#### CHEST AND SPINE GROWTH. WHAT HAVE WE LEARNED FROM BONES? RICHARD M SCHWEND MD CHILDREN'S MERCY HOSPITAL UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI AND KANSAS UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER THURSDAY NOVEMBER 16, 2017 0745-0755



11<sup>th</sup> International Congress on Early Onset Scoliosis (ICEOS) November 16 & 17, 2017 Hotel Del Coronado • San Diego, CA, USA

#### DISCLOSURES

- POSNA President and BOD member
- AAP Immediate Past Chair and Section on Orthopaedics Executive Committee
- K2M Consultant
- Medtronic Consultant
- Project Perfect World Board of Directors.
- Miracle Feet Medical Advisory Board.



TO UNDERSTAND DEFORMITY WE NEED TO UNDERSTAND NORMAL ANATOMY AND GROWTH

- Scoliosis is a 3D spinal deformity
- Each vertebra and disc have 3D deformity
- Obvious plane of deformity is coronal, but axial and sagittal are just as important
- But are the ribs deformed?



# RIB AND THORAX GROWTH

- "Thorax is the 4<sup>th</sup> dimension of the spine"
  - Alain Dimeglio

Paul Harrington Library, KUMC. Courtesy Mark Asher



### OBVIOUS REASONS TO KNOW SPINE ANATOMY

• To know where to put the screws safely





### GROWTH GIVES DEEPER UNDERSTANDING

- At birth (3.5 kg)
  - 30% ossified
  - Trunk is longer than the lower limbs
  - Thoracic volume is 6% of adult
  - Needs to grow: T1-S1 25 cm, T1-T12 16 cm, L1-L5 9 cm
- At 5 years (20 Kg)
  - 65% ossification
  - 95% of spinal canal dimensions are adult size
  - T1S1 segment gain from birth is 10 cm. Sitting height is 65% adult.
  - Thoracic volume is only 30% adult
- After age 5 years
  - Growth velocity decreases and lower limbs grow more than trunk
  - T1-S1 segment grows 1.1 cm/year.
- At 10 years (30 Kg)
  - Thoracic volume and weight are 50% of adult size.
    - Alain Dimeglio MD.

Femur triples in length, spine more than doubles in length



Ossification starts 3 mo in utero

#### MY QUESTIONS

- How does the chest increase 15x in size from birth to adult?
- Even after age 10 years how does chest volume double?
- What is the mechanism for volume increase?
  - Spine growth in height?
  - Rib growth in height, in length?
  - Soft parts- space between ribs, costal cartilage
  - Rib position in space?
  - When is this all occurring?
- How does the spinal canal increase in size?



# BEGINNINGS

- First full trip September 2009
- Several follow-up trips next several years



## LOTS OF PEOPLE INVOLVED

- Behrooz Akbarnia MD
- Laurel Blakemore MD
- Glen Ginsberg MD
- Shyam Kishan
- Neil Mardis MD
- Joe Perra MD
- Julie Reigrut MS
- Richard Schwend MD
- John Schmidt PhD
- Joshua Stewart MS2
- Chris Straight MA
- Kevin Strauss MA
- Caroline Weirich BA



# THE COLLECTION

- Clean dry, preserved by removing all grease
- Large room accommodate 12 people
- Research lab, open to all with appropriate proposal.





#### SPECIMEN DEMOGRAPHICS

- Hamann-Todd (H-T) Collection, Cleveland Museum of Natural History (Cleveland, OH)
  - Contains 63 pediatric skeletal specimens
  - Largest of its kind in the world
  - Consists of 3,100 human and more than 900 non-human primates skeletons
  - This Study
    - 32 Aged 1-18 YO (no 2 or 9 YO)
    - 19 Females, 13 Males
    - 29 Black, 3 Caucasian
    - Height and Weight











#### SCANDIUM

#### • Image analysis software

- Does not care from where the care where the picture comes from
- You have to have a set dimension in the image

The rest is automatic



#### PHOTOGRAPHS

- High-Resolution photographs
- Image enhancement
- Increase image magnification



### PHOTO ENHANCEMENT

(34) HTH 0437 (193) (46 %) (38) HTH 0437 (193) [4] (46 %)

200 Pixel

200 Pixel

## 1. NEUROCENTRAL SYNCHONDROSIS

- The neurocentral synchondrosis (NCS) is the cartilaginous growth plate of the pedicle and the vertebral body
- The timing of closure of the NCS is controversial
  - Most agree that the NCS are open until 4 years of age
  - Closure in the ensuing years remains unclear
- The <u>mid- to lower thoracic spine</u> seems to be the last to close
  - This is where the curves in juvenile and adolescent scoliosis occur
  - Interference with the NCS growth at this stage may be responsible for asymmetrical spinal growth





- Examined scalar measurements of cadaveric vertebrae from the Hamann-Todd Collection for neurocentral synchondrosis (NCS) during their developmental stages
- 13 specimens were examined
- Age of the children at time of death ranged from 1 to 16 Years
- Five vertebrae (T1, T3, T7, T10 and L3) from each were chosen for study



- Each vertebra was inspected for NCS maturity
- Lengths of the NCS were measured and the percentage of open growth plate was compared to the entire length of the NCS
- A six point scale of percent of NCS closure<sup>1,2</sup> was used
  - Stage 0 No Closure
  - Stage 1 Less than 25% Closure
  - Stage 2 25-49% Closure
  - Stage 3 50-74% Closure
  - Stage 4 75-99% Closure
  - Stage 5 100% Closure



