

Ethics & Law Stop Wasting Time Doing SOAP Notes – 2 Hours

Syllabus

Presented by: Steven C Eggleston, DC, Esq.

Objectives

Attendees and enrollees will be taught that many current methods of doing SOAP notes on patients is ineffective and does not accurately or ethically represent what is actually being done on each patient visit. They will be taught that computer generated or “canned” SOAP notes are obvious to the reader and lessens the Chiropractor’s credibility when his/her records are reviewed by the State Board, insurance companies, Medicare or other government agencies or lawyers in work comp and personal injury situations.

Enrollees and attendees will be taught that accurate, ethical SOAP notes can be done in a fraction of the time they are currently spending to generate unethical, canned and inaccurate SOAP notes. They will be taught to stop wasting time writing ineffective SOAP notes and, instead, keep much more accurate patient records by using the legal doctrine of Incorporation by Reference.

Hour 1

Participants will be taught the legal doctrine of Incorporation by Reference and how that legal doctrine can be applied to writing SOAP notes in order to reduce redundant, ineffective and useless writing and language that waste the Chiropractor’s time and fails to keep accurate records despite all of the time that is spent creating them. Evaluation and management CPT codes will be explained and participants will be taught to actually do the things they are supposed to do for the specific CPT E & M code that is being used. SOAP notes that are specific to the patient’s condition(s) are far more accurate and fulfil the ethical responsibilities required in the section 318 Rules on Accurate Patient Records.

Hour 2

Attendees and enrollees will be taught that the medical model of diagnosis and treatment is that the medical doctor wears the “diagnosis” hat and the physical therapist wears the “treatment” hat but that Chiropractors wear both hats by being the doctor that diagnoses the patient AND performs the treatment on the patient. This has caused confusion in the minds of Chiropractors over the years and caused them to dislike performing progress examinations of patients. Disliking progress exams has meant that many Chiropractors do not even do them and that fact has led to poor record keeping.

Participants will become more “competent” as required by Section 317(c) of the Chiropractic Act. They will be instructed to do the work, show their work and stop leaving out important facts. They will be admonished not only to be thorough and accurate but will be taught *how* to accomplish this objective.