

# San Diego Growing Spine Tutorial 2001

(We've come a long way)



R Campbe

# Disclosures: RMC

- Royalties from Synthes Spine for the VEPTR device
- Non-compensated volunteer member Medical Advisory Board SpineForm Co.
- Medical Advisory Committee member National Organization of Rare Disorders (NORD)
- Grants
  - NORD and FDA Office Orphan Product development
- Provide advocacy for companies or inventors trying to develop safe and effective devices for children

## **ICEOS 2009**

### **CHEST vrs SPINE Debate**

**Chest deformity  
has to be primarily corrected**



**This argument is silly**

**Robert M. Campbell, Jr., MD ,**

**Division of Orthopaedics,**

**The Center for  
Thoracic Insufficiency Syndrome**



**The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia**

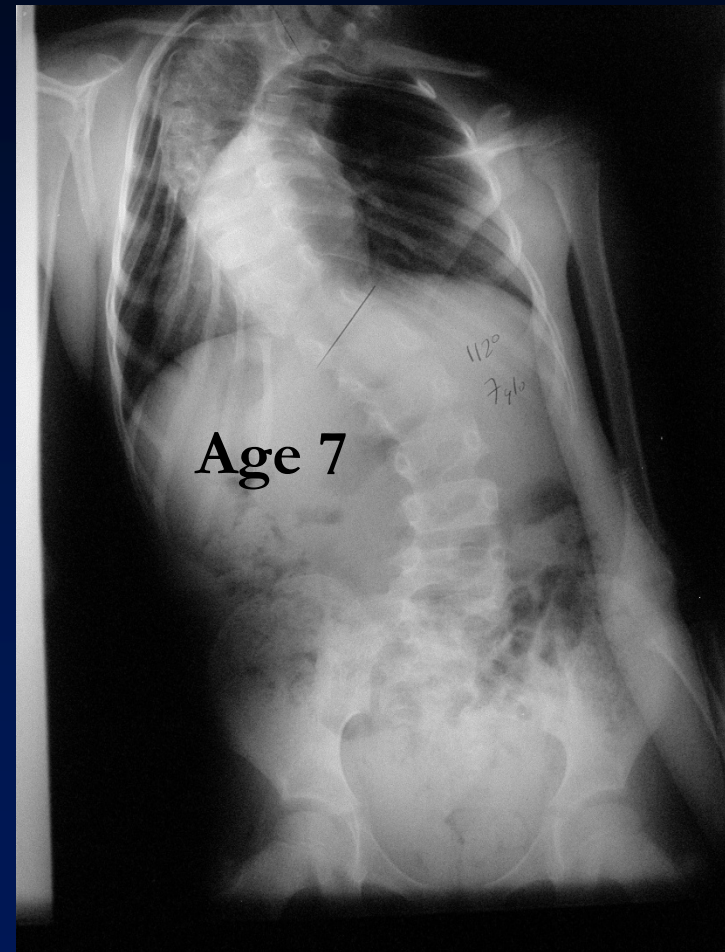
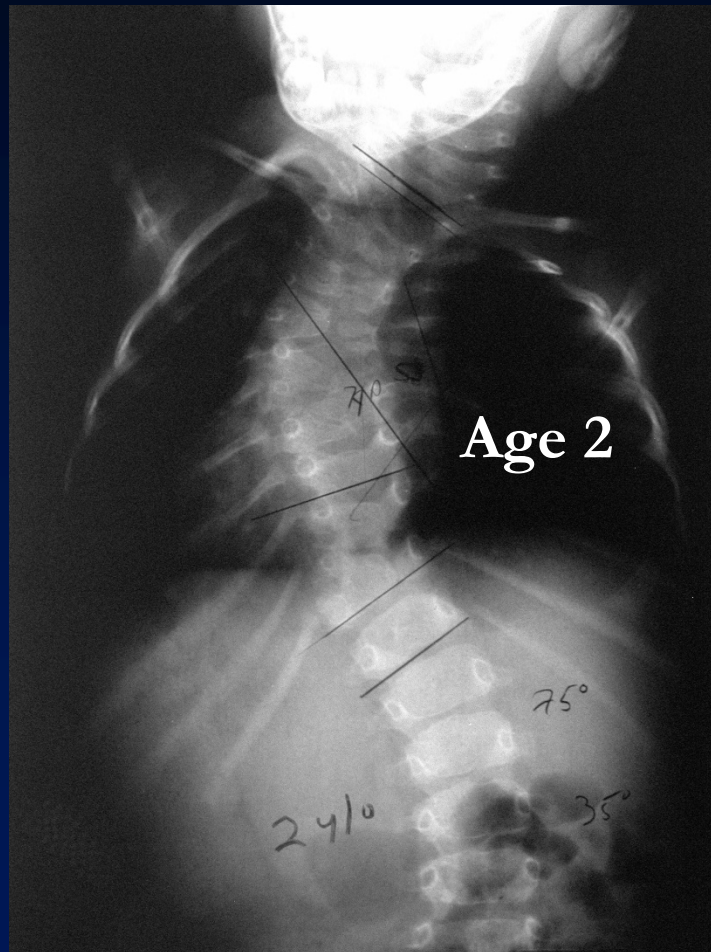


