Standard of practice: circumstances in which DC can date former patient

Steps to take:

* Establish a professional doctor patient relationship, and maintain it for the time being
* Write a letter to the CCO and inform them that you have discharged the patient and why
* Compose a referral letter to another chiropractor for the patient, to avoid patient abandonment
* Create/compose a letter for evidence with the appropriate documentation of the situation, actions taken, and evidence that the patient is now receiving care from another chiropractor.

Define the title of a patient:

* + The CCO defines a patient as follows: a person becomes a patient when there is record of Personal Health Information that includes but is not limited to:
    - patient history
    - physical examination
    - diagnosis
    - plan of management
    - prognosis
    - diagnostic imaging reports
    - written record of treatment
    - informed consent to treatment
    - billing information
    - commencement of billings, including billing to third parties, such as insurance companies
    - financial records
    - letters of consultation to and from other health professionals
    - written communications or statements referring to an individual as a patient
    - formal letter of discharge
  + In addition to this, a patient is any person who gives verbal consent to treatment
  + We discussed that a person was not a patient if they did not come to see you for advice (Home Depot story). And maybe a patient isn’t a patient yet if they have not received care.

Steps to take if a patient is coming on to you:

* Discuss/explain the doctor patient relationship, find them someone else to treat them
* Document the scenario in the files: date and times!
* Call CCPA and notify them, and provide them copies of the documentation

When is it appropriate to start dating a patient?

* 4 months period like Dr. C stated; this is enough time for a couple turn overs in the clinic
* 1 year based on the CCO guideline, but maybe this is too long.