

Effect of EOS Severity and Treatment on Pulmonary Function Relative to Stature (as Represented by Pelvic Width) in Children with SMA

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HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL
TEACHING HOSPITAL

MARIAN UNIVERSITY
— Indianapolis —
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Disclosures

- **Brian Snyder and Robert Graham are on the Board of CURESMA**
- **Brian Snyder and Robert Graham are consultants to BioGen**



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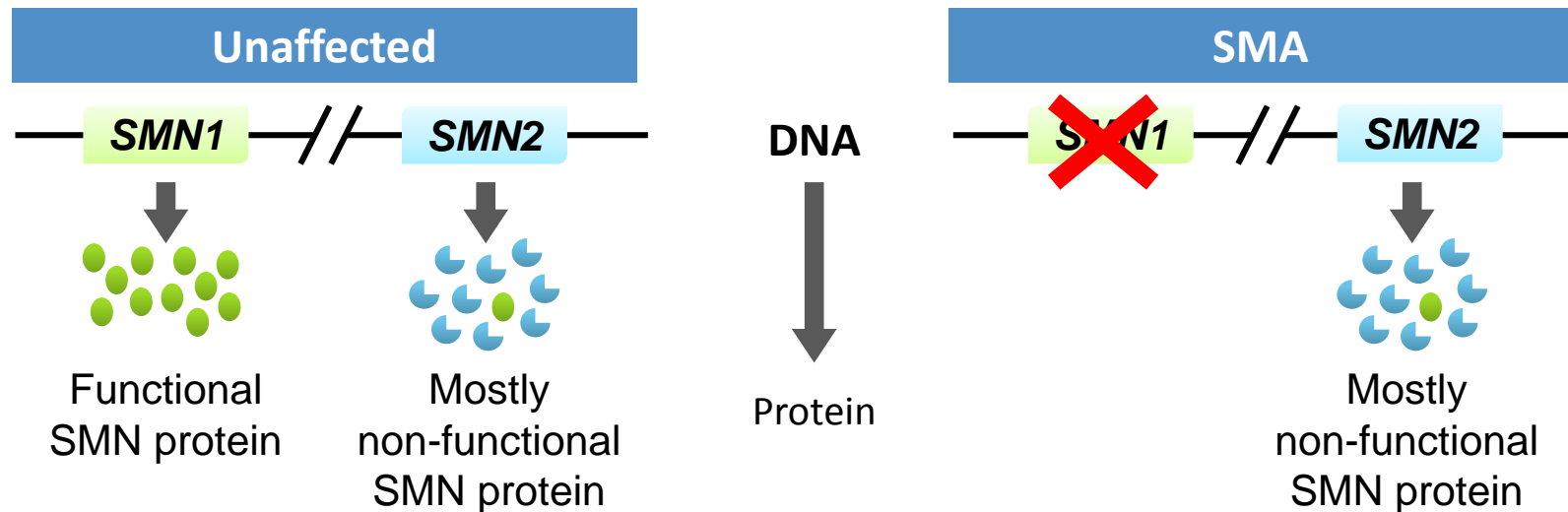


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SMA: Most Common Monogenic Cause of Infant Death

- Progressive debilitating neuromuscular disease characterized by degeneration spinal motor neurons → atrophy of skeletal muscle
- **Mutations or deletions *SMN1* gene (exon 7 and/or 8) chromosome 5q**
- **Extent of clinical involvement depends on copies of *SMN2*:**
 - **≤ 2 copies more severe disease; 3-4 copies milder disease**



Incidence:
~1 in 11,000 live births

Carrier frequency:
~1 in 40

SMA Classified According to: Age of Onset and Spectrum of Clinical Severity

Type I (severe - ≤ 2 copies SMN2)

- Most common
- Onset at < 6 months
- **Never sits**
- Areflexia = Classic 'floppy' infant
- Bulbar denervation, tongue fasciculation
- Swallowing and feeding difficulties
- Respiratory insufficiency

Type II (intermediate - > 2 copies SMN2)