# A Radical Hypothesis

- The Chest is connected to the Spine



2-Dimensional radiograph  
2-Dimensional progression  
2-Dimensional thinking



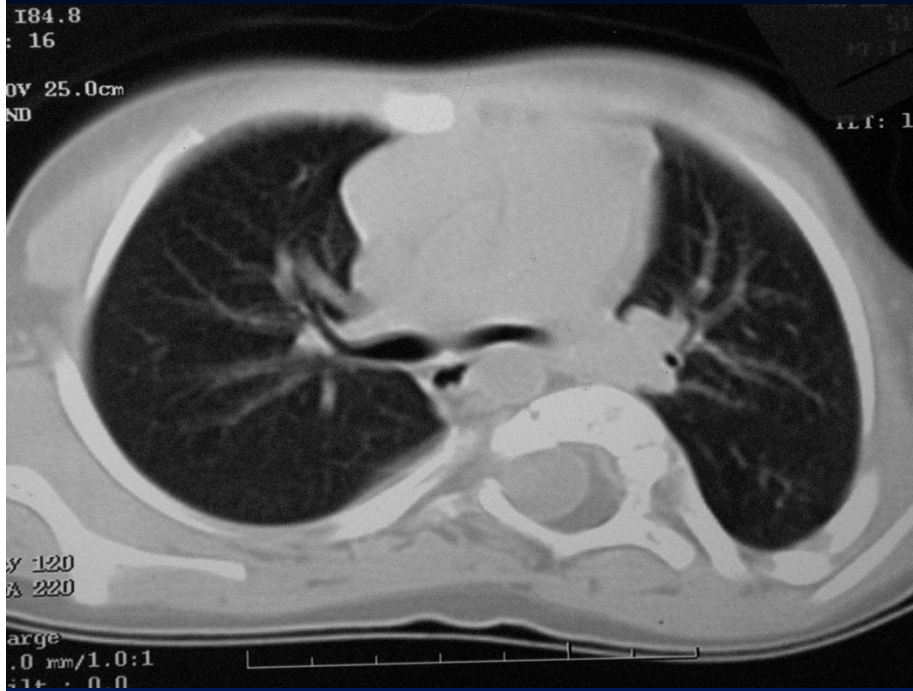




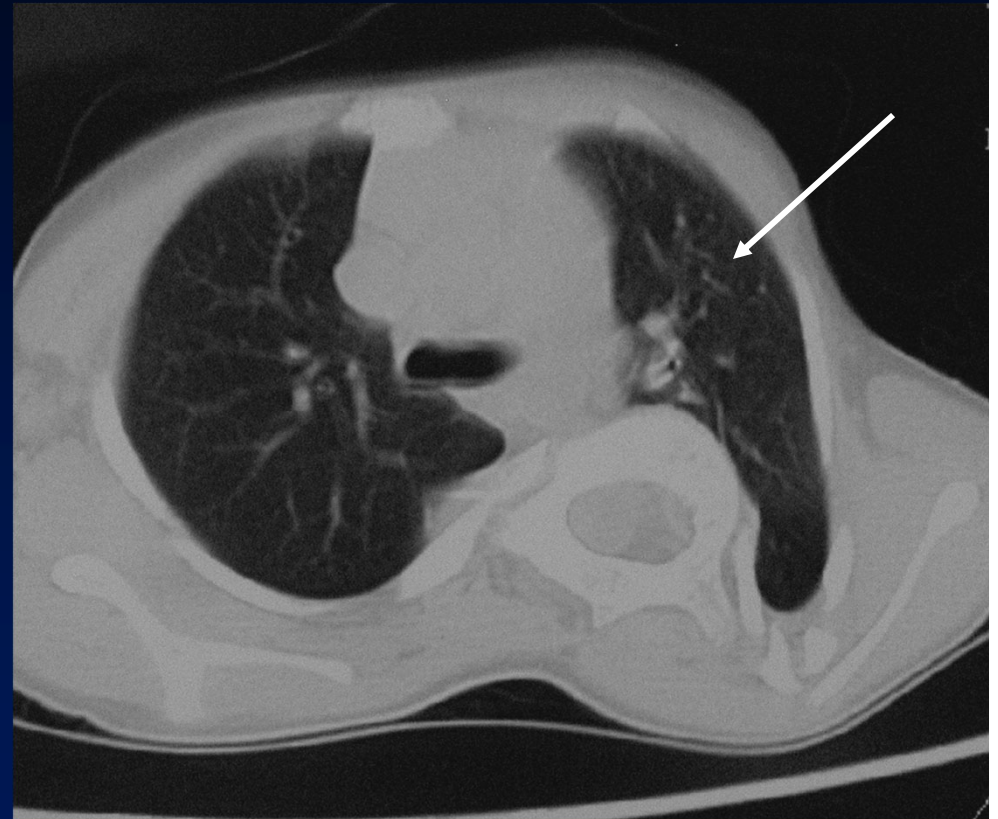
We are all guilty of  
operating on x-rays,  
not on patients



# The problem really is 3-Dimensional



Age 2



Age 7

# “Spine” or “Chest” approach ?





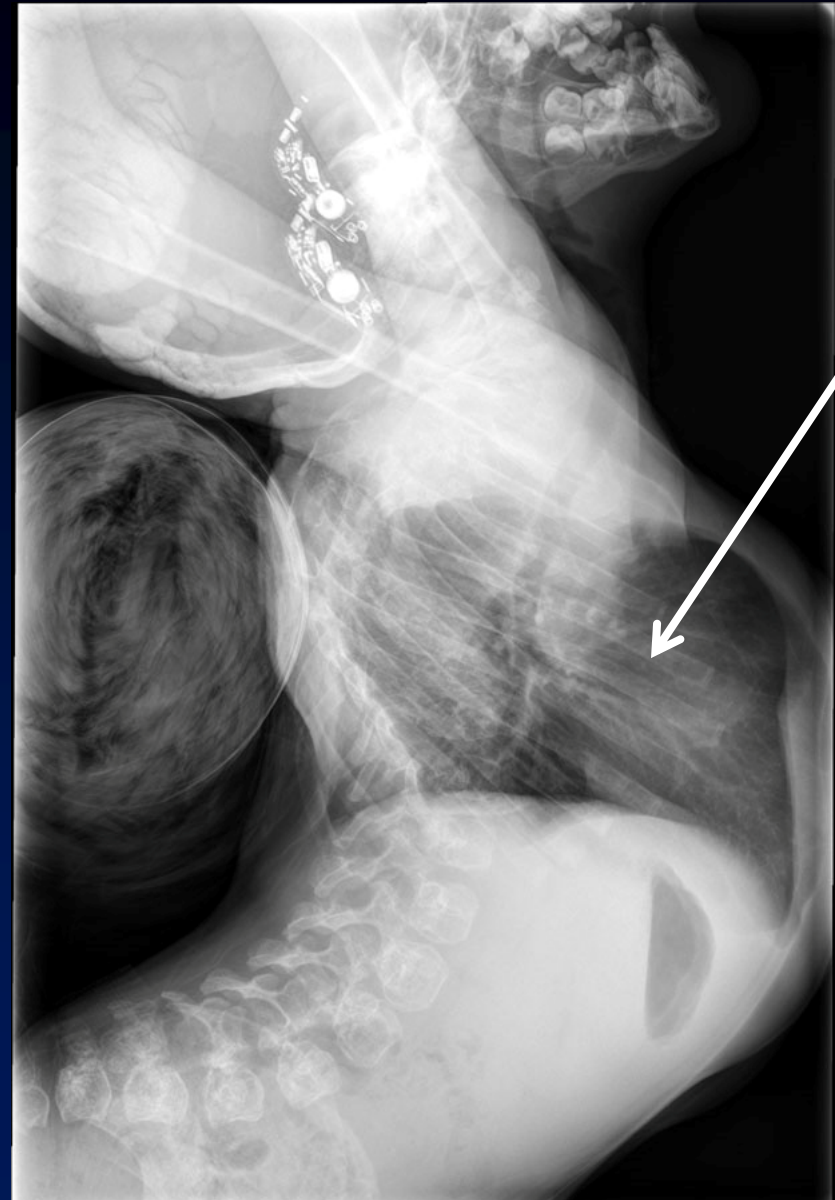
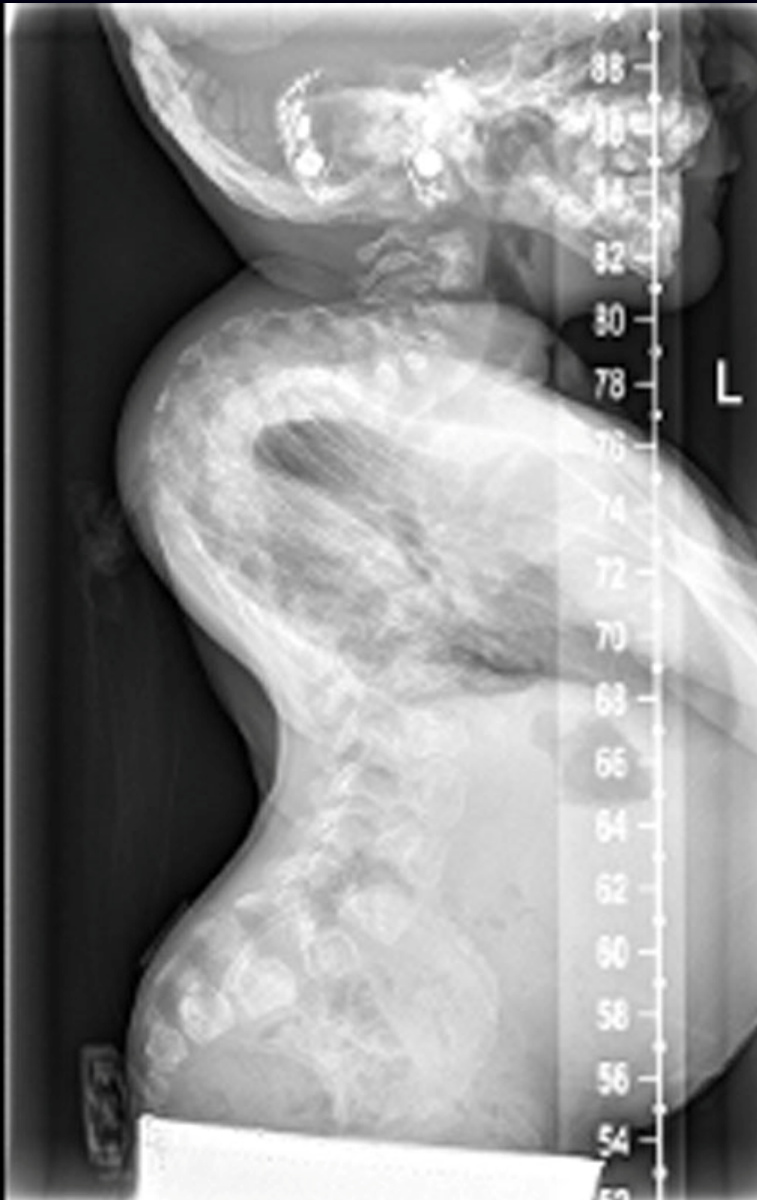
Is the spine  
the only  
problem in  
this patient ?





