

- **Pierce-Stillwagon Technique (PST):** Developed in 1963 by Dr. Walter Vernon Pierce, Sr. and Dr. Glenn Stillwagon, PST synthesized earlier chiropractic approaches and introduced stress view radiographic analysis, videofluoroscopy, and neurological thermography. These innovations advanced functional analysis beyond static alignment and laid important groundwork for the evolution of tonal chiropractic.

While PST was primarily structural, its stress view imaging, early videofluoroscopy, neurological correlation via thermography, and pattern-based thinking were uniquely innovative for its time and contributed important building blocks to the tonal chiropractic evolution.

(PRS Chiropractic, <https://prschiropractic.com/about-the-system/what-is-the-pierce-results-system>; TTC Seminar Notes, 2025)

- **Applied Kinesiology (AK):** Introduced by Dr. George Goodheart in 1964, Applied Kinesiology (AK) brought manual muscle testing into chiropractic as a diagnostic and therapeutic tool. While not a tonal technique per se, AK contributed significantly to the evolution of tonal analysis by establishing muscle testing as a form of “neurological conversation” with the body—similar in principle to the use of pressure testing and leg checks.

This broader concept of “asking the body” aligns with the nonlinear assessment strategies of tonal chiropractic, contrasting with the static, linear logic of motion palpation. Since its introduction, many chiropractic approaches—across Osseous, OsseoTonal, and Tonal models—have evolved the application of this neurological conversation, reinforcing the idea that the nervous system can be queried directly for real-time biofeedback.

(ICAK, <https://www.icakusa.com>; TTC Seminar Notes, 2025)

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- **Virgil V. Strang, D.C.:** In 1984, Dr. Virgil Strang published *Essential Principles of Chiropractic*, one of the most philosophically comprehensive texts in the profession’s modern history. His work emphasized the body as a dynamically adaptive, self-organizing system governed by Innate Intelligence. He introduced the concept of the “State of the Organism” as a functional continuum rather than a binary of sickness and health. Strang’s vitalistic framework rejected mechanistic, pathology-based thinking and instead emphasized perception, adaptation, and coordination as hallmarks of true health. His recognition that interference stems from disordered tone and adaptation—not merely mechanical impingement—directly parallels the foundational assumptions of tonal chiropractic and continues to influence its evolution.

*(Strang, *Essential Principles of Chiropractic*, 1984)*

- **Reggie Gold, D.C.:** As a leading chiropractic philosopher of the 20th century, Reggie Gold championed the idea that the adjustment facilitates the body’s own healing—not through

force, but by removing interference to Innate Intelligence. His unwavering emphasis on chiropractic philosophy, with eloquent communication for both the public and the profession on the role of Innate Intelligence within the context of the Triune of Life, and how that relates to the application of the chiropractic principles, set the philosophical stage for tonal chiropractic's emergence. His articulation of chiropractic as a vitalistic art rooted in the expression of life force helped shift clinical priorities from mechanistic models toward a more vitalistic approach.

(Reggie Gold Archives, <https://reggiegold.com>)

3.3b OsseoTonal Techniques in Modern Chiropractic

As the tonal paradigm continues to evolve, a growing number of techniques have emerged that blend tonal awareness with structural (osseous) application. These OsseoTonal approaches engage the NeuroSpinal system through articular contacts and biomechanical vectors, but within an intentional tonal framework. They incorporate core tonal principles—including the role of Innate Intelligence in both the formation and reduction of subluxation, the importance of focused intent during analysis and force application, and the use of observable tonal indicators.

While these techniques do not engage the tone of the NeuroSpinal system as directly as TTC, they represent the profession's ongoing synthesis of tonal philosophy with structurally-oriented methods.

- **Mastery, Love, Service (MLS):** Developed in 1984 by Dr. Arno Burnier, MLS Seminars emerged from his desire to cultivate a chiropractic approach that emphasizes tone, presence, service, and connection during adjustments. The technique focuses on bringing the nervous system to a state of “physiological peace and ease,” highlighting the importance of the chiropractor's intent and the energetic exchange between practitioner and patient. A distinguishing feature of MLS is its reverence for the body's Innate Intelligence and the tone of the NeuroSpinal System, guiding chiropractors in determining when, where, and how to deliver an osseous adjustment with precision and respect. This approach fosters a deeper connection to the art of chiropractic, transforming adjustments into honoring, specific, fluid, and powerful exchanges.

(MLS Seminars, <https://www.mlsseminars.com>)

- **MC2 Technique:** Developed by Dr. Steve Hoffman in 1996, MC2 builds upon principles from Torque Release Technique (TRT) but applies them within an OsseoTonal model focused on nervous system balance, particularly at the upper cervical level. MC2 introduced a system of biotonal analysis and reflexive indicators to determine the most efficient and neurologically responsive adjustment. Its development emphasized tonal correction of the nervous system first, followed by secondary postural and structural effects.

