



INTRO – Level I

*** Please note that Wednesday's course is only available to NUCCA board certified doctors ***

Wednesday, October 22nd

Advanced Clinical Integration: Biomechanical Assessment, Diagnostic Imaging & Adjusting

Review of submitted imaging for the certification candidates with in depth discussion of the image quality, biomechanical analysis, the post image reduction, and candidates understanding of the NUCCA procedure in full. Discussion of emerging technology in imaging, biomechanics, and adjusting, with round table discussion.

*** Please note that Wednesday's course is only available to NUCCA board certified doctors ***

Thursday, October 23rd

Intro to NUCCA & Case Management (all levels)

Instructors: Drs. Glenn Cripe, Board Certified & Dr. Tymothy Flory, Board Certified & Dr Kerry Johnson

Enhance your NUCCA practice with advanced protocols and techniques tailored for complex patient care.

Refine your examination skills, adjustment strategies, and case management from various NUCCA doctors to optimize outcomes for challenging conditions and populations.

NUCCA Protocol

Instructor: Dr. Glenn Cripe, Board Certified & Dr. Marcy Ziska, 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

Instructors: Dr. Kurt Sherwood, Board Certified & Dr. Jose Portela, 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.

Intro to Adjusting I

Instructors: Dr. Michael Zabelin, Board Certified & Dr. Michael Russamano, 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.

Friday, October 24th

Structural Analysis Part I

Instructors: Dr. Barb 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.



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XRay Positioning

Instructors: Dr. Michael Zabelin, Board Certified & Dr. Jason Granger, Board Certified

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.

Structural Analysis Part II

Instructors: Dr. Barb 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.

Intro to Adjusting II

Instructors: Dr. Michael Zabelin, Board Certified & Dr. Michael Russamano, 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.

Vector Calculation (prev 4 Elements)

Instructors: Dr. David Packer, Board Certified

This class will cover the biomechanical rationale for how to obtain the height and rotation adjustment vector from the x-ray analysis but only as starting point, the class will also explain how to use the vertical axis and other basic understandings of biomechanics to raise or lower the vector depending on the resistances involved in the case.

Saturday, October 25th

NUCCA Rationale (all levels)

Instructor: Dr. Glenn Cripe, Board Certified & Dr. Levi Colt Wainwright, 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.

Research Overview (all levels)

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. Vince Fitzpatrick, Board Certified

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



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Leg Check

Instructor: Dr. Levi Colt Wainwright, Board Certified & Dr. Michael Zabelin, Board Certified

Review the protocol and hands-on experience for the supine leg check portion of the examination.

Torque

Instructor: Dr Barb 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.

NUCCA Review Q & A

Instructors: Dr. Kerry Johnson, Board Certified

This class will allow introductory / students to review the NUCCA technique while having an open forum to seek immediate feedback on protocol, adjusting techniques, and case studies.

INTRO – Level II

Thursday, October 23rd

Intro to NUCCA & Case Management (all levels)

Instructors: Drs. Glenn Cripe, Board Certified & Dr. Tymothy Flory, Board Certified & Dr. Kerry Jonson Board Certified

Enhance your NUCCA practice with advanced protocols and techniques tailored for complex patient care. Refine your examination skills, adjustment strategies, and case management from various NUCCA doctors to optimize outcomes for challenging conditions and populations.

Certification 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.

Kinesthetics of the Adjustment



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Instructor: Dr. Jason Granger, Board Certified

Advanced concepts in adjusting to better understand the doctors body mechanics as the adjustment is performed. Understanding the kinesthetics improves the adjustment and helps in practicing the adjustment.

Friday, October 24th

Advanced Adjusting

Instructor: Dr. Tymothy Flory, Board Certified

This class will focus on the eight phases of performing a NUCCA adjustment. 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 and attending doctors will have an opportunity to work with other instructors on their own skill sets.

Modifying the Calculated Vector

Instructor: Dr. Kerry Johnson, Board Certified

The key concepts in modifying the calculated vector in out of pattern misalignments.

Principals of Modifying Vectors Based on Post XRays

Instructors: Dr. Barb Read, Board Certified

Principles of vector modification after the first post adjustment. Learn key concepts to help with a second adjustment if the initial post x-ray image does not produce an adequate correction.

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.

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NUCCA Rationale (all levels)

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Research Overview (all levels)

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.

Biomechanical insights from early monographs

Instructor: Dr. Jack Stockwell, Board Certified



Fall 2025 NUCCA Conference Class Descriptions October 23-25, 2025 | Minneapolis, MN

Learn and understand key concepts from the wealth of knowledge that exists in the NUCCA monographs. These highlights will help you immensely, without spending hours going through each monograph on your own.

Torque

Instructor: Dr Barb 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.

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INTERMEDIATE / ADVANCED – LEVEL III

Thursday, October 23rd

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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.

Out of Pattern Biomechanics



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Instructor: Dr. Vince Fitzpatrick, Board Certified

This class will introduce concepts of managing out of pattern misalignment cases. See actual cases with imaging and get key ideas on how to care for these complex problems.

Friday, October 24th

Limited Entry Workshop Part I: Biomechanics

Instructor: Dr. Kurt Sherwood, Board Certified, Dr. Kerry Johnson, Board Certified, Dr. Vince Fitzpatrick, Board Certified

Have a board-certified panel of doctors review your cases from imaging through biomechanics, patient placement on the adjusting table, and working down the ASC on post imaging. Images must be submitted prior to the conference. Limited number of participants due to the time restriction of a conference.

Limited Entry Workshop Part II: Adjusting

Instructor: Dr. Craig Lapenski, Board Certified, Dr. Tymothen Flory, Board Certified, Dr. Vince Fitzpatrick, Board Certified, Dr. Jack Stockwell, Dr. Levi Colt Wainwright, Board Certified, Dr. Marcy Ziska, Board Certified

Have a board-certified panel of doctors review your cases from imaging through biomechanics, patient placement on the adjusting table, and working down the ASC on post imaging. Images must be submitted prior to the conference. Limited number of participants due to the time restriction of a conference.

Advanced Imaging (CBCT)

Instructor: Dr. Levi Colt Wainwright Board Certified Dr Kerry Johnson Board Certified

This class is an overview of the use of CBCT in the NUCCA practice. Topics include the technology, physics and patient exposure as well as slicing the 3D image into views necessary for NUCCA analysis. Additionally, the course covers the pros and cons of CBCT vs. conventional radiography including complex biomechanical presentations only seen with advanced imaging.

Saturday, October 25th

NUCCA Rationale

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Adjusting Drills

Instructor: Dr. Kurt Sherwood, 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.

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.