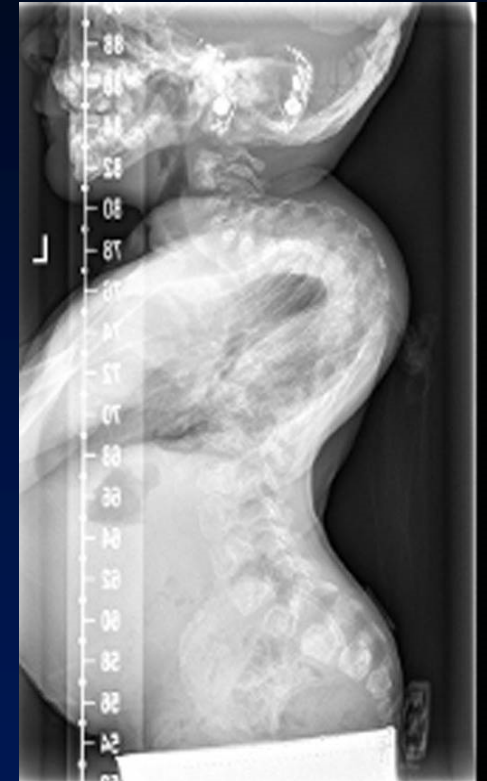
Isn't it a little crazy to consider the spine and chest separate ?







# When all else fails, examine the patient





I would be glad to just use  
“spine deformity correction” if:

- It increases thoracic volume and symmetry
- It increases rib cage and diaphragm function      This is the real basis for pulmonary function
- It preserves spinal and rib cage growth
- It indirectly aids lung growth

# Spine Deformity Correction

## Outcome Measures

- Lots of 2-Dimensional AP radiograph data
- Where's the 3 Dimensional data?
  - CT scans?
- Where's the Pulmonary data?

# How do we choose between “chest” or “spine” approach?

- I would use Spine Correction  
“ I like growing rods ”
- I would use Chest Correction  
“I used to use growing rods, but  
I like VEPTR now”

What outcome measures do  
we use to make these choices?



# Define the Outcome Measures



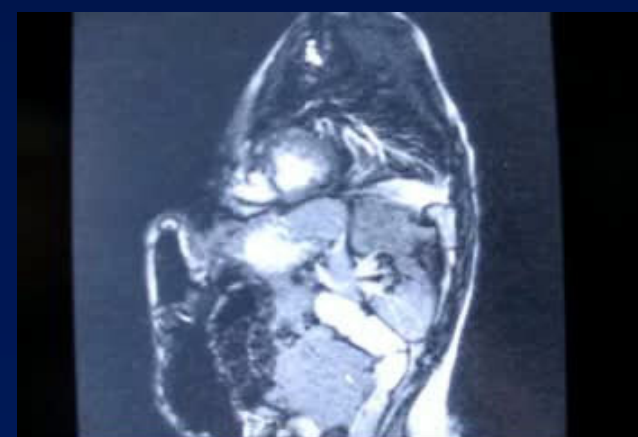
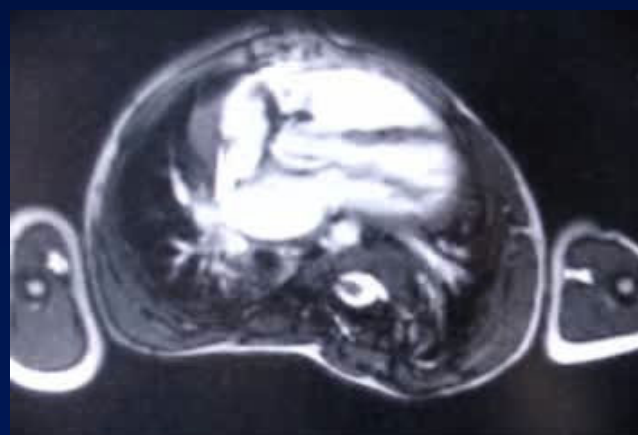
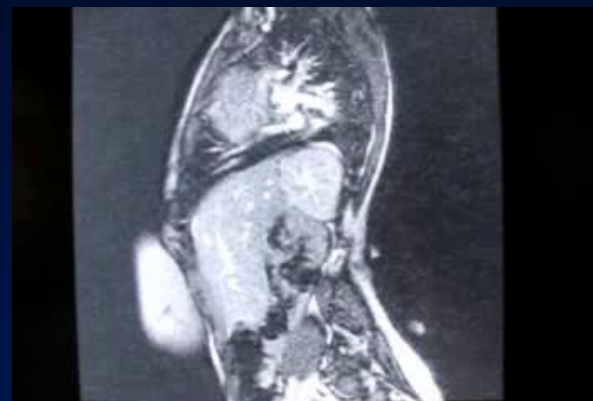
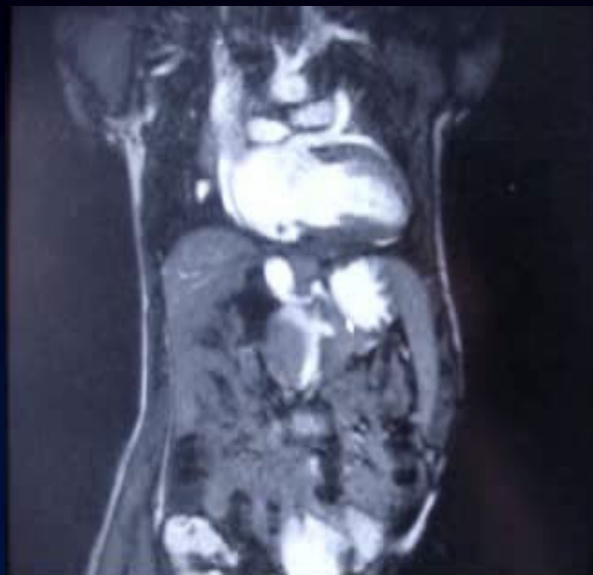
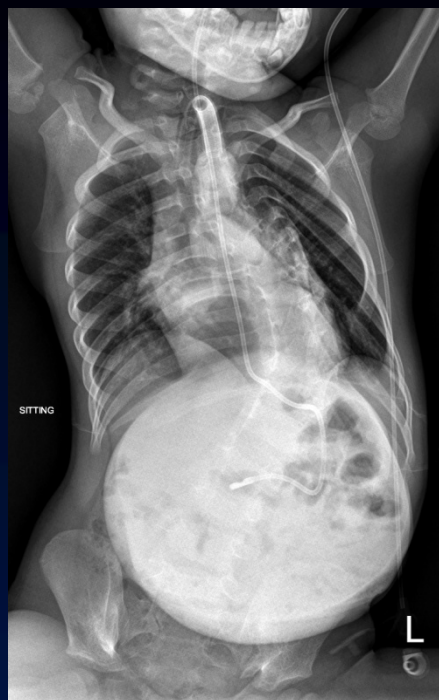
- ( X ) growth sparing technique is “better” than ( Y ) growth sparing technique
- ( X ) growth sparing technique “works” , but ( Y ) growth sparing technique “does not work” as well

