



# Dural Ectasia in NF1, What do we know? What can we do?

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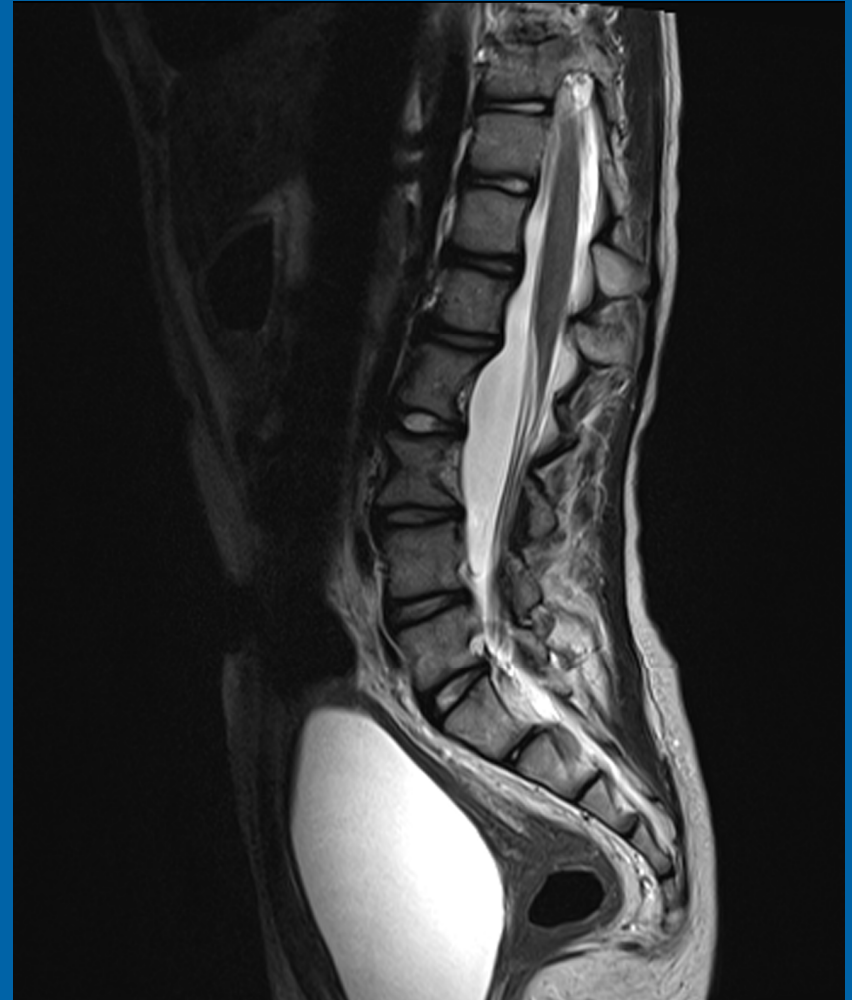


# Disclosures

- None related to this talk

# What Do We Know?

- Dural ectasia is circumferential enlargement, widening or ballooning of the dural sac, nerve root sleeves and spinal canal.
- Can affect the spinal canal in any plane.
- All spine locations, but common in lumbosacral region



# Associated Conditions

- Marfan syndrome
- Loeys Dietz syndrome
- Developmental spondylolisthesis
- NF1
- Ehlers-Danlos syndrome
- Achondroplasia
- Vertebral fractures
- Ankylosing spondylitis
- Osteogenesis imperfecta
- Post surgical
- Idiopathic



# Associated Conditions



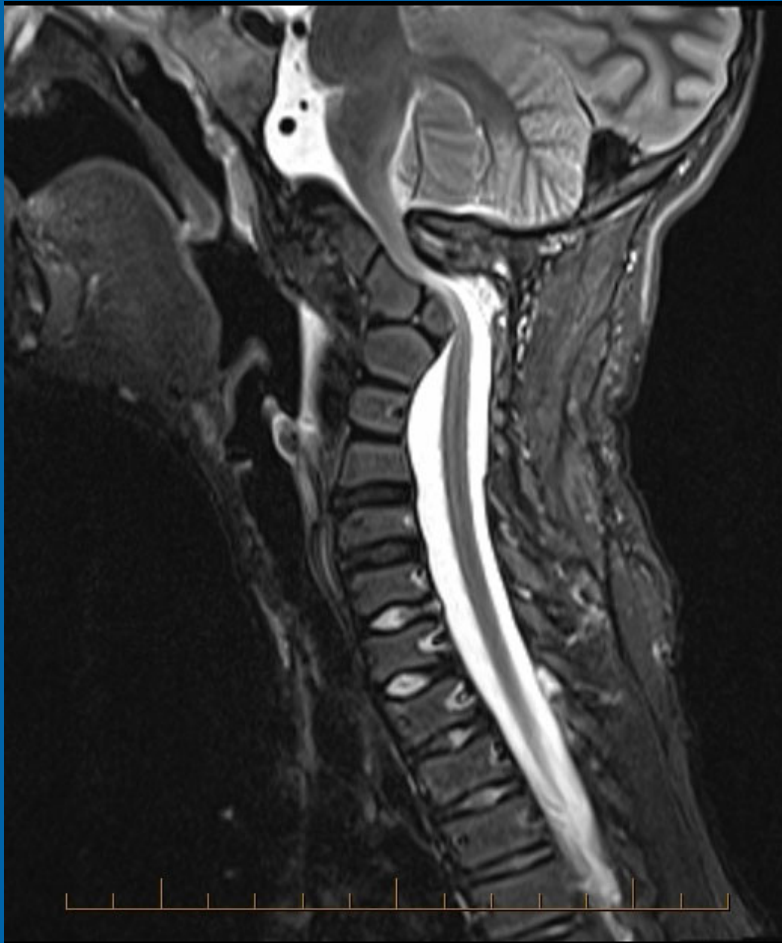
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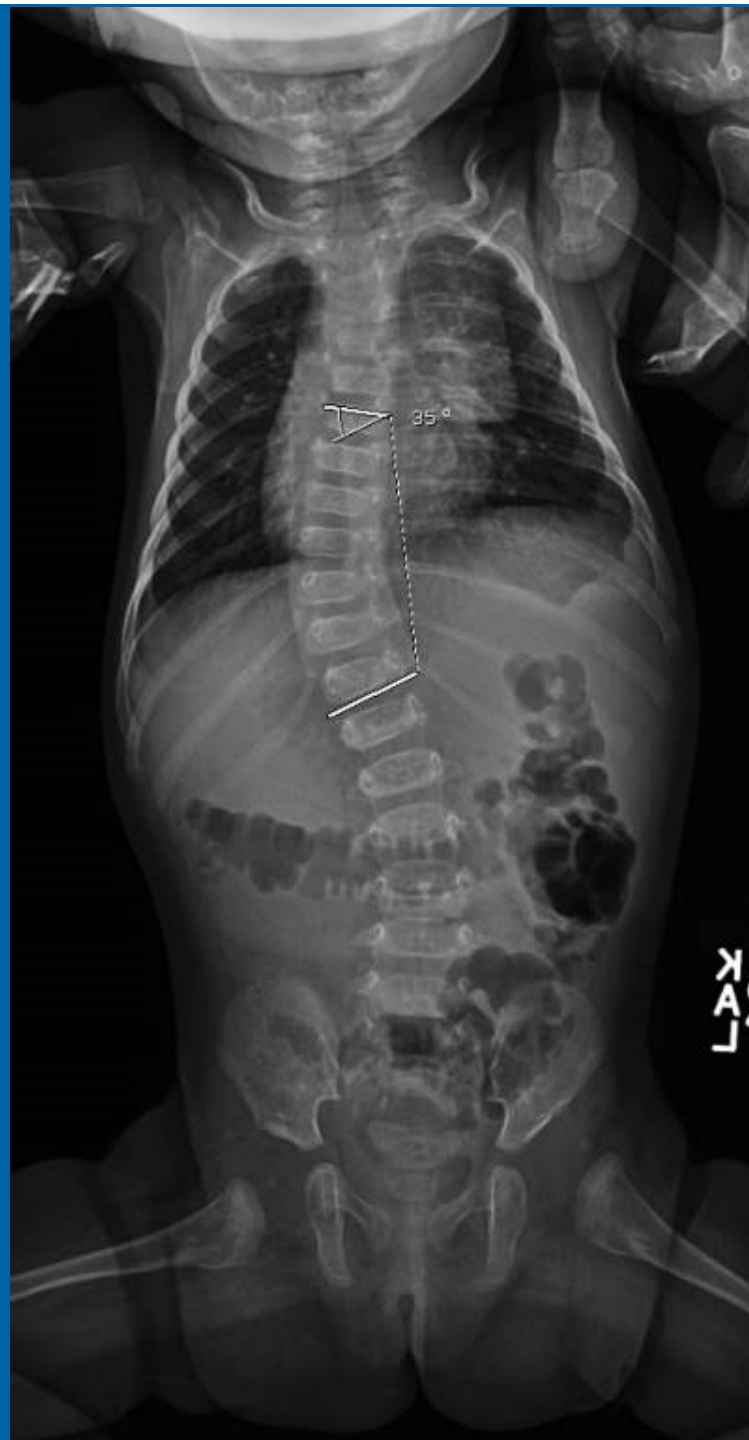
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# Marfan Syndrome

