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Scientist and author Simon Singh [is being sued](#) by the British Chiropractic Association (BCA) for saying that the claims made for the “therapy” are unproven.

The organisation Sense About Science has organised a petition to defend Simon Singh’s — and everyone else’s — right to criticise and question medical and pseudo-medical practices without fear of being sued for libel. Already it has a very impressive list of supporters including the Astronomer Royal and the Poet Laureate, the UK’s former Chief Scientific Advisor, as well as Richard Dawkins, Ricky Gervais, Derren Brown and Harry Hill.

The BCA represents a quasi-scientific group of medical practitioners who believe that manipulating the spine can treat or cure a range of other conditions not normally associated with a bad back. The association said that it intends to pursue its claim against Dr Singh. If Dr Singh’s attempt to appeal fails, he will take his case, which has already cost him about £100,000 in legal fees, to the European Court of Human Rights.

[Please sign the petition](#)