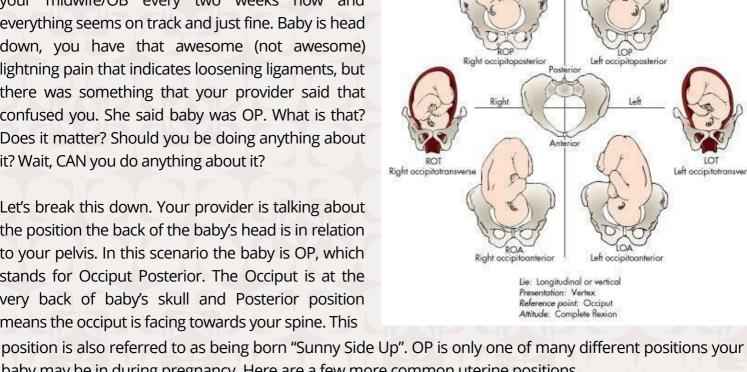
Peace of Life Chiropractic at Halcyon Village Newsletter Volume 5 | Issue 5

Does Your Baby's Position Really Matter for Labor and Delivery? By Heidi Beck, Doula

You are in your last month of pregnancy and you can

hardly wait to meet your little one! You are seeing your midwife/OB every two weeks now and everything seems on track and just fine. Baby is head down, you have that awesome (not awesome) lightning pain that indicates loosening ligaments, but there was something that your provider said that confused you. She said baby was OP. What is that? Does it matter? Should you be doing anything about it? Wait, CAN you do anything about it? Let's break this down. Your provider is talking about the position the back of the baby's head is in relation

to your pelvis. In this scenario the baby is OP, which stands for Occiput Posterior. The Occiput is at the very back of baby's skull and Posterior position means the occiput is facing towards your spine. This baby may be in during pregnancy. Here are a few more common uterine positions.



So, what is the best position for labor and why? The best position for a labor is the anterior position. In this position, your baby's head and neck are flexed and their chin is tucked into their chest. This means the narrowest part of their head (the back) presses on your cervix, helping it to open. If you have a labor that continues to start and stop it can often indicate that your baby is not in the best position to put continuing

pressure on the cervix. Is there something you can do to help baby into the best position? Yes! There are four main steps I encourage my clients to do to help baby into that good position. 1. Find a great chiropractor as early as possible. Keeping your body in alignment and your ligaments loose are important for your baby to have the proper room to move where they need to be. 2. How you sit is a vital part. Sit at the edge of your chairs and couches, put your elbows on your knees and let that belly hang! In other words, "Sit like a man." This can also be achieved on your yoga ball. If

- you don't have one, please get one. You can roll forwards and backwards, figure 8's, let your belly hang and even softly bounce before, during, and after labor.
- 3. Getting on hands and knees for at least 30 minutes 3 times a day is a great way to give baby some room to move. As your belly hangs gravity will pull the heaviest part of baby (their back) down, thus putting them facing your spine which is in the optimal position. 4. This last one is for when you are in labor. If baby needs a little help with positioning, get into the
- downward dog position, this will pull baby off your cervix. Then have your doula or midwife use a robozo to encourage baby to slide into the correct position. Once baby is in that good position slowly stand back up and walk around to allow baby to set back down onto your cervix.
- Finally, with all this information you can now feel informed when you are told what position your baby is in. You can be encouraged that there ARE things you can do to help your little one get into the best position possible. And you can enter this final stage of pregnancy encouraged that even though your baby's position will change throughout pregnancy you have the tools to help set them right.

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of chiropractic care with someone for the very first time! Since we value

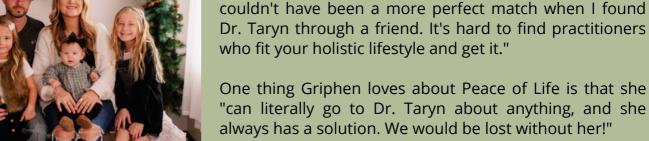
this privilege, we want to celebrate. #LifeCanChangeWithJustOneAdjustment **#NeverHadTheirSpineChecked**

There is a first time for everything!