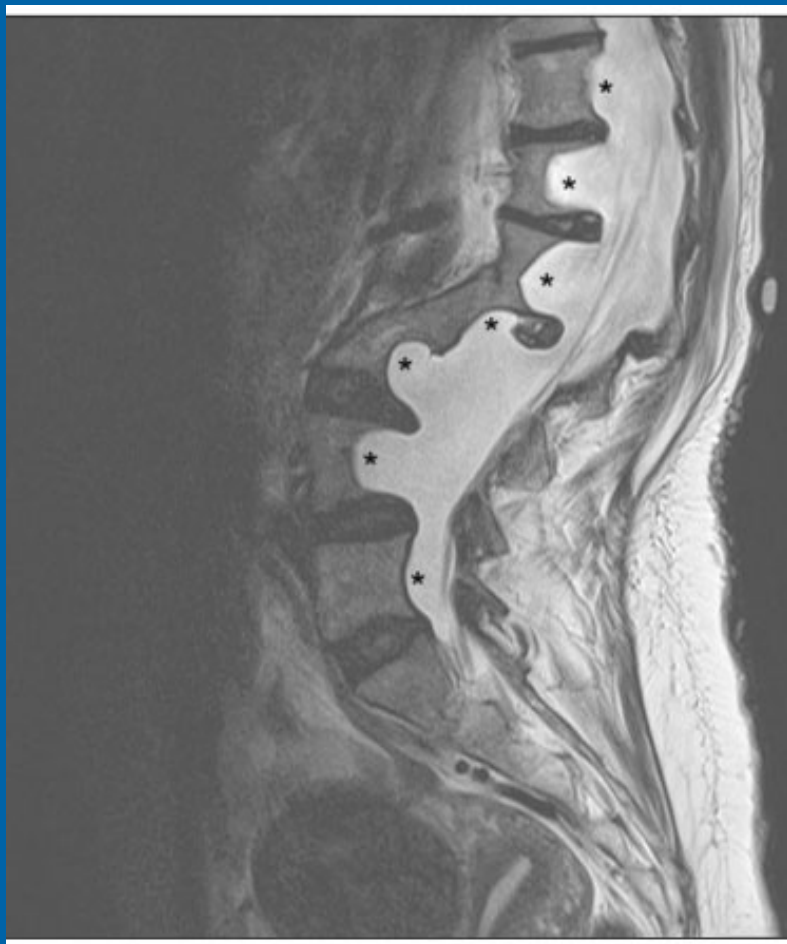
- Less common than NF1 1/5000
- Deficiencies in fibrillin-1 increase the levels of B(TGF-B) leading to Marfan phenotype
  - Sponseller 2013
- Dural ectasia -one of the major (modified Ghent) diagnostic criteria.
  - Rose PS 2000
- Often in lumbosacral spine, thinning of bone, anterior meningoceles, LBP.
- Over 63% prevalence of dural ectasia, peaks in adolescence







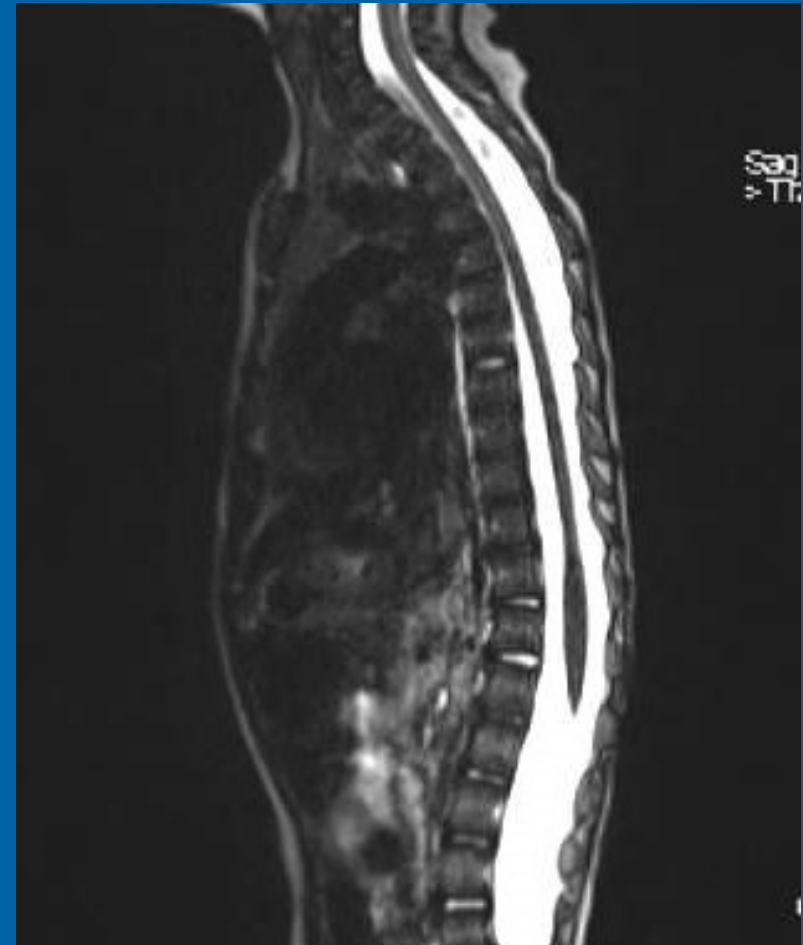
# Dural Ectasia. Radiographic Criteria



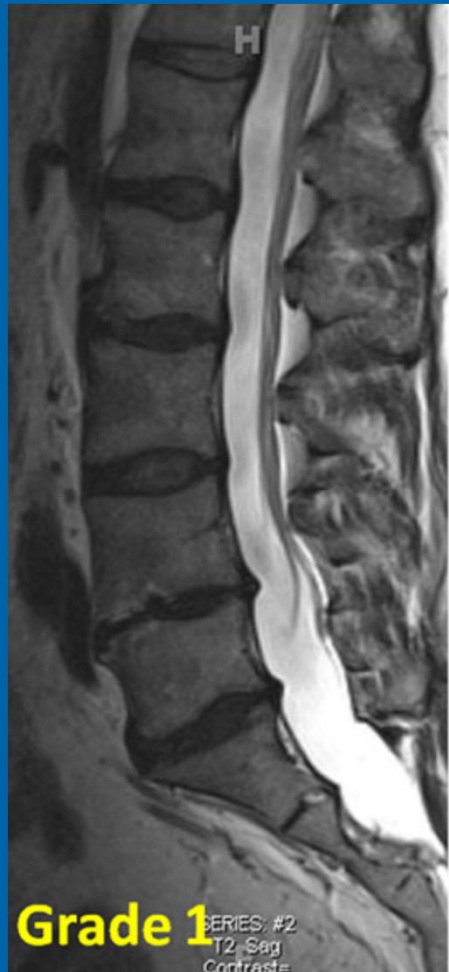
- Plain radiographs
- **Scalloping** (92% specific but only 57% sensitive
  - Ahn 2001
- Major: **Width dural sac** below L5 > width above L4, **anterior sacral meningocele**. Minor: L5 nerve root sleeve diameter >6.5 mm. S1 scalloping >3.5 mm
  - Ahn 2000

