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**Gallup-Palmer College annual survey reveals most Americans want alternatives to medication for relieving pain**

**Palmer College of Chiropractic**

The 2017 Gallup-Palmer College of Chiropractic Annual Report: [Americans’ Views of Prescription Pain Medication and Chiropractic Care](www.palmer.edu/gallup-report) brings the voice of the American public into the debate about the U.S. opioid epidemic and pain relief.

Key findings from the full report, released today, reveal that 78 percent of U.S. adults prefer to try other ways to address their physical pain before they take pain medication prescribed by a doctor, and 81 percent think chiropractic can help with back and neck pain.

Highlights include:

A majority of Americans prefer to try other ways to address their pain before taking pain medication.
- 22 percent of U.S. adults prefer to take pain medication prescribed by a doctor to treat their physical pain
- 78 percent prefer to try other ways to address their physical pain before they take pain medication prescribed by a doctor.
- 27 percent of U.S. adults have seen a health-care professional for significant neck or back pain in the last 12 months. Of those adults, more than half (54 percent) have had an ongoing problem with neck or back pain for five years or more.

A majority of Americans think chiropractic care can help with back, neck and joint pain as well as headaches.
- 57 percent think chiropractic can help with headaches
- 67 percent believe it can help with large joint pain (shoulders, knees, etc.)
- 81 percent think it can help with back and neck pain

A majority of U.S. adults have positive views of chiropractors.
- 63 percent agree most chiropractors have their patient’s best interest in mind
- 52 percent agree most chiropractors are trustworthy

Chiropractic patients and non-users favor collaboration on care.
- 68 percent said they would be more likely to go to a chiropractor if they knew their chiropractor would work closely with their other doctors to collaborate on care

Additional information about the report is available on the Palmer College of Chiropractic website at [www.palmer.edu/gallup-report](http://www.palmer.edu/gallup-report)

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