Every surgeon has their own interpretation of what “better” and “works” means

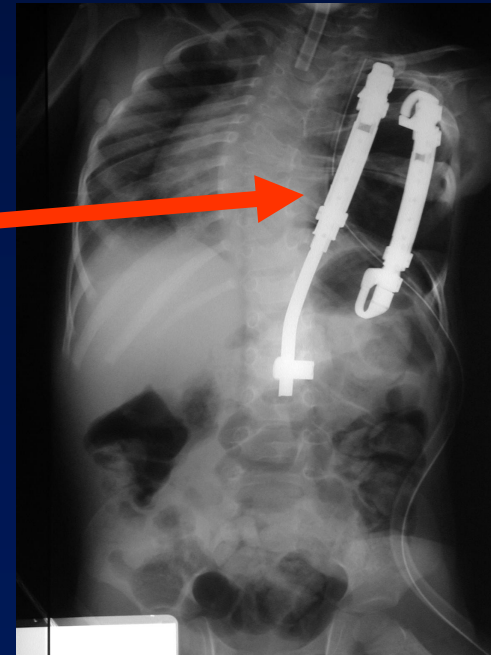
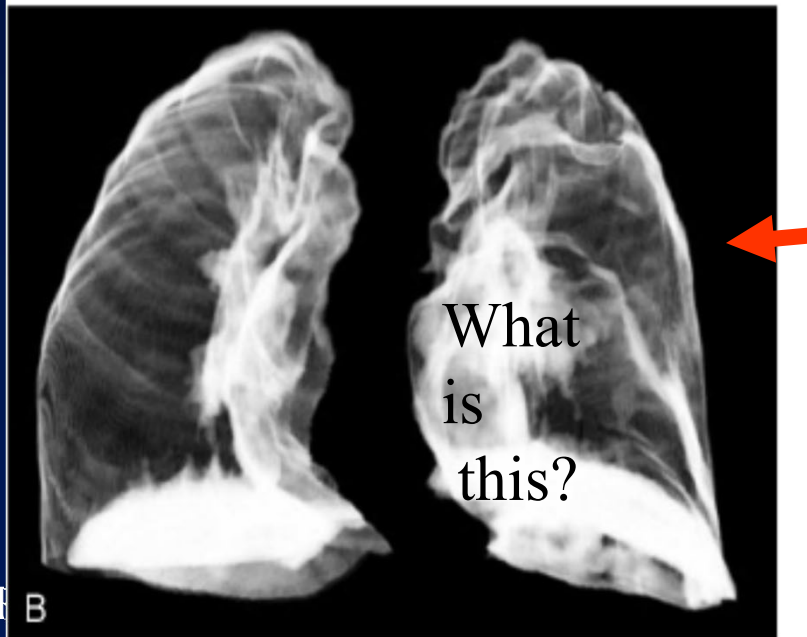
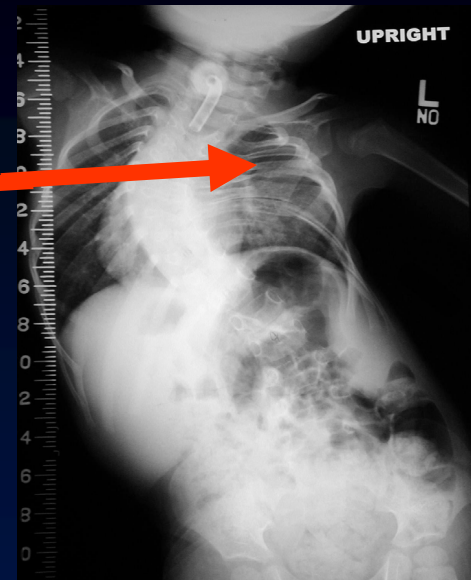
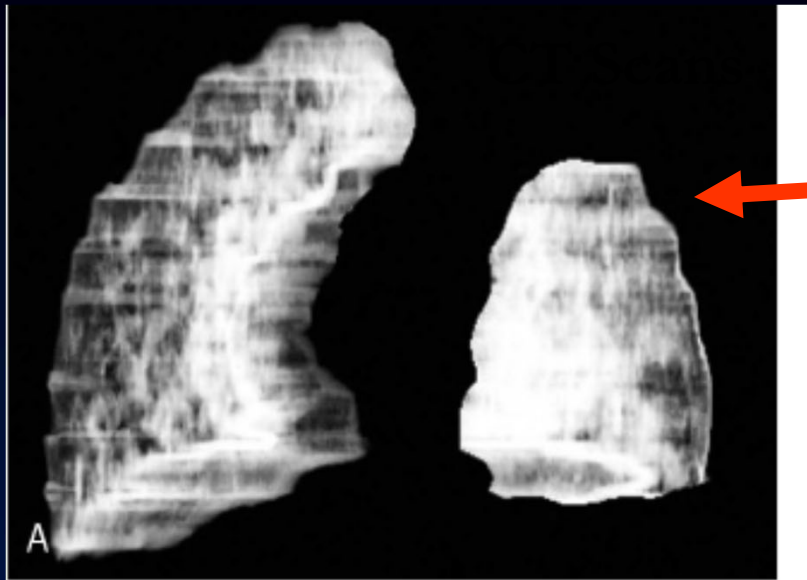


# The ideal deformity system would:

- Reduce the Cobb angle
- Correct the cosmesis issue of scoliosis
- Re-orient the ribs for normal costo-vertebral movement and thoracic shape
- Maximize thoracic volume and symmetry
- Minimize grow inhibition
- Do this with minimal morbidity and cost



# Normal Lung Growth? , “stretching” of tissue? , ????



-Emans, et al.,  
SPINE, 2005

# **How Does Expansion Thoracoplasty Affect Pulmonary Growth and Function?** *Pulmonary Cellular Response to Thoracic Insufficiency Syndrome Using Rabbit Model*