# MRI for Dural Ectasia Children

- Only dural sac ratio at L5 and S1 and **sagittal dural sac width at S1 greater than L4** significant for dural ectasia
  - Habermann CR 2005





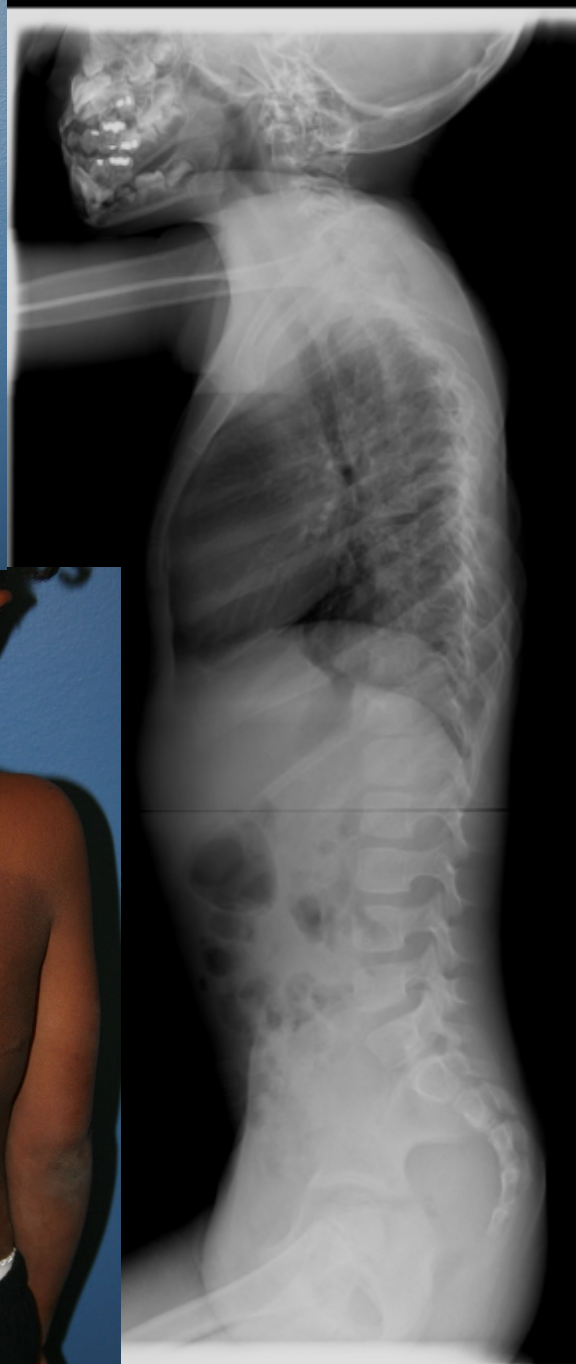
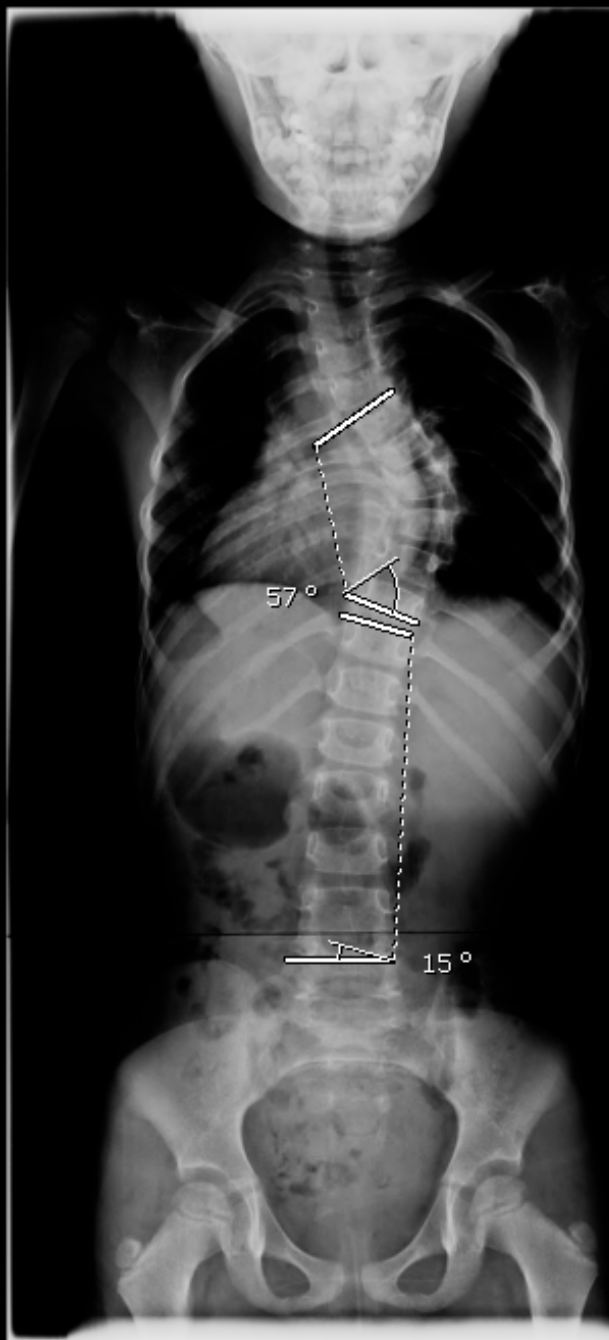