- Onset at 6–18 months
- Can sit without support but progressive muscle atrophy (proximal $>$ distal muscles)
- **Never stands**
- Tongue fasciculation
- Variable bulbar and respiratory weakness

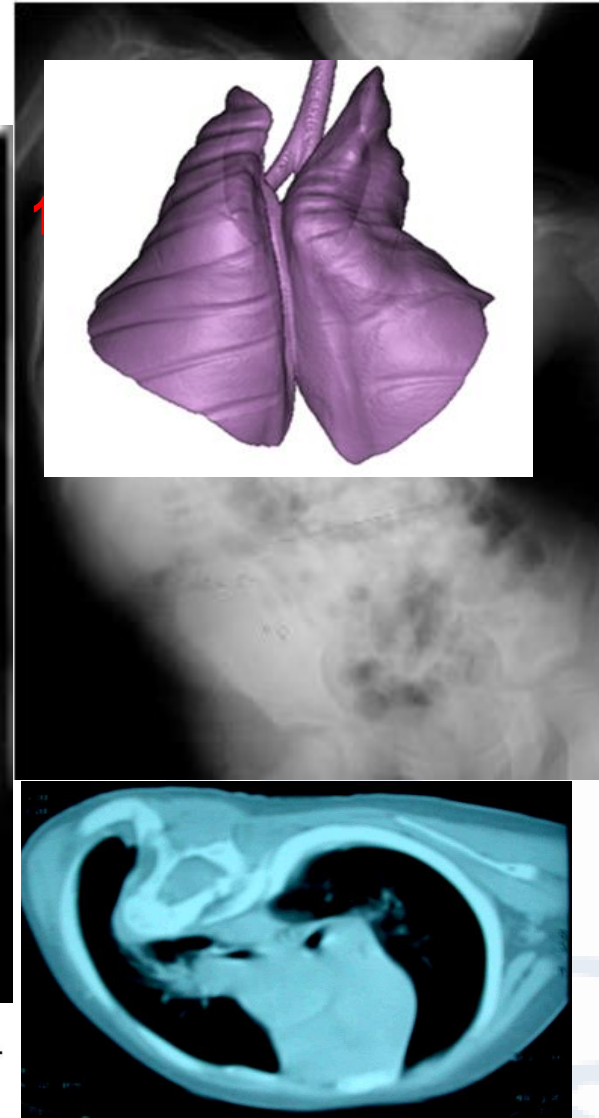
Type III (mild - 3-4 copies SMN2)

- Onset at > 18 months
- Proximal symmetrical weakness
- **Stands and walks**, but may need wheelchair or lose ambulation during adolescence
- Weak or absent tendon reflexes

This classification system does not reflect altered disease manifestations and trajectory observed with nusinersen treatment

Early Onset Scoliosis → Thoracic Insufficiency

- Types 1 and 2 associated with progressive spine and thoracic (parasol rib) deformity
 - **Contributes to Restrictive lung disease and respiratory dysfunction**
- Cobb angle alone does not predict extent of respiratory deficiency
 - **Fails to account for chest wall deformity and interference with pulmonary growth**



Treatment of Scoliosis

(Cobb $\leq 50^\circ$)

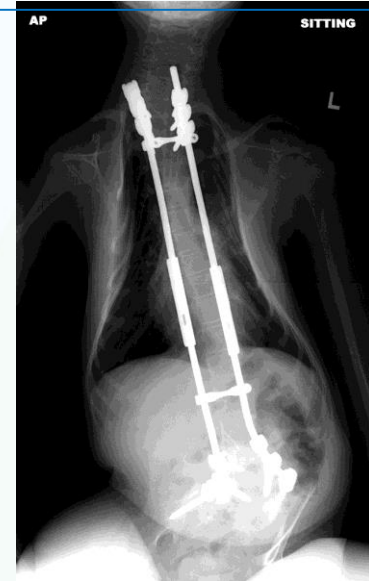
- Bracing (TLSO) slows progression
 - does not decrease ultimate need for surgical correction