MC2 also incorporates mental checking into its clinical model—continuing the legacy of Richard Van Rump's discovery in DNFT. In the MC2 framework, mental checks are performed OsseoTonally as a time-saving strategy, using vectors associated with vertebral subluxation. In contrast, TTC applies mental checking tonally, using vectors aligned with the NeuroSpinal system itself to engage directly with aberrant tone.

(Talsky & Nadler, TTC Seminar Notes, 2025; Chiropractic Mastery, <https://www.chiropracticmastery.com>)

- **Koren Specific Technique (KST):** Developed by Dr. Tedd Koren in the early 2000s, KST incorporates insights from Alf Breig’s work on adverse mechanical tension and Lowell Ward’s dynamic spinal modeling. KST introduced a novel approach to analysis and correction using the Occiput Drop (OD)—a binary neurological feedback mechanism that serves as a tonal yes/no response from the body. This allows the practitioner to “ask the body” and receive real-time guidance regarding where, when, and how to adjust. The technique uses the ArthroStim™ instrument to deliver gentle, specific corrections guided by this feedback system. KST represents an innovative fusion of tonal intent with dynamic biofeedback, reinforcing the shift toward neurological inquiry over segmental fixation. (Koren Publications, <https://korenwellness.com>; TTC Seminar Notes, 2025)
- **Tonal Integrative Correction (TIC) (2010s):** Developed by Dr. Jason Sabo in the 2010s, TIC is a low-force OsseoTonal technique that analyzes and corrects the Vertebral Subluxation Complex using neurological reflex assessments to determine precise vector and location. The technique emphasizes gentle, non-cavitation adjustments aimed at restoring optimal nervous system function. (*Talsky & Nadler, TTC Seminar Notes, 2025; TIC Chiropractic, <https://www.ticchiro.com>*)
- **Kairos Training Culture (KTC) (2016):** Emphasizes the art and mastery of adjusting with an emphasis on biotensegrity, tone, and flow. KTC integrates both tonal awareness and precise “at-ease” osseous delivery. (*Kairos Training Culture, <https://www.kairostrainingculture.com>*)
- **Syntropy Chiropractic Training (2020s):** Launched in the 2020s, Syntropy Chiropractic Training emphasizes adjusting mastery through seminars and digital resources that prioritize flow state, ease, and clinical precision. The technique integrates tonal and structural principles while basing vector selection on leading-edge research into the most neurologically effective osseous adjustments. Syntropy also promotes analysis through the lens of global tone and encourages “at-ease” adjustment strategies that harmonize with the body's adaptive state. (*Syntropy Chiropractic, <https://www.syntropychirotraining.com>*)
- **Pneuma Chiropractic (2020s):** Synthesizes multiple healing traditions and emphasizes tonal, neural, meningeal, and energetic awareness, with adjusting procedures that reflect tonal integration. (*Pneuma Chiropractic, <https://www.pneumachiropractic.com>*)
- **Access Workshop:** Developed in 2002 by Dr. Ric Wiegand, Access Workshop offers a unique contribution to tonal chiropractic through its emphasis on non-linear analysis and interoceptive awareness. Rooted in contemporary neuroscience, Access trains chiropractors to recognize subtle internal cues from their own Central Autonomic Network (CAN) as a means of identifying areas of neural disruption within the patient. Rather than relying on

structural findings or externally observed patterns, the Access approach cultivates the chiropractor's ability to detect the body's internal "alert response"—a subtle, reflexive signal indicating an area of neurological significance. This method enhances the practitioner's ability to deliver precise, appropriately scaled input by matching the system's state of receptivity, thereby refining tonal discernment and clinical impact within a wide range of techniques.

(Access Workshop, <https://www.accessworkshop.com>)

- **Simon Senzon, D.C.:** In 2004, Dr. Simon Senzon began publishing works that would establish him as one of chiropractic's foremost historians and philosophers. Through his writings and his educational platform, The Institute Chiropractic (TIC), he has provided critical insights into the evolution of chiropractic philosophy, from its structural beginnings to vitalistic and tonal paradigms. His work—spanning books, peer-reviewed papers, interviews, and educational seminars—helps clarify the historical, theoretical, and clinical foundations that underpin tonal chiropractic today.
(Senzon, 2004–present; The Institute Chiropractic, <https://www.institutechiro.com>)
- **Quantum Neurology:** Founded in 2005, Dr. George Gonzalez introduced Holographic Healing as part of his broader Quantum Neurology framework, proposing that the nervous system operates as a holographic field of vibrational information. His model emphasizes that neurological rehabilitation can be achieved not solely through structural intervention, but through energetic, tonal, and frequency-based stimulation—often engaging reflexes, muscle testing, and light-based stimulus. Gonzalez describes the nervous system as a consciousness-driven, self-organizing system that stores and expresses information holographically, aligning closely with the tonal chiropractic perspective of the body as an adaptive, informational field rather than a purely mechanical structure. His use of neurological feedback and vibrational entrainment reinforces the value of tonal analysis, intent, and low-force correction strategies.
(Gonzalez, Holographic Healing: 5 Keys to Nervous System Consciousness, 2005; Quantum Neurology, <https://quantumneurology.com>)