- Grading system of Fattori for Marfan Lancet 1999

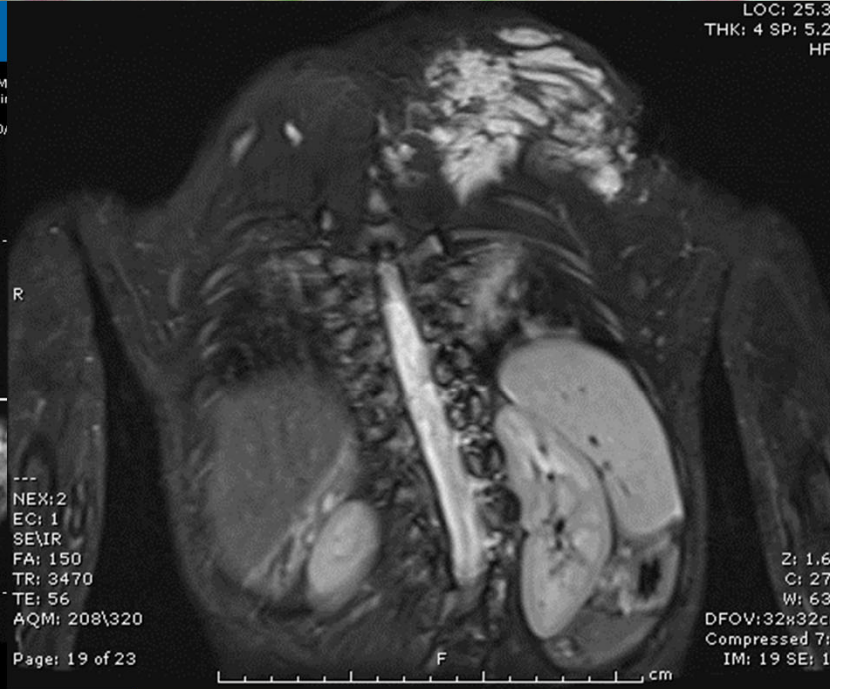
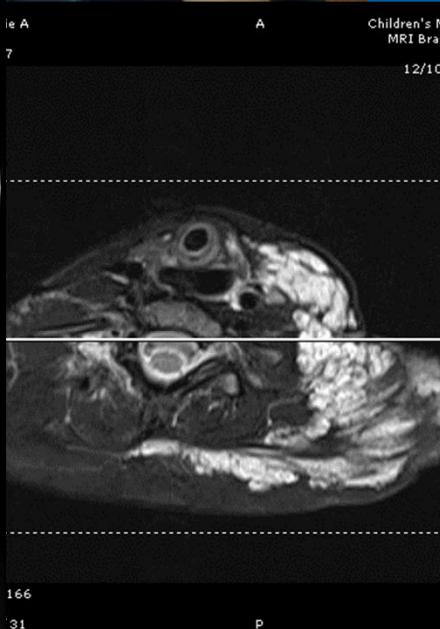
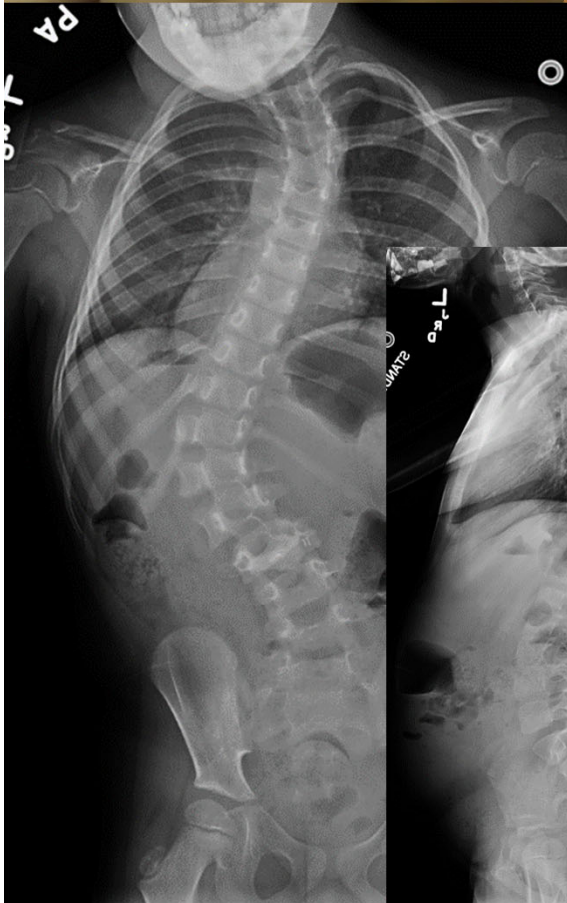
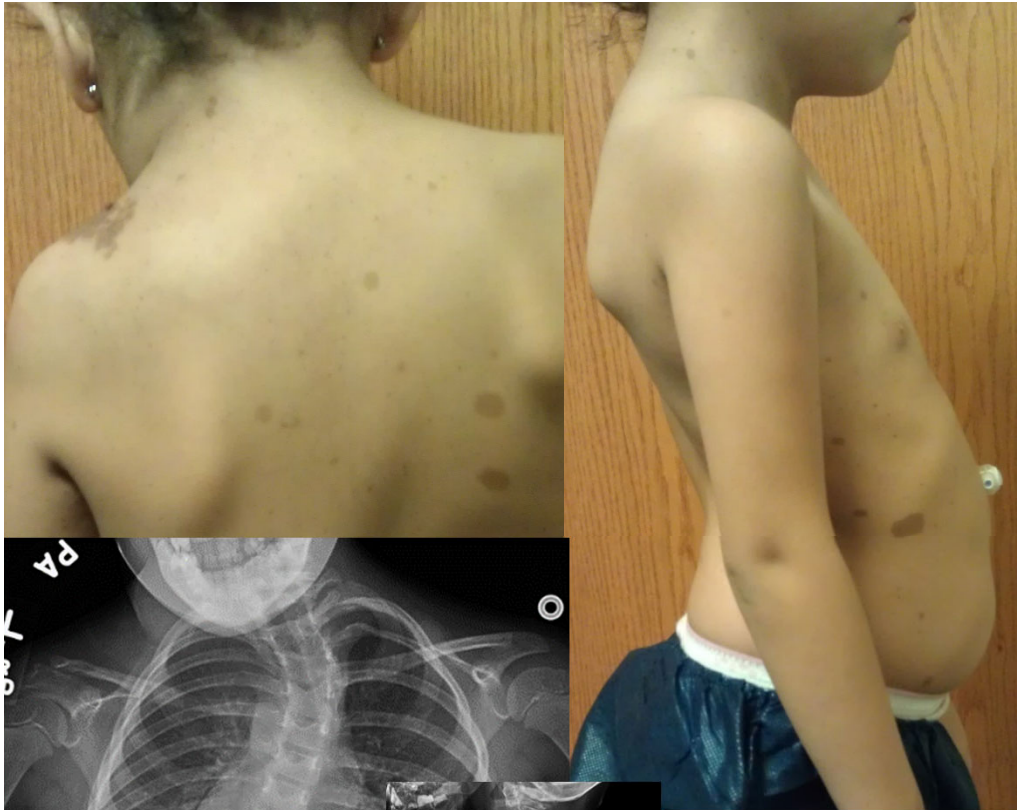
# Neurofibromatosis



- Autosomal dominant
- Deletion of the *NF1* gene on chromosome 17q11.2
- 1/3000-4000 globally
- 50% de novo mutations
- Varied presentation and penetrance.
- Diagnosis based on clinical findings  $\geq 2/7$  NIH diagnostic criteria





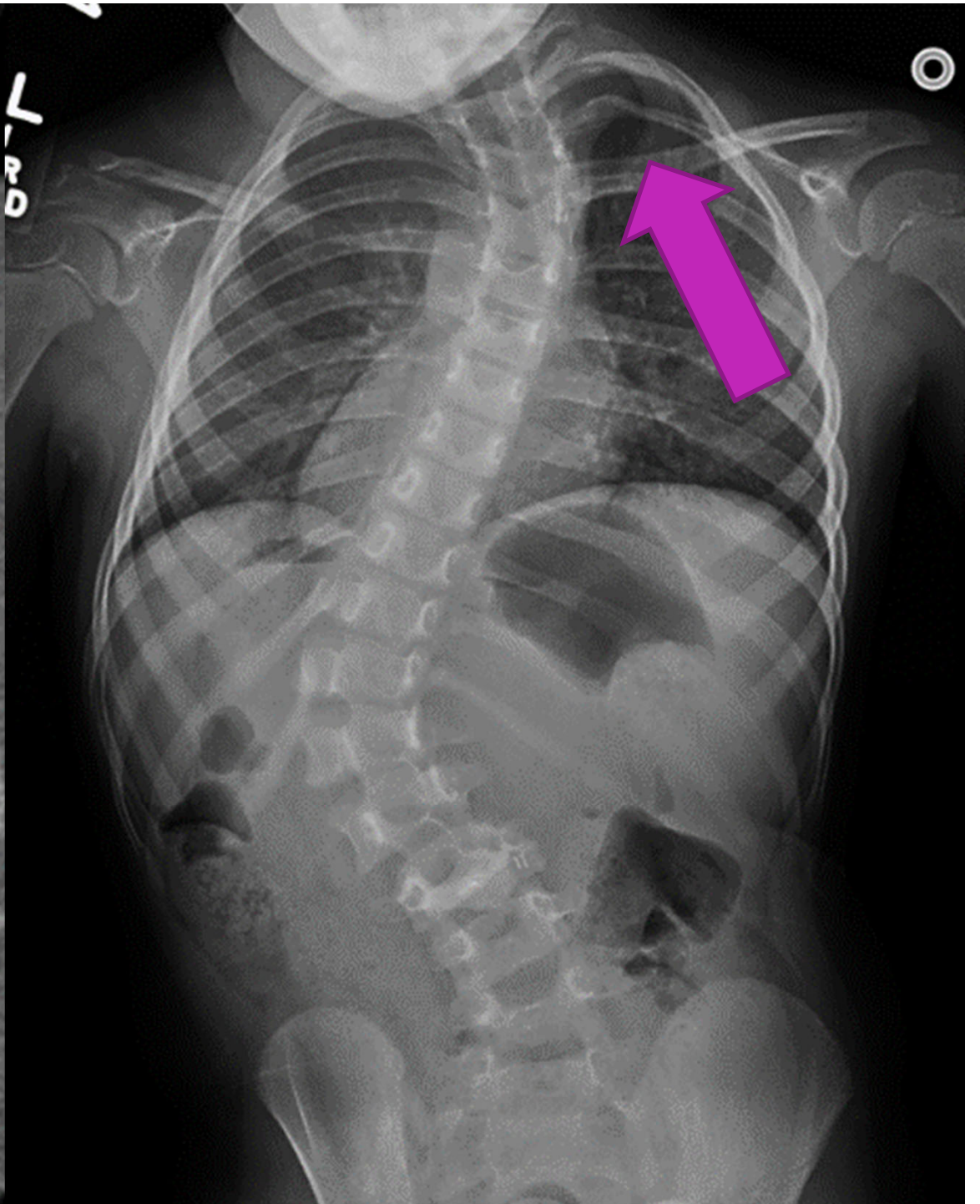
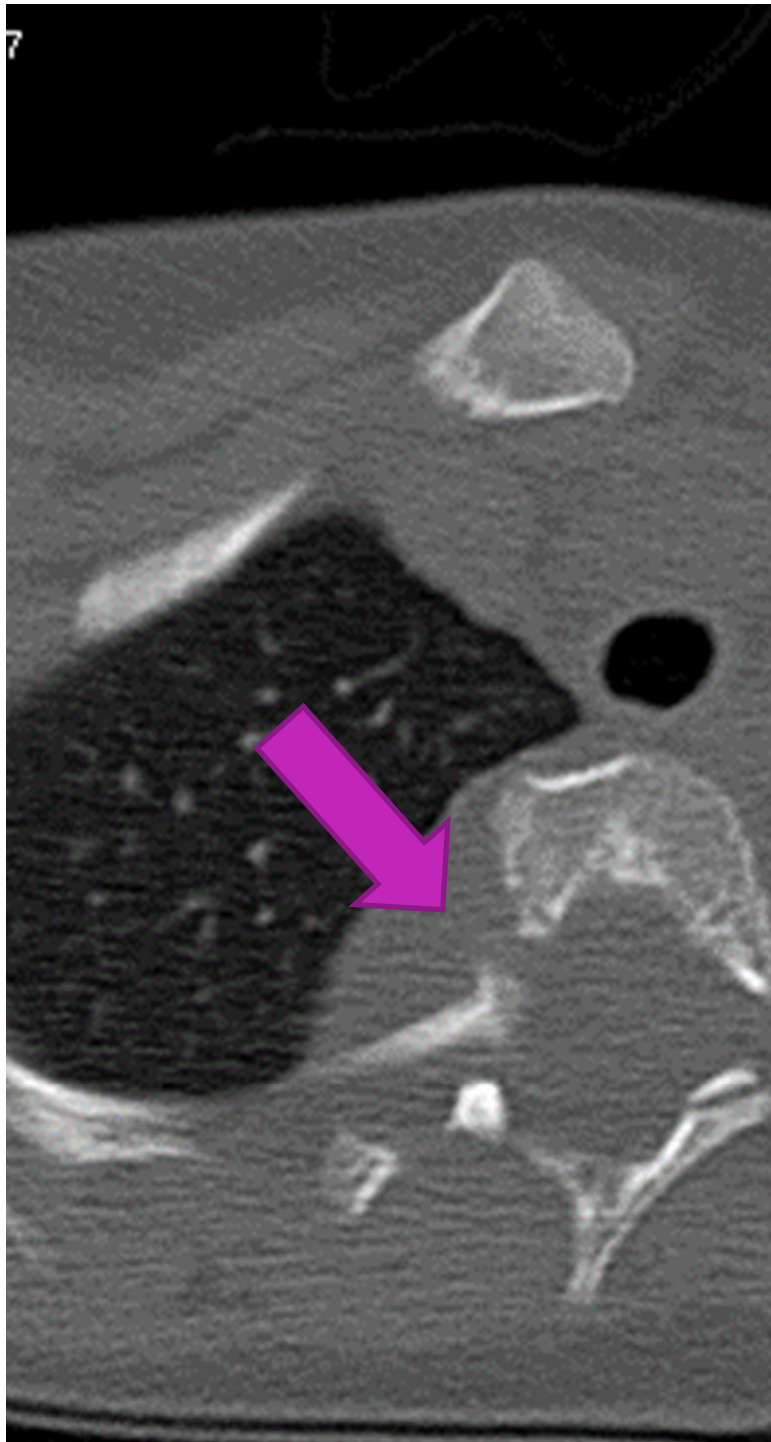