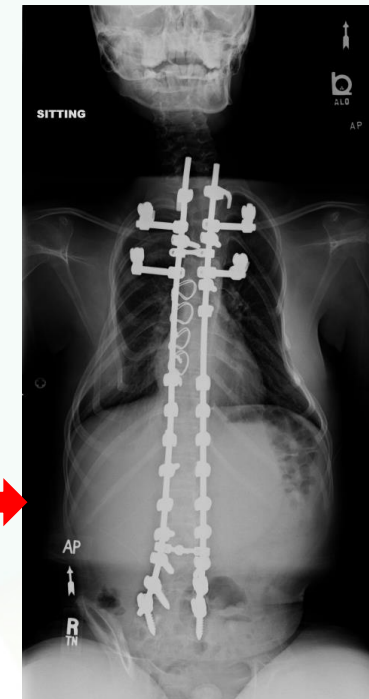
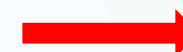
(Cobb $> 50^\circ$)

- Skeletal age < 8 y/o:
Posterior, Non-fusion
“growing rods” (VEPTR, MAGEC, Luque Trolley)
- Closed tri-radiate:
Posterior multi-segmental instrumentation + spine fusion
- ✓ Instrumentation to pelvis provides better control of “crank-shaft” & pelvic obliquity

Growing
Rods < 8 y/o

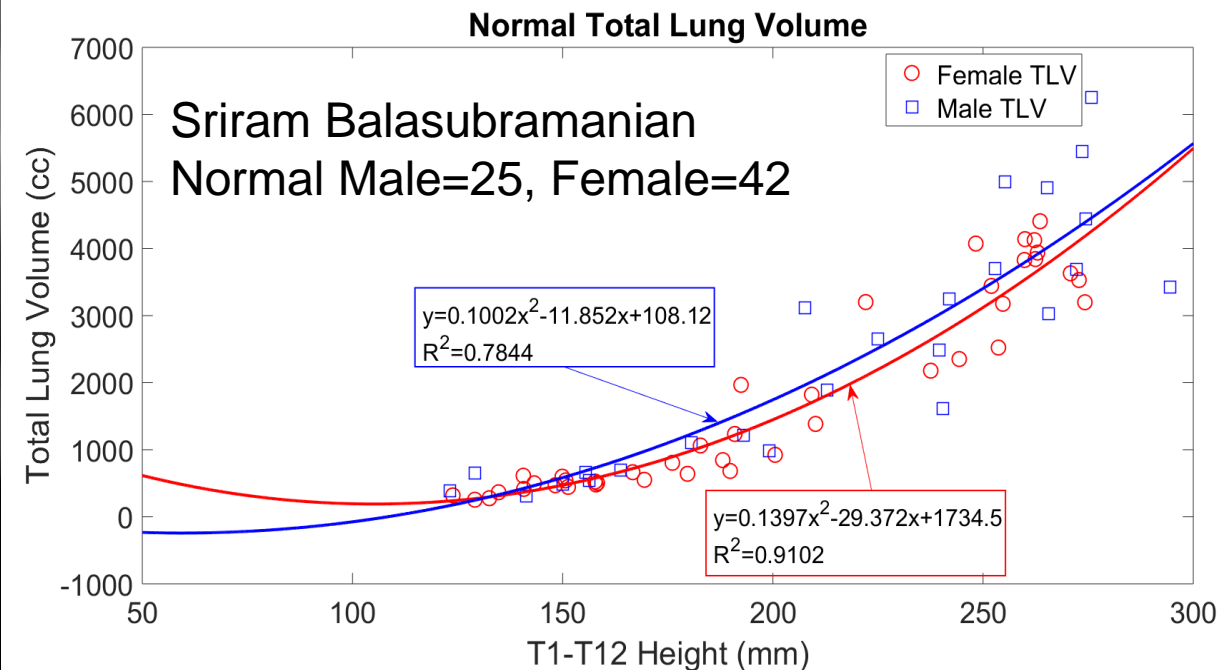
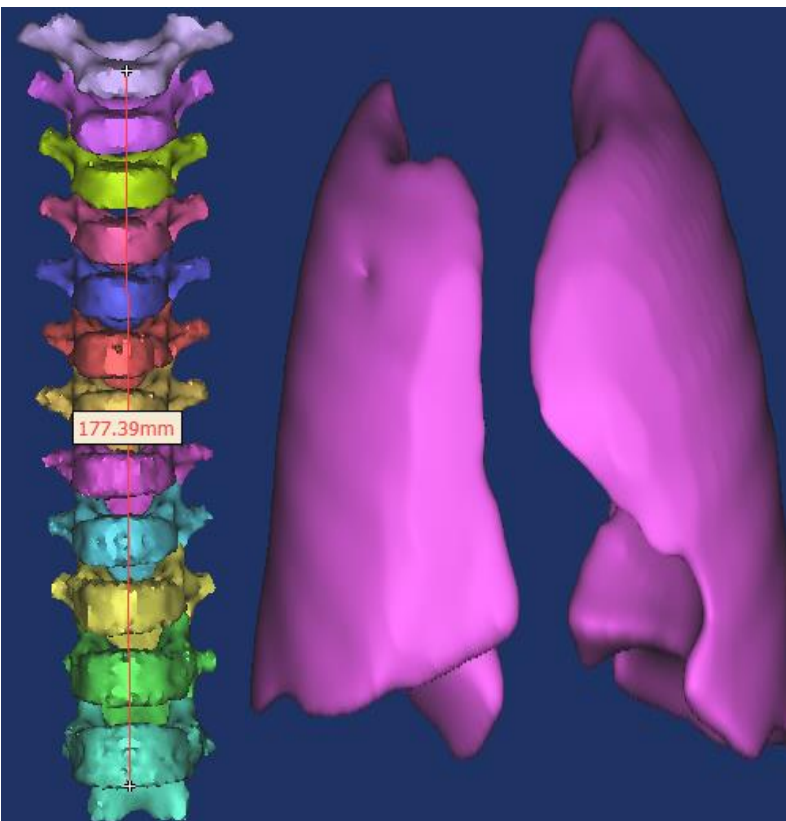


