

## The State of Chiropractic in Italy

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- Manipulators who openly express that they have no formal training call themselves chiropractors
  - Physiotherapists call their mobilizations, chiropractic treatment
  - There are persons in possession of the title of "Doctor of Chiropractic" obtained through diploma mills who are active, also politically
  - Medical manipulators who profess knowledge in chiropractic
  - Chiropractors are muddled with osteopaths, who come from varied schools of training
- The National Federation of Medical Doctors, Surgeons and Dentists (the Italian equivalent to the American Medical Association which, in this case, also includes dentistry) determined that chiropractic and eight alternative medicines are to be considered as "acts of medicine" and can therefore be practiced only by members of their Federation. They also called for a ban on the practice of chiropractic by Doctors of Chiropractic. This Federation numbers three hundred thousand and as in all parts of the world, are a powerful lobby in political affairs. Since then, Parliament has been active in deriving legislation on non-conventional medicine which will also concern chiropractic. And even though the Associazione Italiana Chiropratici has constantly sought chiropractic legislation over the last ten years, only now are AIC proposals being considered. As an Association, the AIC only numbers 160 members but has proven somewhat able to defend the profession. However, in a country of internationally renowned injustices, it's hard to say how things are going to work out.