



# Oregon

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## **Board Statement on Devices that Provide Traction**

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The Board frequently receives questions from a variety of sources regarding traction, devices that accomplish traction, and billing.

The American Chiropractic Association (ACA) notes that for the purpose of billing 97012 mechanical traction is defined as:

“...the force used to create a degree of tension of soft tissues and/or to allow for separation between joint surfaces. The degree of traction is controlled through the amount of force (pounds) allowed, duration (time), and angle of pull (degrees) using mechanical means.”<sup>1</sup>

There are a variety of devices on the market that potentially provide traction. Chiropractors should investigate the device, the intent of the manufacturer, and any FDA approvals for its use. If the device is capable of providing traction, the chiropractor should ensure that the device is properly used to affect the desired goal.

The Board does not issue opinions or rulings regarding coding or billing questions. The Board encourages all Oregon Chiropractors to analyze whether the methods they employ meet the above ACA definition, and whether the specific device and that manner in which it is utilized provides traction.

The Board always reminds doctors to ensure that their notes with regard to this and all treatments should be maintained in compliance with Oregon Administrative Rule 811-015-0005(1)(C).

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<sup>1</sup> American Chiropractic Association, Coding Clarification 97012, Mechanical Traction/Spinalator