Instrumented
Spine Fusion
Closed tri-radiate



Pulmonary Function

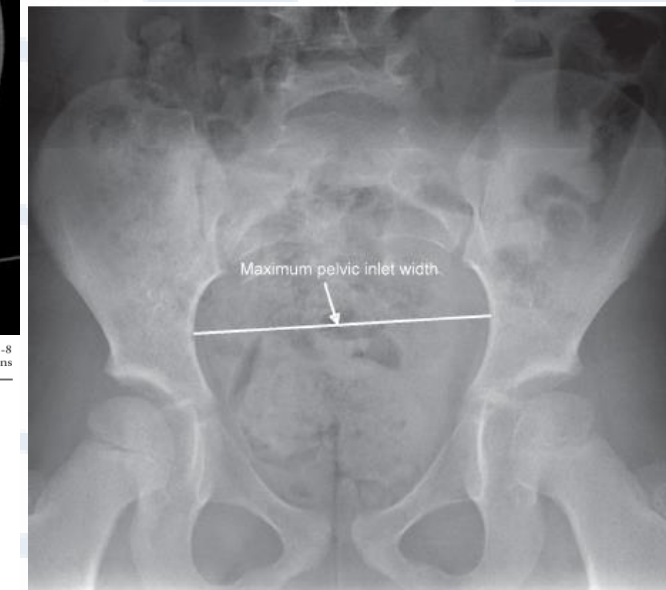
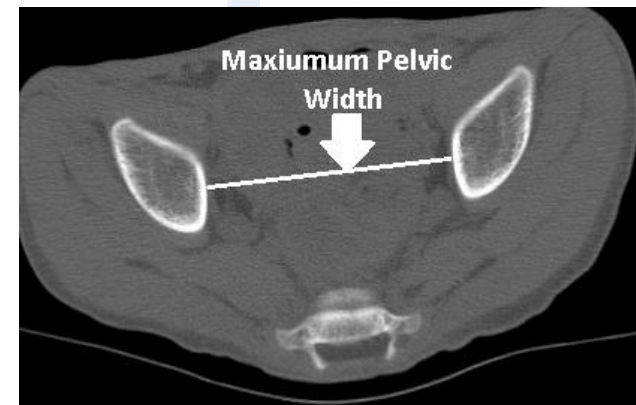
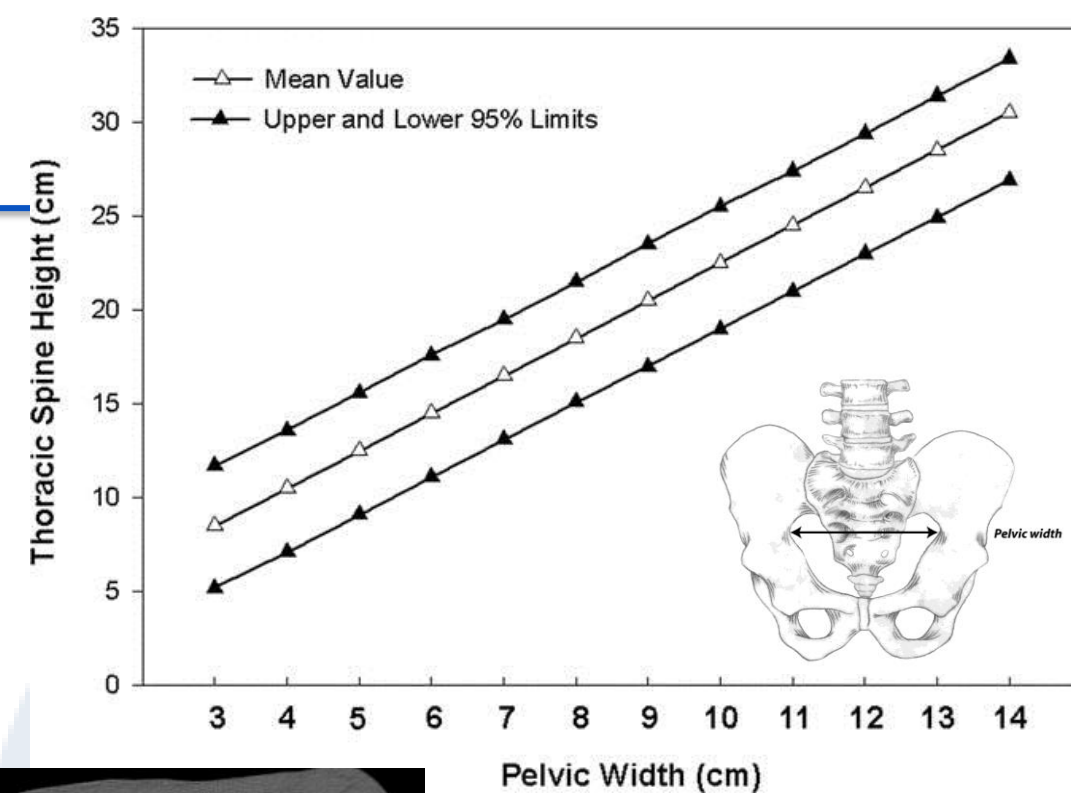
- **PFTs reported as %tiles based on height (standing, sitting, spine)**
- **Traditional 2D measures of thoracic volume and spine length that predict pulmonary function are difficult to evaluate in SMA because of skeletal deformity (scoliosis, contractures)**



Pelvic Inlet Width (PIW)

- **PIW correlates with spine height and stature with growth**
 - independent of *disease* or *age*
 - PIW reliably measured on spine and/or hip X-rays

➤ ***Surrogate for thoracic height in EOS***



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**Prediction of Thoracic Dimensions and Spine Length
Based on Individual Pelvic Dimensions in Children
and Adolescents**

An Age-Independent, Individualized Standard for Evaluation of
Outcome in Early Onset Spinal Deformity

John B. Emans, MD,* Michelle Ciarlo, BS,* Michael Callahan, MD,†
and David Zurakowski, PhD*

Spine
DIAGNOSTICS

**Prediction of Thoracic Dimensions and Spine
Length Based on Individual Pelvic Dimensions**

Validation of the Use of Pelvic Inlet Width Obtained With Radiographs Compared to CT

