

**Course:** Serious Disorders Masquerading as Musculoskeletal Pain

**4 Hour Version**

**1. Contact information for Course Coordinator:**

Elham Nia, DC  
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**2. One-page Curriculum Vita:** Please see the last page of this document.

**3. Exact date(s) of Program, or date range for asynchronous online programs:**

Online (available 24/7 for 1 year from approval date)

**4. Exact location(s) of Program for each date listed, or “online”:**

Online via [www.chiropracticonlinece.com](http://www.chiropracticonlinece.com)

**5. Program Outline:**

- a. Exact Seminar Title:** Serious Disorders Masquerading as Musculoskeletal Pain
- b. Instructor Name:** Dr Elham Nia, DC
- c. Total Hours:** 4 (Online)

**d. Summary:**

This course has 4 learning units and focuses on case scenarios of patients presenting with apparent mechanical musculoskeletal pain, but who have instead, serious underlying disorders. This course includes examples of history-taking and physical examination findings, clinical reasoning, considerations for red flags and examination videos. Participants are asked to reflect on the material and judge whether the main elements of history-taking and physical examination have been adequately investigated. Each unit concludes with a discussion highlighting the essential components of the patient’s disorder. Participants are required to complete multiple-choice quizzes to demonstrate competence in the topics.

**e. Learning Outcomes:**

By the end of the course, participants will be better able to:

- Take a focused patient history and perform a targeted physical examination.
- Recognize serious disorders that masquerade as mechanical musculoskeletal pain.
- Improve their clinical reasoning and diagnostic accuracy.
- Improve patient safety and achieve better health outcomes.

**f. Teaching Methods:**

Clinical patient presentations (including history, physical examination, imaging, clinical analysis and discussion).

**g. Course Outline:**

<b>Hour</b>	<b>Content</b>	<b>Format</b>	<b>Topic</b>
<b>Hour 1</b>	<b>Unit 1: Prostate cancer metastasis presenting as low back pain</b>  Participants are required to review the main elements of history-taking and physical examination using an example of a patient with prostate cancer metastasis presenting as low back pain. Participants are asked to reflect on the material and judge whether the main elements of the patient’s clinical history and physical examination have been adequately investigated. The unit concludes with a discussion highlighting the essential components of the patient’s disorder. Participants are required to complete a multiple-choice quiz to demonstrate competence in the topic.	Online presentation using text, images and videos	Prostate cancer metastasis clinical evaluation

Hour	Content	Format	Topic
Hour 2	<p><b>Unit 2: Cervical spondylotic myelopathy presenting as neck pain and paresthesia</b></p> <p>Participants are required to review the main elements of history-taking and physical examination using an example of a patient with cervical spondylotic myelopathy presenting as neck pain and paresthesia. Participants are asked to reflect on the material and judge whether the main elements of the patient's clinical history and physical examination have been adequately investigated. The unit concludes with a discussion highlighting the essential components of the patient's disorder. Participants are required to complete a multiple-choice quiz to demonstrate competence in the topic.</p>	Online presentation using text, images and videos	Cervical spondylotic myelopathy clinical evaluation

Hour	Content	Format	Topic
Hour 3	<p><b>Unit 3: Abdominal aortic aneurysm presenting as back pain</b></p> <p>Participants are required to review the main elements of history-taking and physical examination using an example of a patient with abdominal aortic aneurysm presenting as back pain. Participants are asked to reflect on the material and judge whether the main elements of the patient's clinical history and physical examination have been adequately investigated. The unit concludes with a discussion highlighting the essential components of the patient's disorder. Participants are required to complete a multiple-choice quiz to demonstrate competence in the topic.</p>	Online presentation using text, images and videos	Abdominal aortic aneurysm clinical evaluation

Hour	Content	Format	Topic
Hour 4	<p><b>Unit 4: Vertebral artery dissection presenting as neck pain and headache</b></p> <p>Participants are required to review the main elements of history-taking and physical examination using an example of a patient with vertebral artery dissection presenting as neck pain and headache. Participants are asked to reflect on the material and judge whether the main elements of the patient's clinical history and physical examination have been adequately investigated. The unit concludes with a discussion highlighting the essential components of the patient's disorder. Participants are required to complete a multiple-choice quiz to demonstrate competence in the topic.</p>	Online presentation using text, images and videos	Vertebral artery dissection clinical evaluation

#### **h. Missouri applications only: Recommended/Background Readings:**

Olivero W, Wang H, Hanigan W, Henderson J; Tracy P, Elwood P, Lister R, Lyleet L. Cauda Equina Syndrome (CES) From Lumbar Disc Herniations. *Journal of Spinal Disorders & Techniques*. 22(3):202-206, MAY 2009

Fehlings MG, Skaf G. A review of the pathophysiology of cervical spondylotic myelopathy with insights for potential novel mechanisms drawn from traumatic spinal cord injury. *Spine*. 1998;23:2730–7.

Howell C., Rabener M. Abdominal aortic aneurysm: A ticking time bomb. *Journal of the American Academy of Physician Assistants*: March 2016 – Volume 29 – Issue 3 – p 32–36

Wolf A, Wender R, Etzioni R, Thompson I, et al. American Cancer Society guideline for the early detection of prostate cancer: update 2010. *CA Cancer J Clin*. 2010 Mar-Apr. 60(2):70-98.

Carter C. Acute thoracolumbar pain due to cholecystitis: a case study. *Chiropractic & Manual Therapies* (2015) 23:34