2. The Application of Principles

Vitalistic Foundation

Chiropractic philosophy has always affirmed that the body is not a passive structure to be fixed, but a self-healing, self-regulating system animated by an Innate Intelligence.

There are principles of intelligence at play in the body—principles which, when incorporated into protocol, enhance the effectiveness of subluxation reduction.

Mechanistic Disconnect

Yet for much of the profession's history, this understanding has rarely been reflected in chiropractic application. A vitalistic philosophy may have shaped the understanding and discussion of chiropractic principles, but the methods of application often remained mechanistic—treating the spine as machinery that needed to be fixed.

This disconnect defined much of the 20th-century approach to subluxation. The result was a profession that spoke the language of intelligence and adaptation but adjusted mechanistically, without honoring the principles of the body's intelligence. Even among principled chiropractors, the adjustment was too often treated as a forceful correction applied to a part, rather than a communication delivered to a whole.

Subluxation as a Glitch in the System

From a tonal perspective, subluxation is not merely a misalignment, but a pattern of defensive tone—initiated as an adaptive response to stress, but ultimately becoming a stuck state that no longer serves the system. It is best understood as a glitch in the software of the NeuroSpinal System: a disruption in how the system interprets and responds to its environment based on past stress or trauma.

Though the original reaction may have been intelligent, the lingering pattern reflects the limits of the system's perception—not its current needs. Just as a circuit breaker must be reset once the surge has passed, the nervous system requires specific input to re-initiate its own self-correcting process and restore functional coherence.

True Integration Begins with Communication

The true integration of principles into practice through a tonal protocol begins when we engage the nervous system not as something to fix, but as something to listen to, observe, and communicate with.

Rather than imposing correction, we invite the system to reinitiate its own process of correction, adjustment, and return to wholeness.

The Tonal Approach to Application

This evolution—from applying enough force to move a bone to engaging in a dialogue with the body—is a paradigm shift and part of a new lens through which to view the profession.

The move from mechanical correction to neurological communication is not simply a technical distinction—it reflects a deeper alignment with chiropractic's foundational principles.

Tonal chiropractic applies its principles through a protocol that respects the NeuroSpinal System's timing, receptivity, and intelligence.

It recognizes that the nervous system is dynamic, patterned, and self-organizing—and that the most powerful adjustment is the least amount of the most effective input, delivered at the right place and time, with the right vector and intent.

TTC as a Bridge Between Philosophy and Practice

Talsky Tonal Chiropractic (TTC) offers a unique bridge between the foundational principles of chiropractic philosophy and their real-time clinical application.

It does not simply add tonal elements to an existing osseous approach—it reorients the entire model around a dynamic relationship with tone, tension, and intelligence in the NeuroSpinal System.

Where many techniques adjust the spine mechanically—often using predetermined listings—TTC is built on a tonal paradigm that emphasizes real-time neurological communication.

It views the nervous system as a non-linear, non-mechanistic, intelligent, self-organizing interface—constantly in process and capable of adaptive reorganization when given the right information, in the right way, at the right time.

TTC provides practitioners with a protocol for locating and engaging the best window in—the most receptive access point for delivering precisely vectored tonal input along the line of correction. This input is not about forcefully correcting the body, but about communicating corrective intent through touch—activating the body's own ability to self-adjust.

This is not simply a new technique—it is a new lens.

TTC embodies a chiropractic approach where communication with Intelligence is prioritized over mechanical correction, and where touch becomes a language for facilitating the return to wholeness. In doing so, it exemplifies the deepest possible integration of principles through protocol and technique.

2.4 Emergence of the NeuroSpinal Model

In the late 20th century, Dr. Marvin Talsky began connecting the dots between these tonal perspectives and the anatomical-functional model proposed by Breig and Ward. In 1995, he co-founded Torque Release Technique, which used segmental contact with tonal intent to influence global tone. By 2001, this evolved into Talsky Tonal Chiropractic, marking a departure from joint-space-based input and initiating the development of a truly non-articular, tonal protocol that engaged the Cranio-Spinal Meningeal Functional Unit (C-SMFU)—now known as the . This shift laid the foundation for a new understanding of subluxation: not as a vertebral event, but as a global shift in tone, resulting in compensatory vertebral misalignment.