Meryl Gold, BA, Michael Dombek, BS, Patricia E. Miller, MS, John B. Emans, MD, and
Michael P. Glotzbecker, MD

SPINE Volume 38, Number 00, pp 1–8
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Hypothesis

1. Pulmonary function as represented by FVC varies proportionately with stature (thoracic height).
Scoliosis affects this relationship:
 - ✓ children with mild/moderate scoliosis (Cobb angle $\leq 50^\circ$) *follow* this relationship
 - ✓ children with more severe scoliosis (Cobb angle $> 50^\circ$) *do not*
 2. Correction of scoliosis by spinal instrumentation partially restores this relationship
- Therefore, we evaluated whether FVC varies proportionately with stature, *as represented by PIW*, and whether this relationship was affected by EOS severity or treatment (TLSO, spinal instrumentation)



Methods

- **Cohort**

- 53 SMA pts. types: Type 1 (2%), Type 2 (53%), Type 3 (45%)
- Analyzed over 5.2 yrs. (SD 2.8; range 1.1-11.6 yrs).
- Nearly all received Nusinersin via lumbar puncture

- **Treatment**

- Cobb $\leq 50^\circ$ Rx = TLSO
- Cobb $> 50^\circ$ or unresponsive to TLSO, Rx = GR (age ≤ 10 yr) or PSF (closed tri-radiate)

- **Analysis (Bi-annual)**

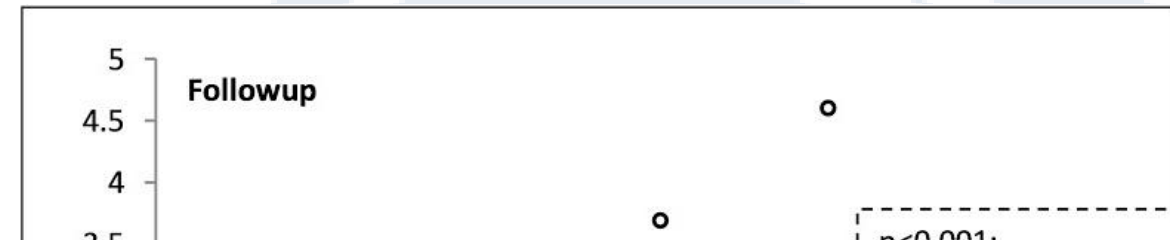
- Bedside Forced Vital Capacity
- Sitting spine X-ray in/out of TLSO or after Growing Rod insertion/lengthening

➤ **Cobb, PIW, FVC @ initiation treatment (TLSO, GR) compared to last follow-up**



Results: PIW vs FVC

- **At Presentation**
 - Cobb $\leq 50^\circ$: variability in PIW accounts for 74% variability in FVC ($r = 0.86$; $p < 0.001$)
 - Cobb $> 50^\circ$: no correlation ($p = 0.27$)



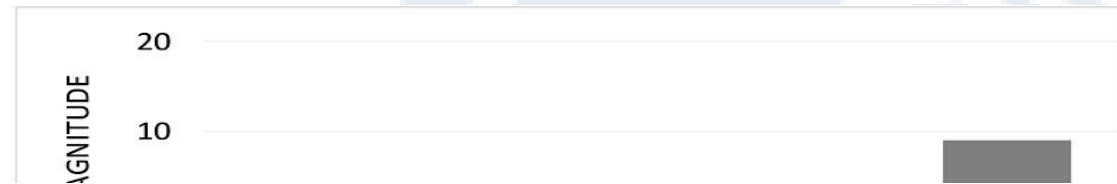
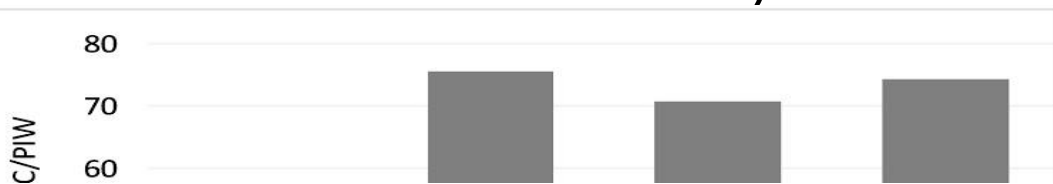
IMPLIES: SMA children with moderate spinal deformity, pulmonary function varies proportionately with change in stature (i.e. growth)