We are incredibly grateful for the

honor and joy of sharing the benefits





just passed away, we had family gathered at our house. My daughter got hurt on our trampoline and could not walk on her leg. I immediately contacted Dr. Taryn, who came to my house, worked her healing hands, and my daughter's leg was fixed immediately. We were going through such a hard time, and the fact she dropped everything and was there for us speaks volumes. She's not just my chiropractor. She is my family!" They would advise someone considering chiropractic care: "it's not just about chiropractic care at Peace of Life, it is about your overall health, and it is beneficial for any issues you have.

Griphen said, there have been many benefits from the care her family and her have received here at PLC, but one, in particular, stood out. "When my little brother had

downs. Griphen said, "I grew up in a holistic family, so it

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May 19





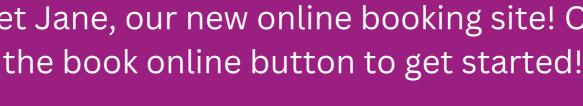
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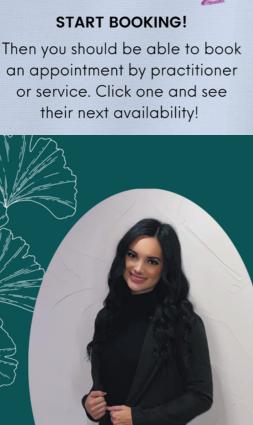
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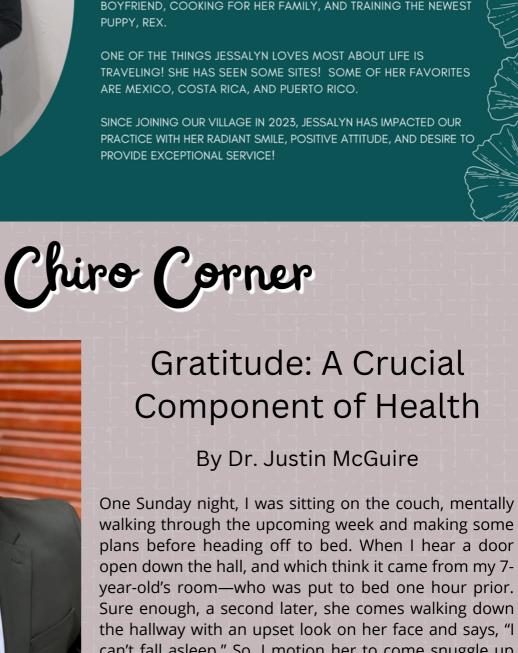


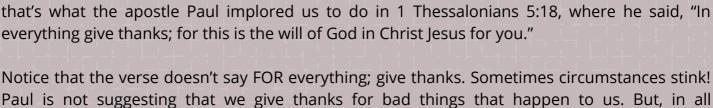
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May 29

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focus away from ourselves and consider the blessings that other people and things are in our lives. That's exactly what happened in the scenario with my daughter. We shifted her focus off of herself and the negative. It also did some positive things in her brain chemistry to help her

It can be very challenging to move our focus off of a bad situation and shift to thanksgiving. But

circumstances, we can find something to be grateful for. Now, this habit definitely does not happen naturally, and it must be practiced. It is a discipline that can mean great mental and

appreciate them every day. After all—you've got nothing to lose and all of the following to gain:

—Less inflammation and higher pain tolerance These are just a few of the proven benefits of being grateful. So, go on and develop an "attitude" of gratitude." Your mental and physical well-being will thank you!

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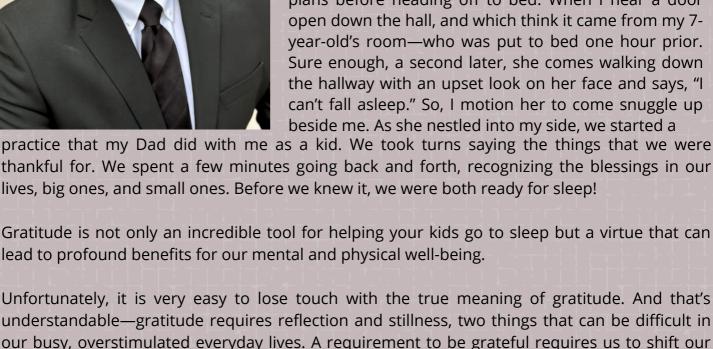
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Now, if the idea of beginning a gratitude practice feels overwhelming or cheesy, remember that it doesn't have to be complicated. You can start small by setting aside time each day to think or write about a few things you're grateful for, or writing a gratitude letter or text once a week. If you're comfortable expressing your gratitude, set a goal for yourself to tell someone that you

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