LOC: 25.3  
THK: 4 SP: 5.2  
HF

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NEX: 2  
EC: 1  
SE: IR  
FA: 150  
TR: 3470  
TE: 56  
AQMI: 208/320  
Page: 19 of 23

Z: 1.6  
C: 27  
W: 63  
DFOV: 32x32cm  
Compressed 7  
IM: 19 SE: 1



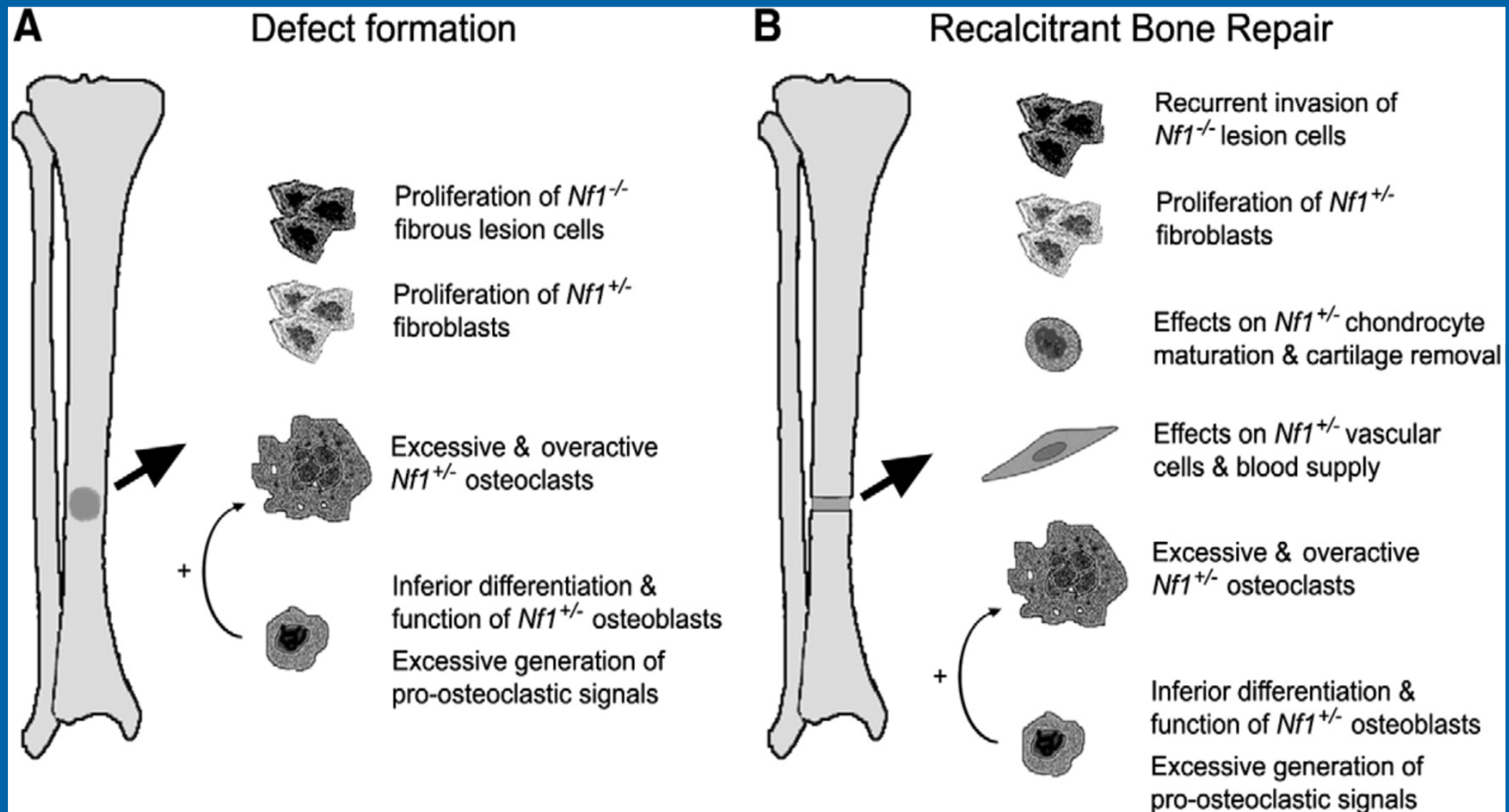


# Tissue Defects in NF1

- *NF1* - potent tumor suppressor gene.
- *NF1* gene encodes for protein **neurofibromin**, expressed in many cells/tissues
- Genetically modified mouse models and NF1 patient cells
- Deficiency in **osteoblast** differentiation/commitment
- Increase in **osteoclast** differentiation/survival
- **NF1 haploinsufficiency or double inactivation of NF1 gene in range of cells: osteoblasts, chondrocytes, fibroblasts, vascular endothelia –defective bone healing**
  - Schindeler A, Little DG 2008

