: Dr. Craig Lapenski, Board Certified
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.

Out of Pattern Biomechanics
Instructor: Dr. Vince Fitzpatrick, Board Certified
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.