

## Field Testing

### RESULTS OF FIELD TESTING

The Align-A-Neck has been tested in local beauty salons. While in the process of testing to confirm the comfort and safety levels for salon patrons, I was pleasantly surprised to receive positive comments from the operator regarding the benefit that she received. Comments are as follows:

The patron's head is in a more upright position.

This allows for either right or left hand accessibility by the operator

- Instead of lifting up the patron's head to reach the nape of the neck the operator can gently move the head side to side thereby avoiding possible neck injury.
- The operator does not have to bend down as far in the sink because of Align-A-Neck positioning. As a result, the operator can avoid back strain and neck injury associated with constant bending and reaching.
- The flow of water into the sink is uninterrupted by an edge. As a -result the floor and surrounding area remain dry, **This is of paramount importance since slippery floors often cause liability.**

### Clinical Testing

The purpose of this study is to determine how the vertebral and carotid arteries are affected by extension. Candidates for study were selected on a voluntary basis and are within the age group of fifty-five years old and older. These participants had previously experienced dizziness or lightheadedness on various occasions including beauty or barber shop treatments.

Test # 1. Baseline studies were performed on vertebral and carotid arteries while subjects were seated in upright (neutral) position. Ultrasound scanning was performed on both arteries to determine the subject's normal vascular function. The subjects answered a series of

questions to determine their normal comfort level, visual disturbance and balance/equilibrium condition.

Test # 2. Ultrasound scanning was performed with subject reclined over sink, simulating a shampoo/color treatment with neck supported with Align-A-Neck system. Subjects remained in the reclining position for twelve (12) minutes. Ultrasound was performed to determine whether vertebral and carotid arteries were compromised in any way. Subjects answered a series of questions regarding comfort level, visual disturbance and balance/equilibrium condition.

Test # 3. Study participant reclined over sink with neck unsupported for a period of twelve (12) minutes. Once again, ultrasound was performed on vertebral and carotid arteries and the subject then answered a series of questions regarding comfort level, visual impact and balance/equilibrium condition.

This medical research study was performed in order to determine whether vertebral and carotid arteries were affected by hyperextension that typically occurs in a routine beauty salon treatment; i.e. shampoo, color or perm. Generally one of these services is included **in** every salon visit. The only difference, combinations of **these services usually require 15-18 minutes rather than 12 minutes**, This testing will help determine the frequency or percentage of people who experience vascular changes or sensory changes as a result of having neck in position of hyperextension. A comparison of the blood volumes in the three positions will determine the risks involved for patrons in a beauty salon who receive treatments with the neck unsupported.

For further information regarding the results of the Align-A-Neck Study, Dr Najjar may be contacted by e-mail (Contact Us link on the left). The statistical results of this study will be posted upon completion of the study.