Olson J C, Kurek K C, Mehta H P, Warman M L,  
Snyder B D

*Orthopedic Biomechanics Laboratory, Beth Israel Deaconess  
Medical Center*

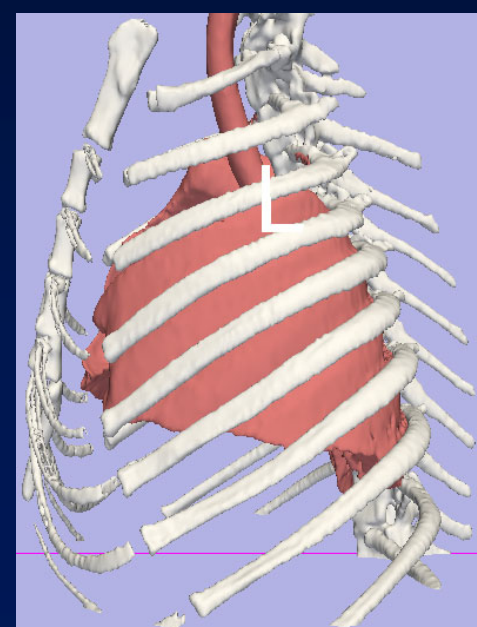
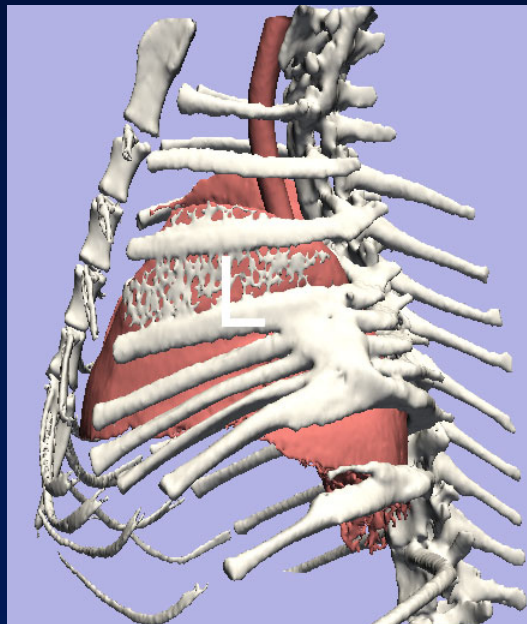
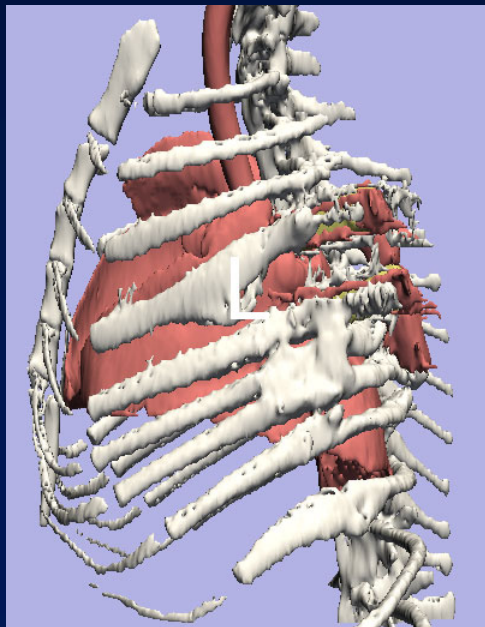
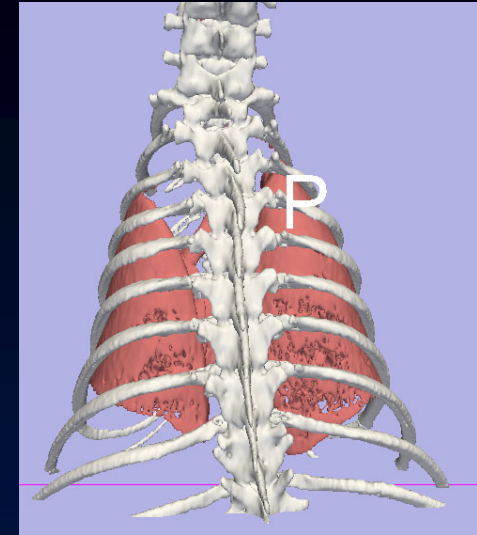
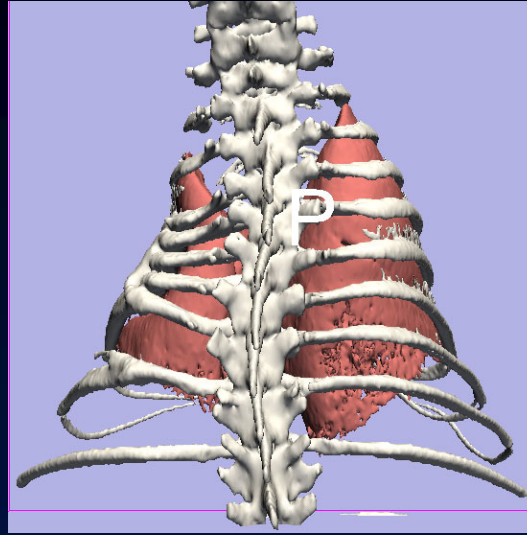
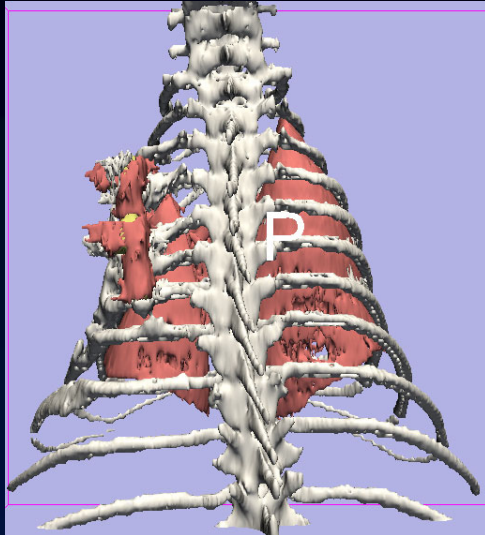
*Department of Biomedical Engineering, Boston University*

*Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, Children's Hospital and  
Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA*





