



NEWS / PROFESSION

Japan's Largest Chiropractic Organization Formed

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As it is typical where there is no chiropractic legislation, there are many chiropractic groups and organizations in Japan. On May 12, leaders of the two largest and most active chiropractic associations got together and decided to form the Japan Federation of Chiropractic (JFC), namely, the Japanese Chiropractic Association (JCA) and Pacific Asia Association of Chiropractic (PAAC). The total number of the two organizations will comprise about 900 members, making JFC the largest chiropractic association in Japan.

Dr. Kazuyoshi Takeyachi, 1968 graduate of National College of Chiropractic was elected as the new president, and President Dr. Muramatsu of the Japanese Chiropractic Association and President Dr. Sakurada of Pacific Asia Association of Chiropractic were elected as vice-presidents. New articles and bylaws were ratified and several committees were approved to initiate more positive roles in starting insurance coverage for automobile injuries through JFC, increase in malpractice coverage, and more effective legislative and public relations efforts. Also future standardization of education and joint research activities were discussed.



Leaders of JCA and PAAC (right) got together to form the JFC and JAC.

The Japanese Chiropractic Association was founded in 1961 and Pacific Asia Association of Chiropractic was founded in 1975. Each organization had been duplicating their activities. It was 1981 when JCA and PAAC jointly started malpractice insurance coverage for their members, the first of its kind in Japan. Today, after eight years, there were less than a dozen malpractice suits, and a total amount of \$6,000 was paid for only two cases. In March of 1990, JCA and PAAC were summoned by the Ministry of Health and Welfare for the hearing on chiropractic by top Japanese orthopedists. Consequently the formation of JFC is the result of recent change in political and social climate on chiropractic and more maturity on the part of respective leaders to recognize the importance of joint efforts.



New officers of the Japan Federation of Chiropractic: (left to right) Vice President Dr. Muramatsu, President Dr. Takeyachi and Vice President Dr. Sakurada.

Also ratified at the JFC meeting was the formation of the Japanese Association of Chiropractors (JAC) which was made up of 11 DCs who were presently members of JCA and PAAC. It was decided that while JAC will seek to join WFC, JFC will take an initiative in coalition of chiropractic associations in Japan to represent the profession at large.

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