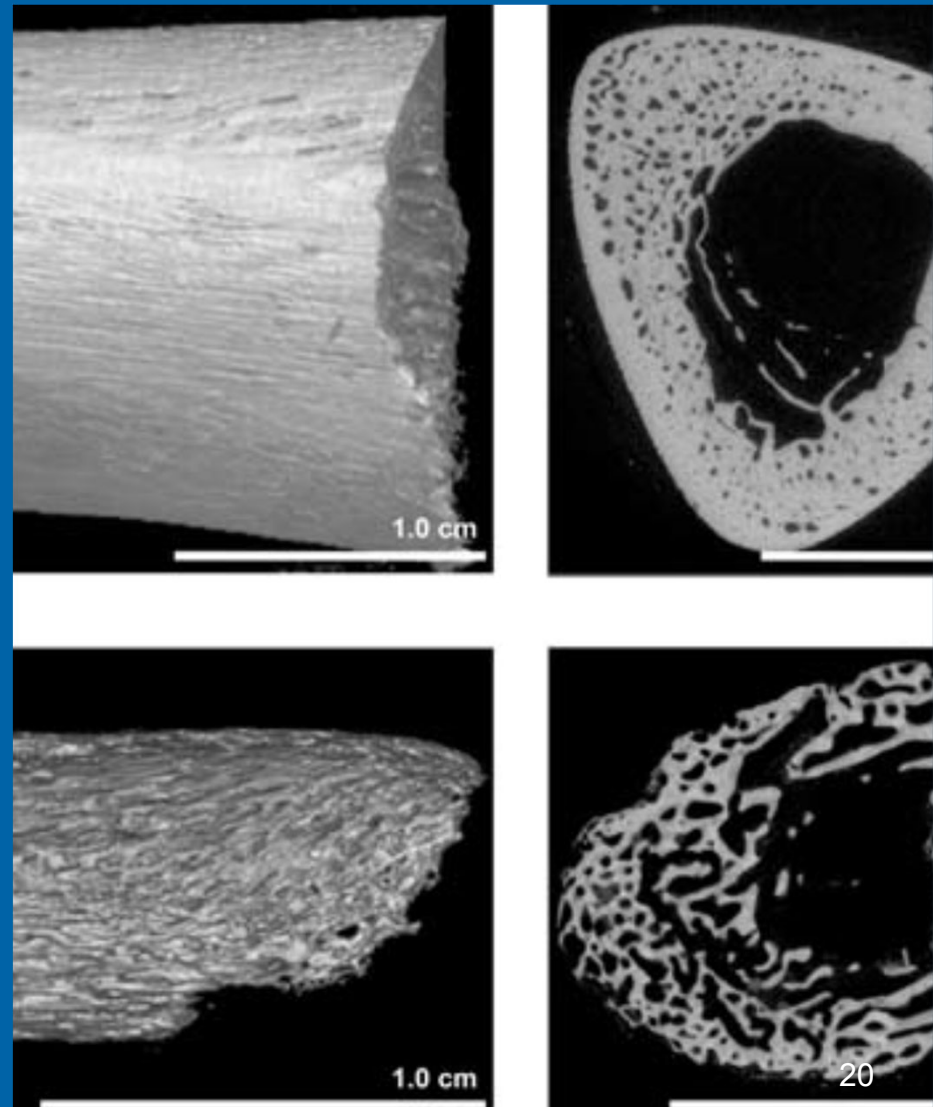
# Cellular basis for osseous defect formation and recalcitrant repair

Schindeler A and Little DG, 2008



# What does *NF1* Do?

- Required for proper endochondral ossification
- Intervertebral disc formation
- Proper axial skeleton formation
- Bone remodeling and skeletal properties
  - Wang W 2001