# Comparison of Thoracic Cage at 18 wks



R

**VEPTR Treated**

**+ Disease Control**

**Normal Control**



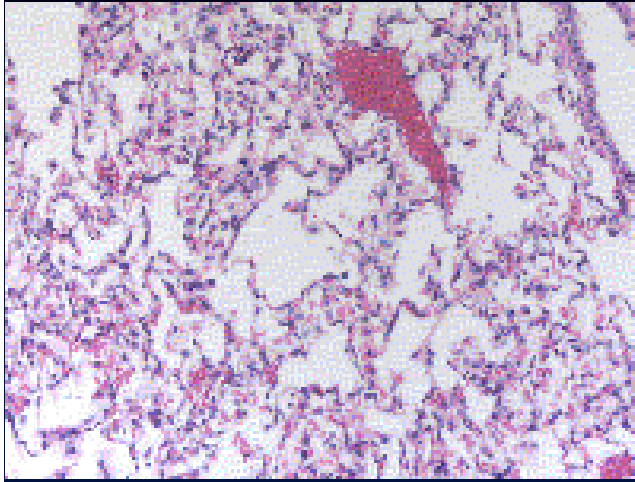
# Histology

**+ Disease Control**

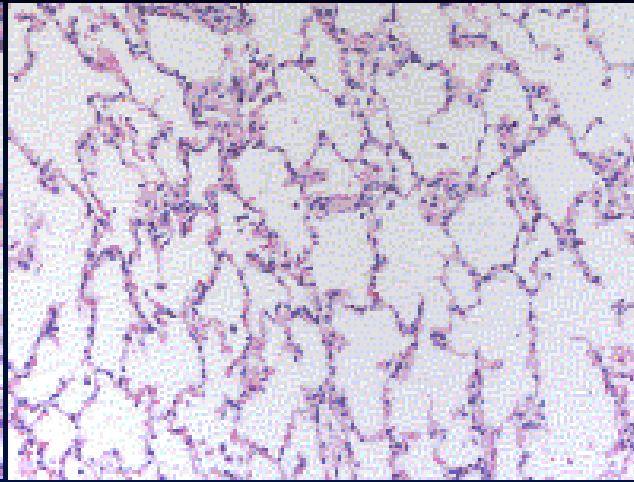
**Normal Control**

**"VEPTR"**

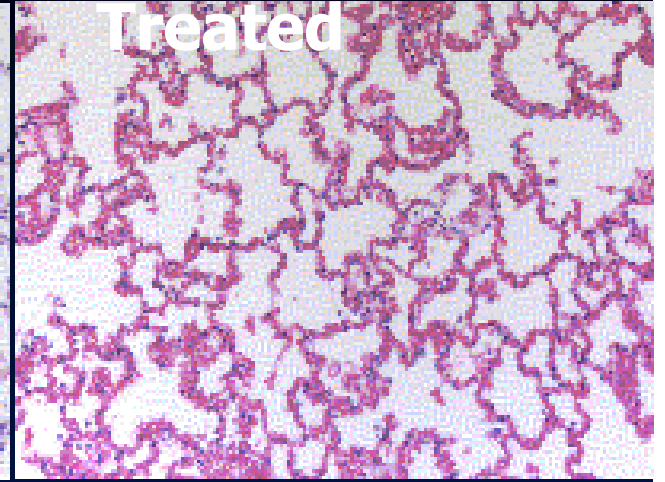
**Treated**



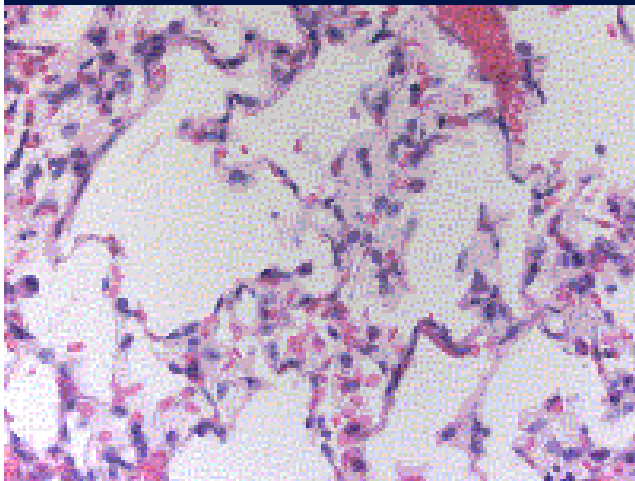
**200x**



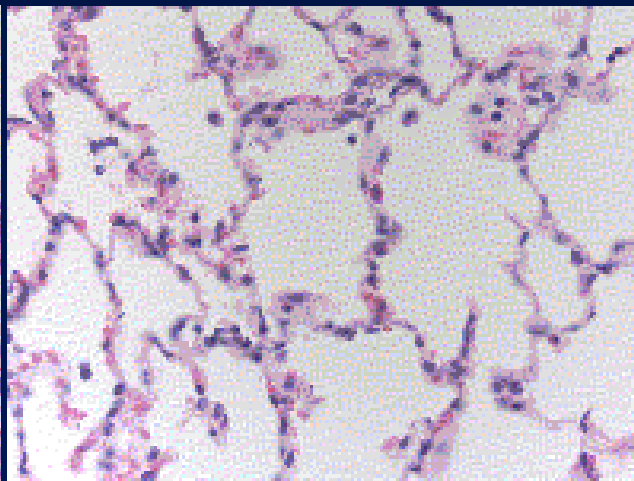
**200x**



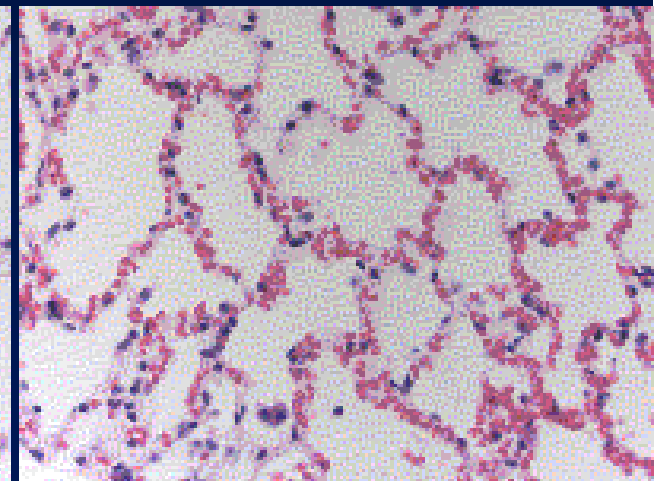
**200x**



R Camp 400x



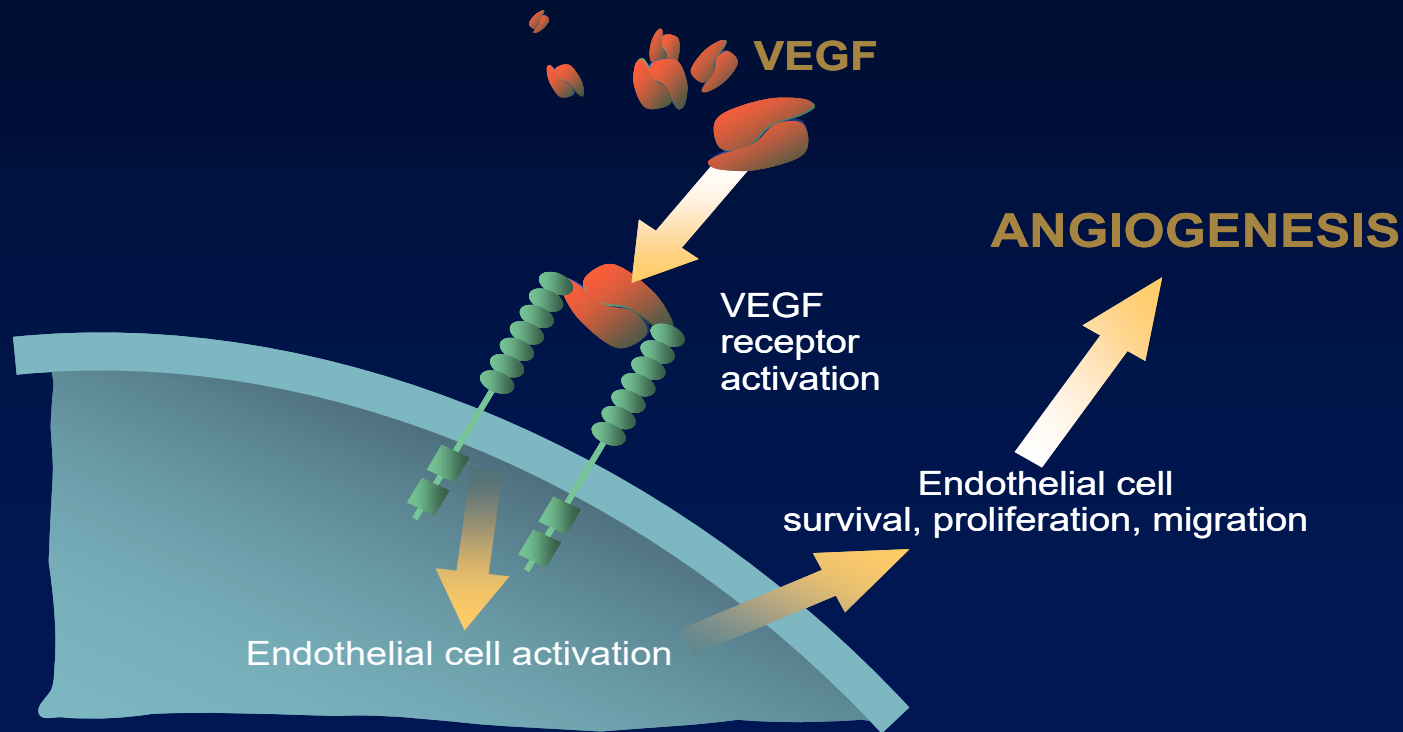
**400x**



**400x**

# VEGF & Alveolar Development

- The VEGF pathway induces vascular endothelial cell mitosis
- Capillary growth improves CO<sub>2</sub> and O<sub>2</sub> gas exchange
- Expression is induced by hypoxia and stretch



