

# Casting / Traction Rebuttal



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Not so much a rebuttal – more a  
*‘shot across the bow’*


Halo Gravity Traction and Casting /  
Traction techniques have a vital place  
in the management of stiff EOS curves ...

**HOWEVER**

# Traction Rebuttal

- Compliance / Tolerance problems (child ability to co-operate)
  - Complicated apparatus (day / night)
  - Prolonged hospital stay ?
  - Skull fixation (osteopenia / multiple fixation)
  - Pelvic fixation (Visceral injuries described)
  - Cervical spine difficulties (pain can limit ability to obtain correction)
  - Neurological complications (rare but can be permanent)
- Emans et al SRS Edinburgh 2007

# Casting Rebuttal

- Tolerance for serial casts **CHILD**  teenager
- Decreasing return with repeated casts
- Difficult to cast syndromic (ie PWS) or malnourished patients
- Cast syndrome
- Skin pressure / soiling issues
- Respiratory problems (marginal PFT's)
- Feeding difficulties (PEG)
- Little evidence that serial casting modifies the disease

Goldberg et al Spine 2003 Oct 15; 28(20): 2397 - 406



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