However for severe scoliosis, the change in pulmonary function is disproportionate relative to change in stature = *thoracic insufficiency*

Results: 2-way ANOVA comparing FVC normalized by PIW

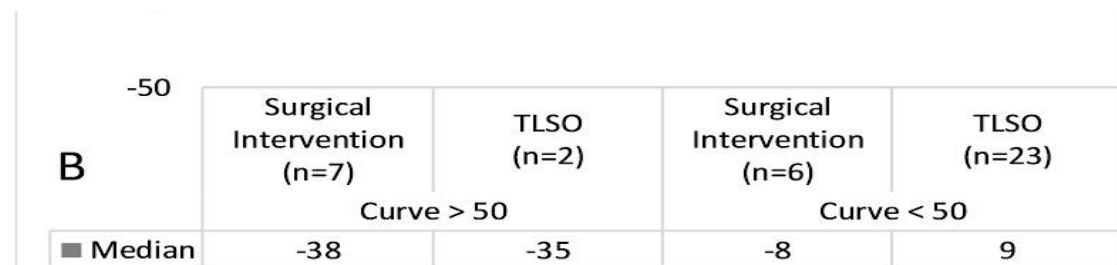
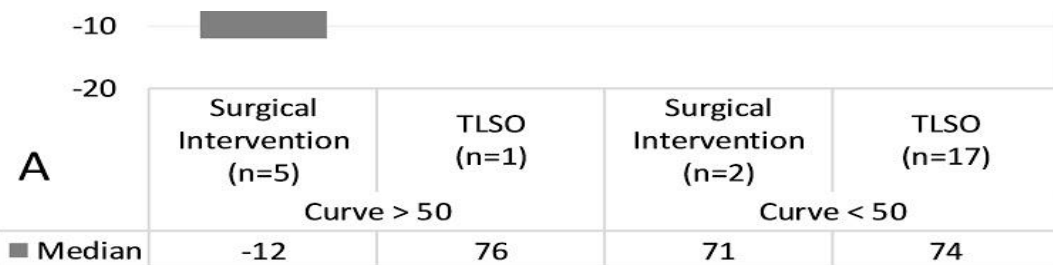
For treatment (TLSO vs GR) @ initiation vs last f/u, segregated by initial curve severity (Cobb $>50^\circ$ vs $<50^\circ$)

- Underpowered, and Biased cohort – more severe curves treated surgically, less severe curves treated by TLSO



Indicates that surgical treatment for Cobb $>50^\circ$, while scoliosis corrects by $\sim 40\%$, even if Cobb corrected to $<50^\circ$, it did *not* restore the proportionality between PIW and FVC;

Whereas for less severe spinal deformity treated by TLSO, even though curve progressed 10%, the proportionality between PIW and FVC was preserved



Conclusions

- The direct relationship between surrogate for thoracic height and pulmonary function indicates that spinal deformity (Cobb $\leq 50^\circ$) pulmonary function is able to change proportionately with the change in height.
- *However* for severe scoliosis (Cobb $> 50^\circ$) the change in relative proportion to thoracic height = *thoracic insufficiency*.
- Surgical treatment did not modify the relationship *because*—
 - surgical intervention occurred too late in life to allow for compensatory changes to occur (and irreversible) changes to lung parenchyma
 - increased thoracic stiffness, a condition induced by Parasol deformity of the thorax and lung parenchyma



(PIW), a radiographic measure of thoracic capacity (FVC), a measure of pulmonary function, in children, age <18 yrs, with moderate scoliosis is able to change proportionately with the change in height).

Primary function was unable to compensate for the thoracic insufficiency.

relationship *because*—
Scoliosis (and irreversible) changes to lung parenchyma

Altered ventilator mechanics
fibrosis, scarring, rigidity of surgical instrumentation
intervention to improve the projected

Thank You



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