# IHC – quantification

## Preliminary Results

- Ki-67 and macrophage cell abundance was measured normalized by total cell abundance
  - DAB stain / Hematoxylin

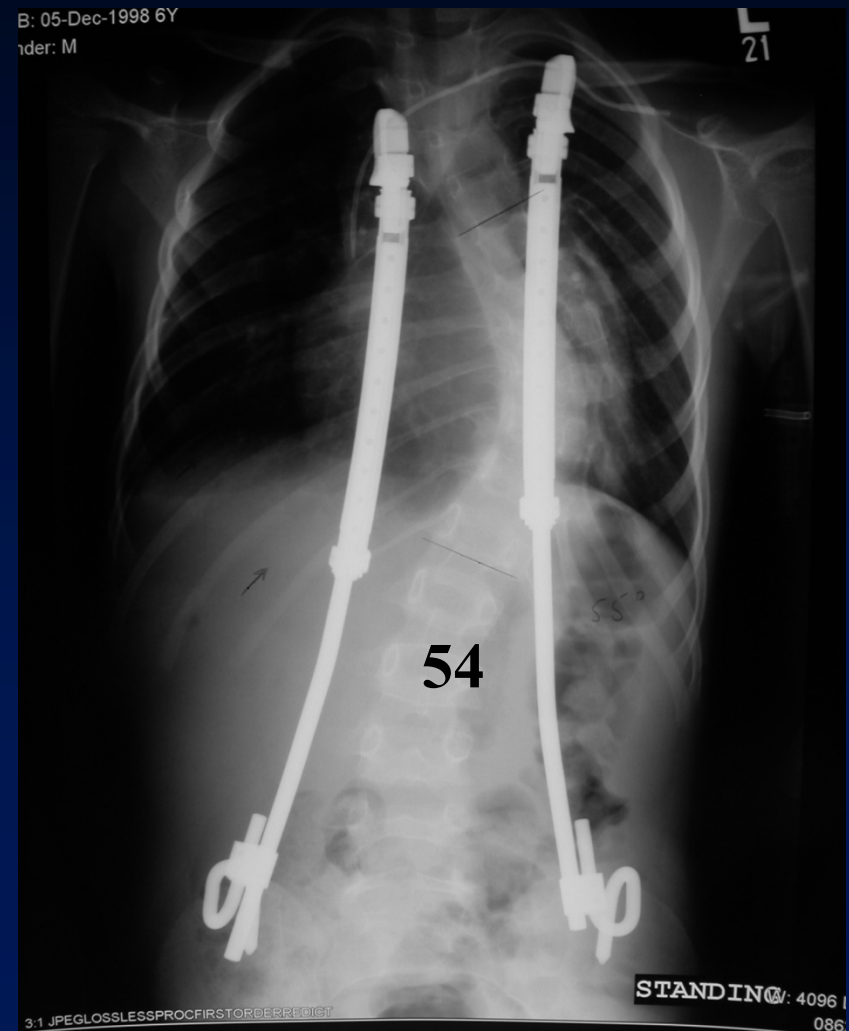
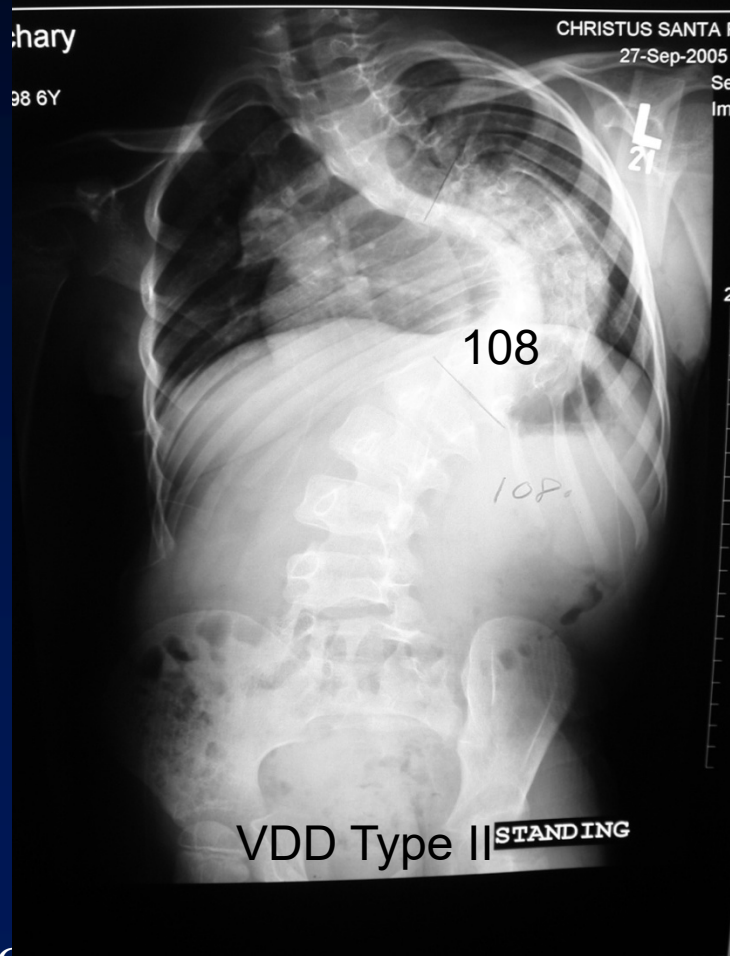
Antigen	Experimental Group		
	Healthy	Disease	VEPTR
Ki-67	3.73%	1.86%	3.37%
MIB-11	1.80%	6.46%	0.91%

Total Percentage of cells expressing antigen

We need to stop  
operating on x-rays



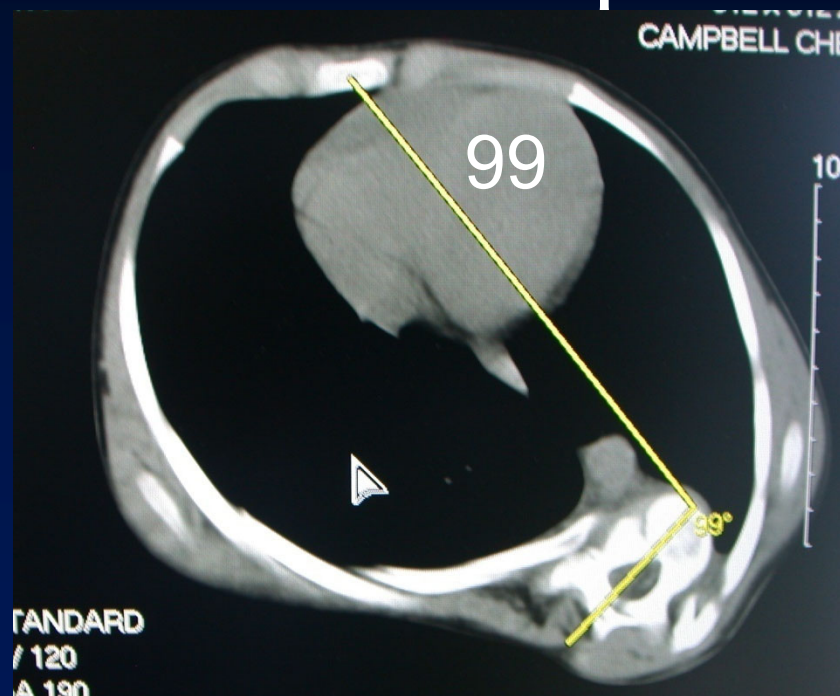
# Is VEPTR thoracoplasty the “solution” for everything?



