

**VENTRAL ROD MIGRATION  
OF POSTERIORLY APPLIED  
GROWING ROD TECHNOLOGY  
FOR EARLY ONSET SCOLIOSIS**

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Diplóidat  
Mhóir na Leanaí,  
Craighlinn  
Our Lady's  
Children's Hospital,  
Crumlin

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**STUDY DESIGN**

Longitudinal prospective database of growing rod patients

2007- Ventral Rod Migration (VRM) identified in a patient

Consensus definition of VRM ( Paediatric Unit x3 Spinal Consultants)  
**Ventral rod movement of  $\geq 2\text{mm}$  through posterior lamina cortex  
evidenced on axial CT imaging**

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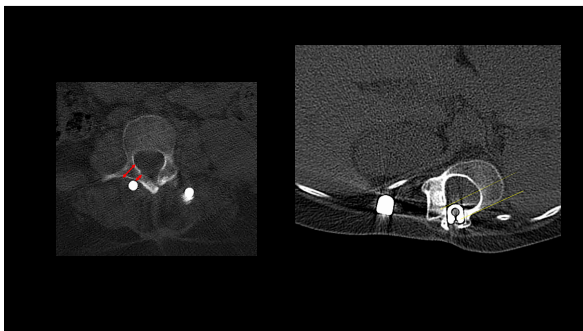
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**RESULTS**

- Between 2007 & 2015 n=90
- 30 Post Operative CT spine
- Ventral rod migration n= 3 (12%)

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**CASE DISCUSSION**

- GM DOB 11.01.2002
- EOS (Infantile idiopathic)
- 09.09.05 Synergy Growth Rods inserted
- 13.01.06 Rods replaced with Legacy System
- 17.04.07 Suffered an acute neurological injury during a lengthening procedure
  - Paraplegic 0/5 (MRC) -Sensory Level T10

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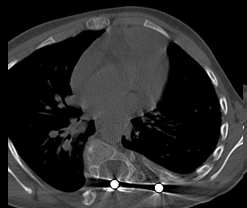
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**CASE DISCUSSION**

24.09.07

• *“In the upper thoracic region the right sided rod appears to lie within the posterior spinal canal.”*



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**CASE DISCUSSION**

- 01.11.07 Growing Rods removed
- Scoliosis continues to progress. 2 further procedures
- Ultimately, 21.05.15 Posterior Spinal Fusion T1- Pelvis

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**CASE DISCUSSION**

- EC DOB 08.10.2001
- EOS(Infantile Idiopathic) Concomitant astrocytoma(PXA) of spinal cord
- 2002- Serial Casting
- 2007- Index insertion of growing rods
- 2012- Axial CT demonstrative of VRM

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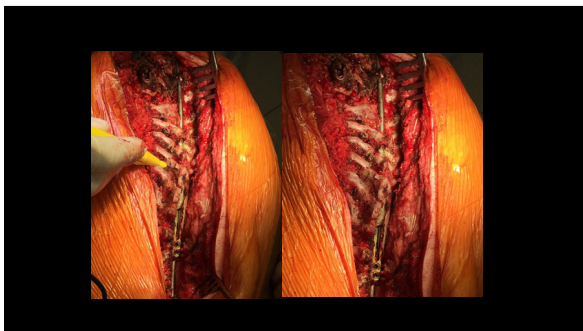
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**OBSERVATIONS**

VRM occurred in EOS pts who are:

- Osteoporotic (evidenced by DEXA)
- Mean Cobb angle  $\geq 70^\circ$
- Mean Apical kyphosis  $\geq 40^\circ$

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**LIMITATIONS**

- Non stratified cohort
- Temporal variance of imaging performed
- Bone densitometry not universal
- Range of spine based systems utilised

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**DISCUSSION**

- Is the appropriate CT modality to screen at risk patients for GR complications?
- Is MR a better alternative neuroaxis imaging?
- Who are the at risk patients?

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**CONCLUSION**

VRM is potentially catastrophic yet quiescent

Previously not described in EOS literature

Index of suspicion in patients with an initial severe degree of deformity & poor vertebral bone stock

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