• Findings were compared to recent data on NCS maturation in modern children with normal spines

#### 1 YEAR OLD BLACK MALE (2075)



Stage 0

### 4 YEAR OLD BLACK FEMALE (2141)



L3: Stage 3

T10: Stage 0

T1:

#### 12 YEAR OLD CAUCASIAN FEMALE (1240)





#### NEUROCENTRAL SYNCHONDROSIS

- The Results are in general agreement with recent MRI investigations into the characteristics of the NCS<sup>1, 2</sup>
  - There was no closure of the NCS in any vertebra less than 3 chronological years
  - The lumbar vertebrae were starting to close the NCS in the 4-8 year age group, closely followed by the upper thoracic vertebrae
  - In the 8-12 year age group, the middle thoracic vertebrae (T4, T7, T10), the NCS were still only
    50-74% closed
  - Results support the theory that vertebral growth can be disturbed in the middle thoracic spine at the age of maximal growth rate, which is where most adolescent idiopathic scoliosis is seen.<sup>3,4</sup>







35



Age years. TPL doubles in length

#### 3. SPINAL CANAL GROWTH



T12. Notice in the 5 year old child that the canal is almost as large as an adult, posterior elements are similar in size, but vertebral body is much smaller.

#### THORACIC BODY WIDTH



 Width of the bodies are similar in the upper thoracic spine but increase in width in lower



#### LATERAL CANAL WIDTH



Lateral canal width depends on the region of the spine.

Greatest proportional canal width is in the cervical spine

Bivariate Normal Ellipse P=0.950 Region == "Cervical"
 Bivariate Normal Ellipse P=0.950 Region == "Thoracic"
 Bivariate Normal Ellipse P=0.950 Region == "Lumbar"

Figure 4. Lateral Canal Width (mm) by Vertebral Body Width (mm). Cervical canal data falls out of line with that of the thoracic and lumbar regions.

#### CANAL AREA



Figure 6. Thoracic Spine – Canal Area (mm<sup>2</sup>) by Age (years)



- Canal area continues to increase up to about age 10 years.
- Due to increase in M-L canal width.
- AP diameter of canal stops increasing about age 4-5 years.



#### 4. What about the ribs?



4 different T1 vertebra All 30 degree Pedicle angles

Maxwell Museum Ostoeology collection University of New Mexic 1111



#### What does this mean?



The ribs determine both size, shape and motion of the thorax

Rib elevation INCREASES simultaneously the transverse diameter of the lower thorax and the antero-posterior diameter of the upper thorax.

In the mid-thoracic region, the Joints of the costal heads have an axis Running obliquely at roughly 45 deg to The sagittal plane so that both the Transverse and the anterior-posterior Diameters are increased.





• **Basic rib shape arranged by location in the thorax.** The inner most rib, rib 1 shows the greatest curvature, while R11 is the straightest.

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#### oracic Scoliosis. Reference deft ribs look very different Angle with 1:<sub>1</sub>88.72<mark>, and See U COO</mark>OO Heasurements hot adjusted for a mag.

3D printing: Right and left ribs look very similar! Suggests malposition of the ribs, not deformity

Rib No	b Start Length (mm)	m Growth Rate (mm/yr)	r <sup>2</sup> Correlation	n Sample Size
Ribs	s in the Mide	lle Grow in	Length the	e Fastest
10 r	nm/year, Co	mpared to	Ends 4 mn	n/year
		•		
1	56.7	4.1	0.761	60
2	86.9	7.5	0.823	61
3	99.5	9.4	0.869	62
4	105.0	10.3	0.823	62
5	112.0	11.0	0.864	62
6	114.2	10.7	0.854	60
7	113.9	10.6	0.821	60
8	109.6	10.5	0.885	59
9	106.4	9.4	0.842	60
10	94.5	8.1	0.823	59
11	69.9	6.1	0.760	59
12	39.0	4.0	0.575	50

#### RIB SYMMETRY PROXIMAL/DISTAL

Symmetry of the thorax (barrel chested nature of humans).

Projected area of the ribs plotted by rib number. Younger patients (age 1) are close to the green line while the 18 yo are the farthest away.







- Ratio of 1.618 to 1.0
- Found throughout nature
- Ribs follow it (<10% error)
- Chest volume doubles age 10 y to adult
- Rib grows en length on sternal end
- Explains marked adolescent increase in volume.

## **RIBS FOLLOW GOLDEN SPIRAL**



**Iliac Column Width** 



Iliac Column Length



♦ Left

Iliac columns showed a linear Increase in length and width with age.

Like the femur, triples in length.

#### MANY MANY LIMITATIONS

- Only 32 pediatric specimens
- Historical collection only
- No soft parts, especially anterior structures
- Nomenclature: 6 different definitions by 12 different authors



# THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION



## 14th Annual International Pediatric Orthopaedic Symposium

Presented by POSNA and AAOS

November 28 – December 2, 2017 • Orlando, Florida

Donald S. Bae, MD, Course Director Michael G. Vitale, MD, MPH, Director Emeritus







#### Save The Date! 2018 Annual Meeting

May 9-12 · Austin, Texas

> Future Annual Meetings

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