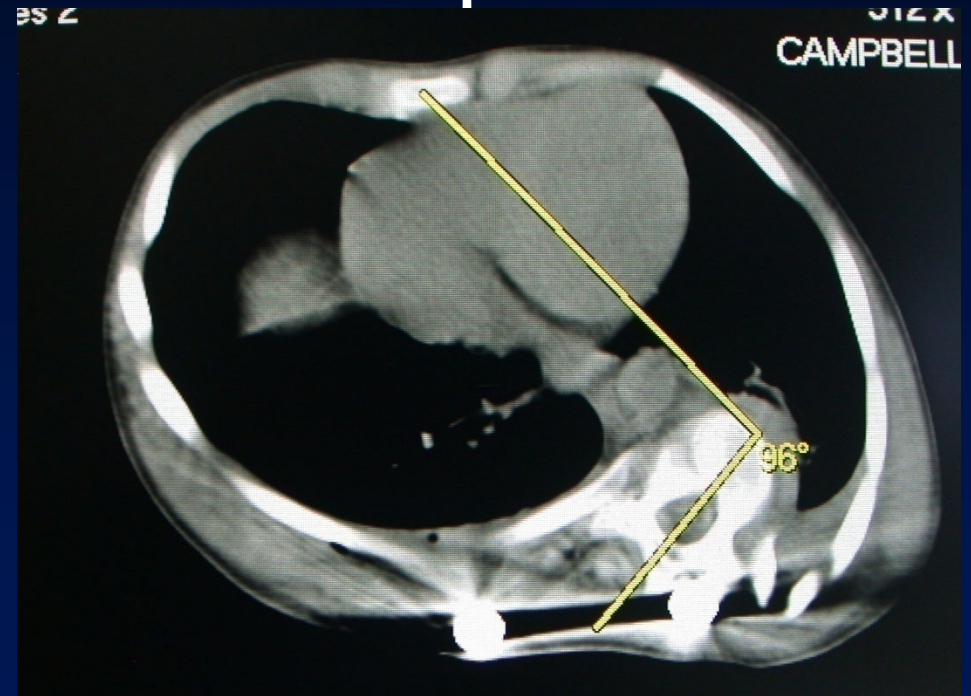


# We have a lot to learn.....

## Pre op

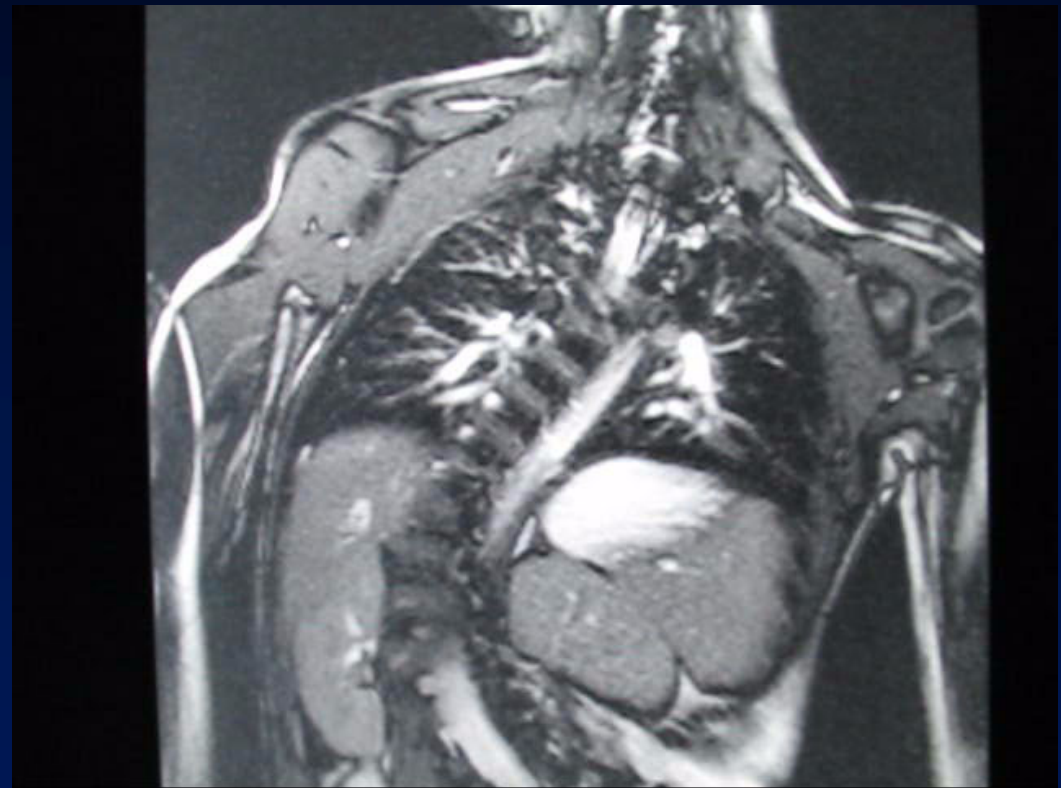
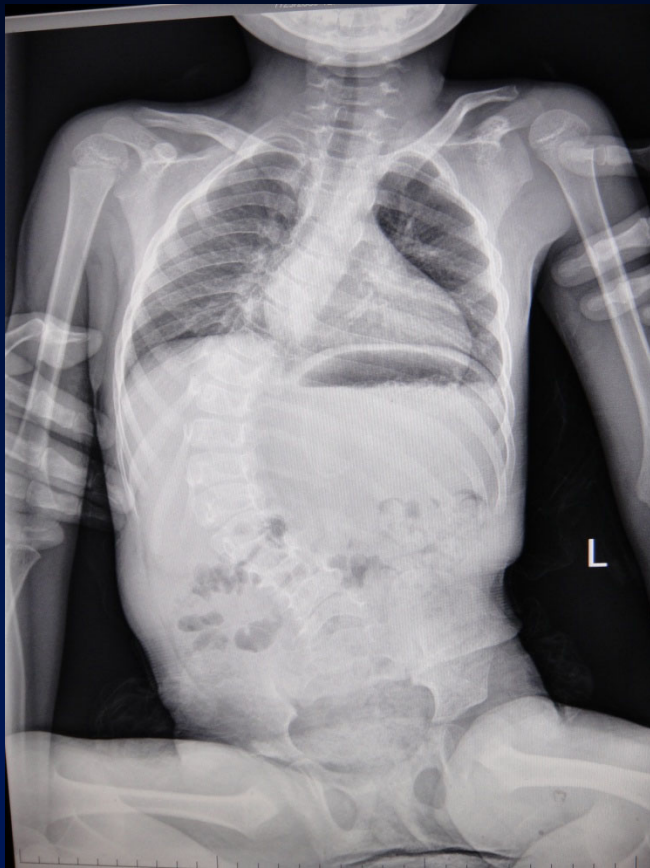


## Post op



# Neuromuscular scoliosis

## Level II thorax, FVC 58% nl





## Scoliosis:

- “lateral curvature”
  - 2,500 years old
- The concept of “lateral curvature” of the spine is inadequate to describe the complex deformity and biomechanical disability of the thorax in spine / chest wall disorders



# The Campbell-Marks \$20 Bet



- Our current 2- dimensional “Scoliosis” concept will be replaced by a 3 dimensional dynamic thoracic deformity model by the time Campbell finally retires

Thank  
You!