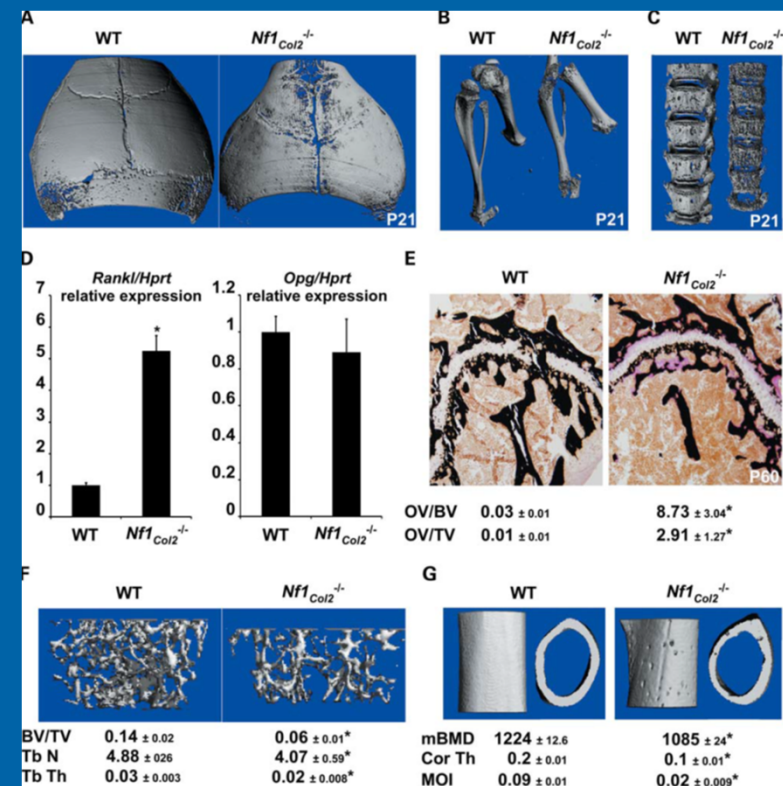


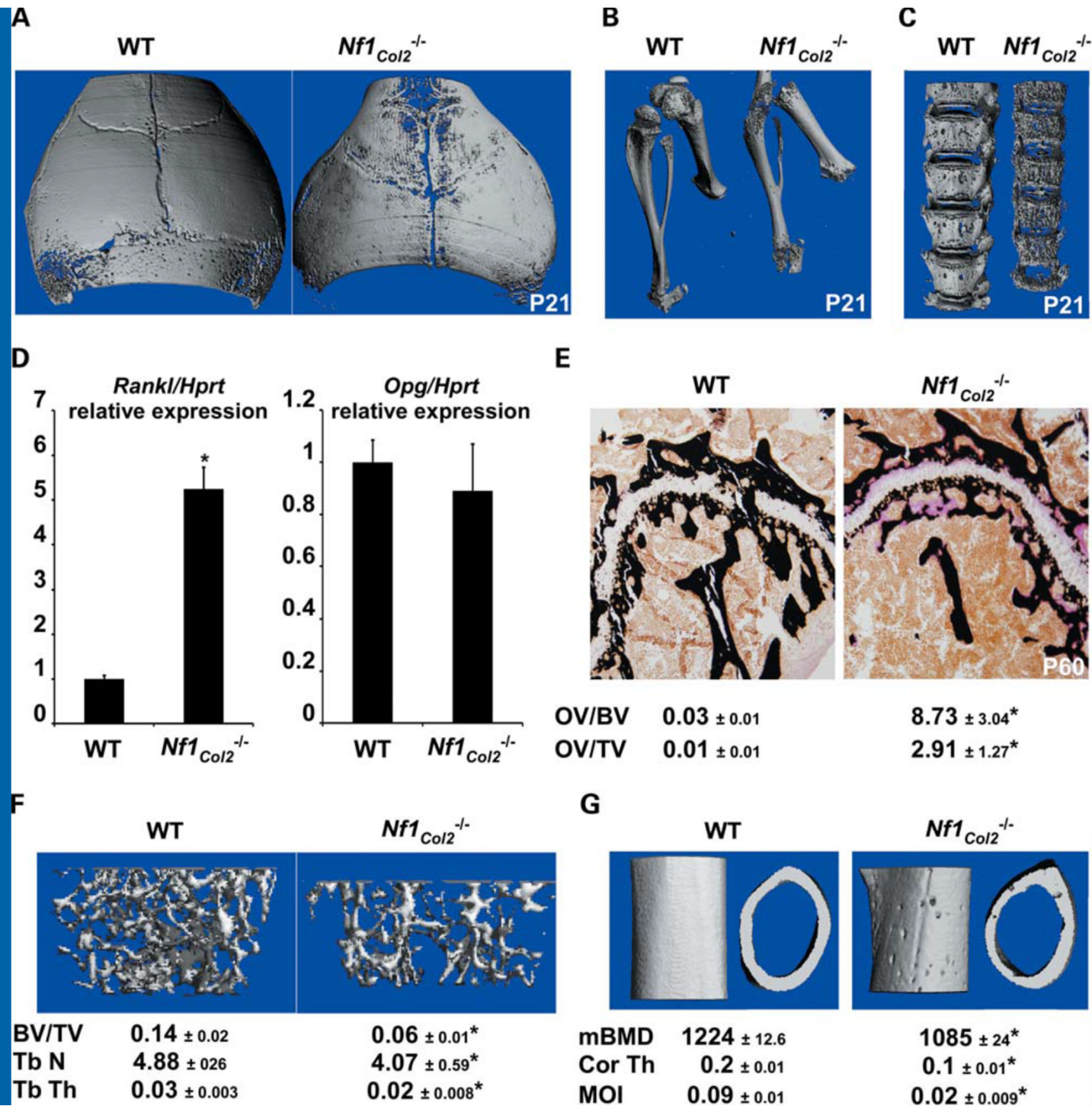


# NF1 and Osteoprogenitor

- Lack of *Nf1*<sup>Col2</sup><sup>-/-</sup> in osteochondroprogenitor cells in mice show progressive spine deformity
- Low bone mass phenotype

• Wang W, 2011





# Pathophysiology of Dural Ectasia NF1

- General primary mesodermal dysplasia

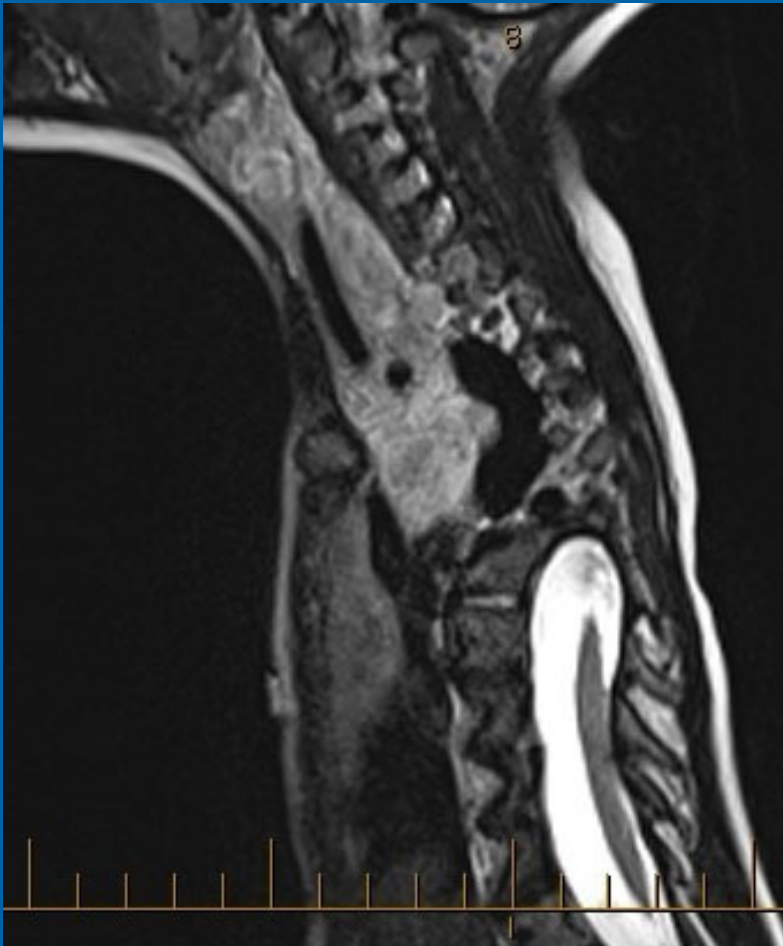
Weakness in the collagen through proliferation and invasion of NF1 deficient fibroblasts

- Atit 1999

30% have osteopenia due to haploinsufficiency

Osteomalacia, osteoporosis, vitamin D deficiency, stress fracture

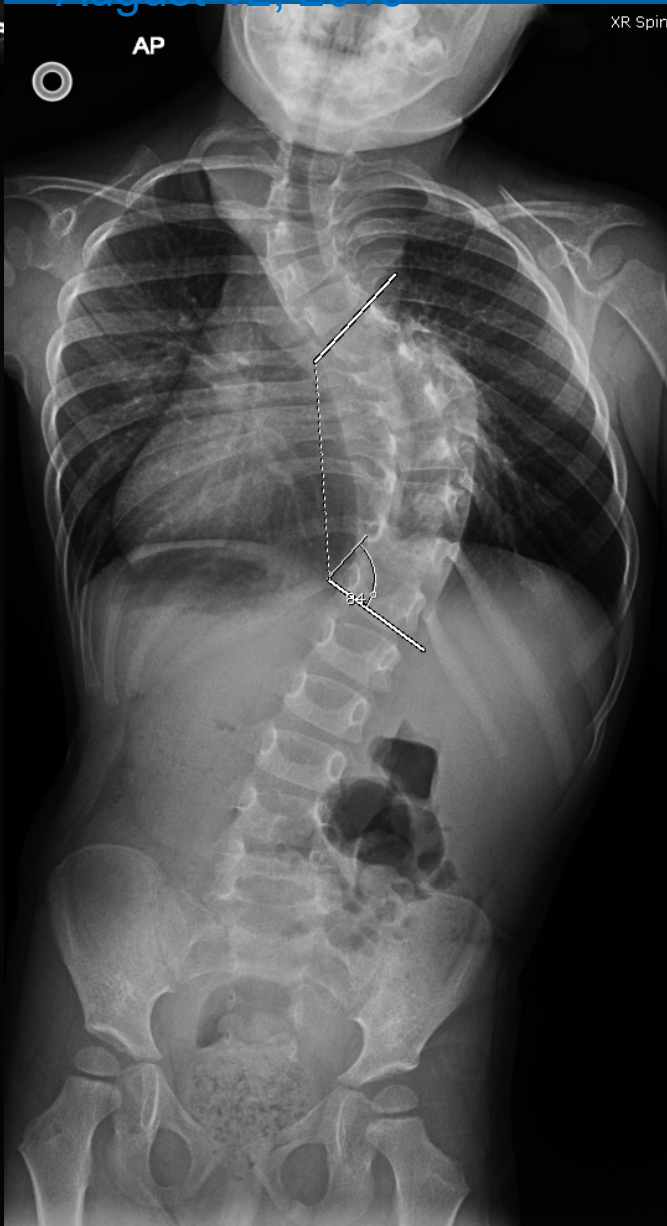
- CSF pulsations



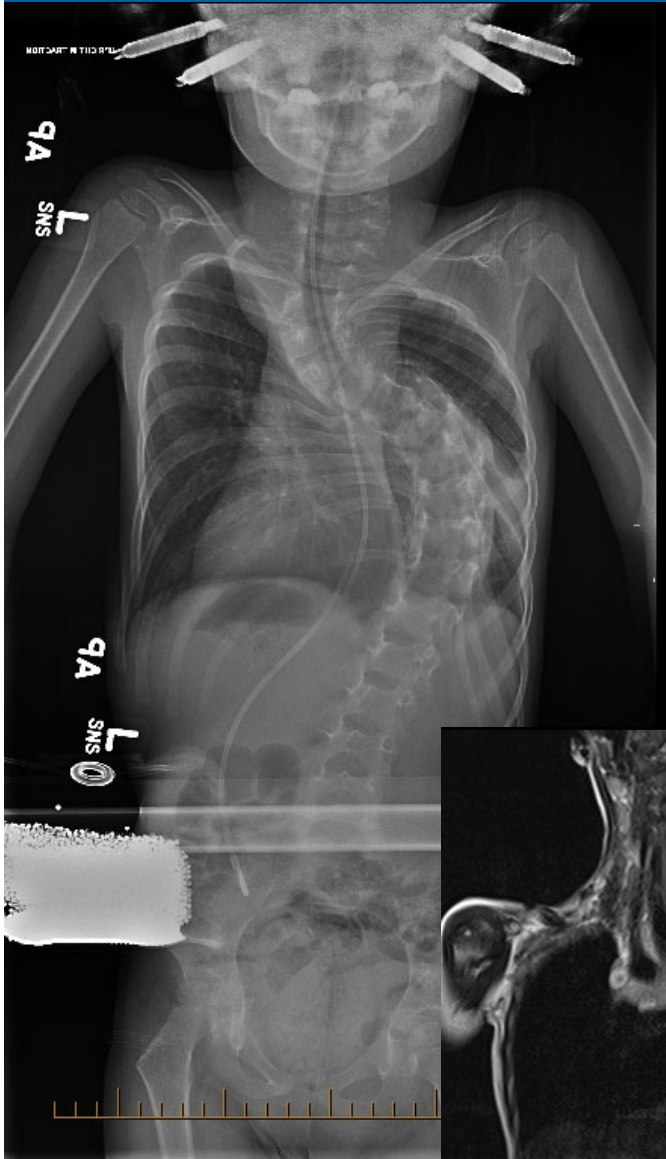


# Progressive NF1 Scoliosis

August 12, 2013

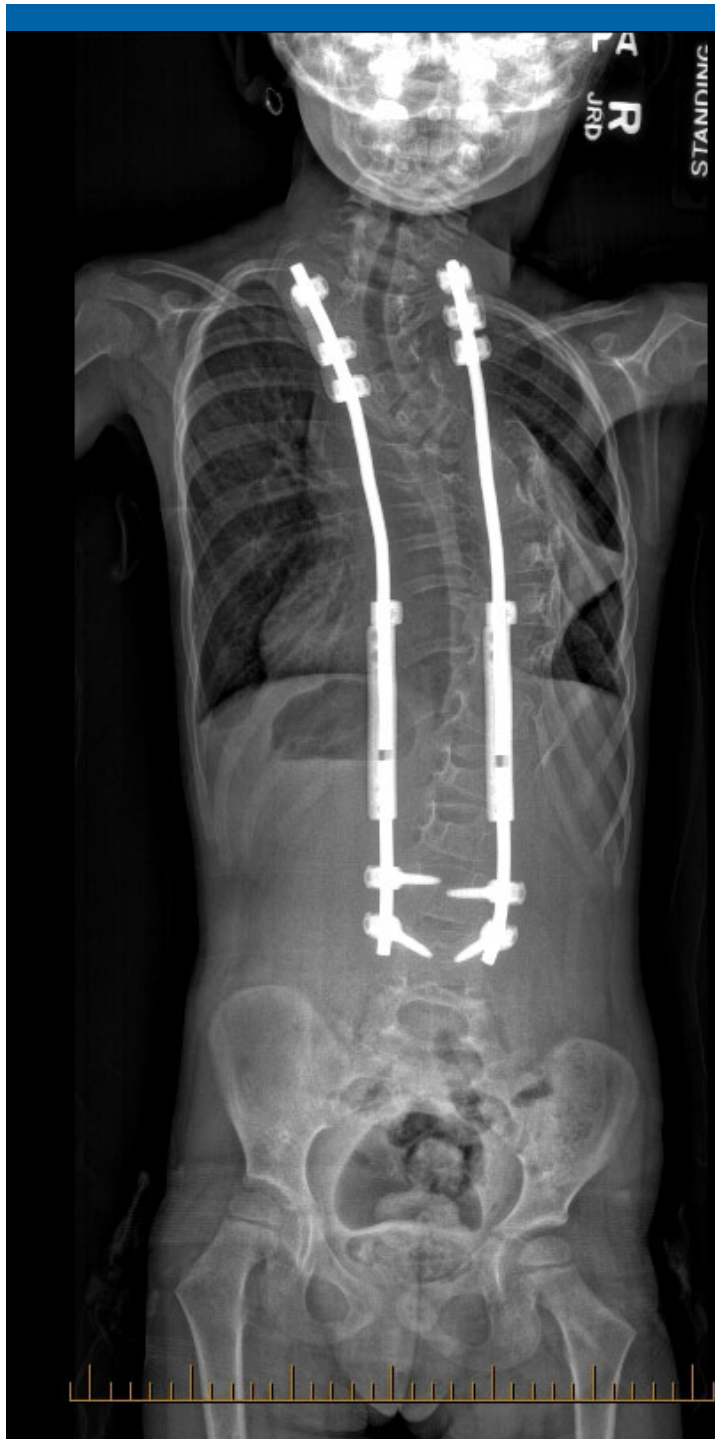


August 12, 2013









# NF1 and Dural Ectasia

Frequently thoracic

Can be relatively protective, increased SAC

Posterior scalloping commonly associated with dural ectasia

Lateral and anterior scalloping commonly result of primary mesodermal dysplasia

- Tsirikos AI 2004

Anterior dural ectasia and dislocation of the spine

- Winter 1991

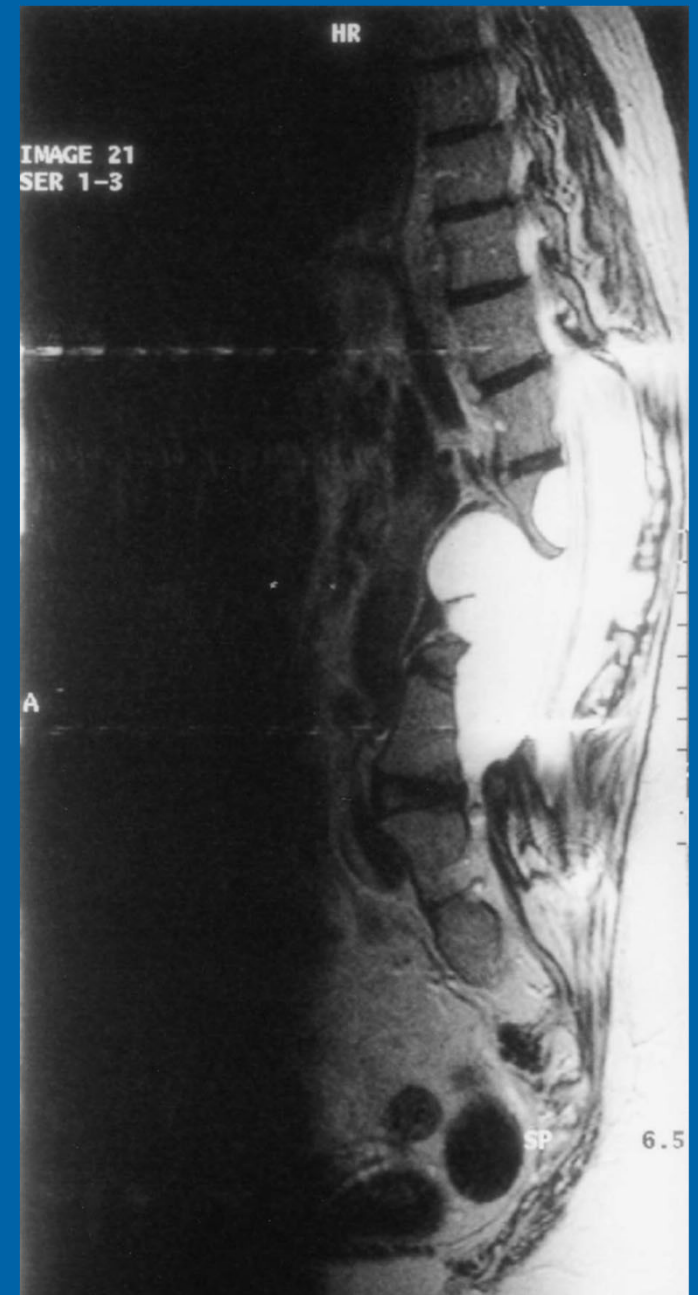




Modi HN 2009



De Kleuver M 2004



# What Can We Do?

- Only case series and case reports.
- Stick to sound principles
  - Preserve growth/prevent deformity
  - Avoid the dural ectasia and tumors
  - Anterior- posterior fusion
  - Be aware of ribs in the canal
  - sharp curves/relative stenosis
- Therapies
  - BMP/Bisphosphonates
  - Mouse model – (RAS/ERK pathway activation by *Nf1* loss of function)

