

**SPINE
VS.
CHEST**

**REALLY?
WAS THIS SUPPOSED TO BE A
DEBATE?**

WHO IS THIS GUY?



I HAVE EXPERIENCED BOTH SIDES

VEPTR- OKLAHOMA

Dr. Puffinbarger

Trained by David Royce



GR- SAN DIEGO

Dr. Akbarnia

**GR MASTER
EXTRAORDINAIRE**



Center for LEGITIMATE

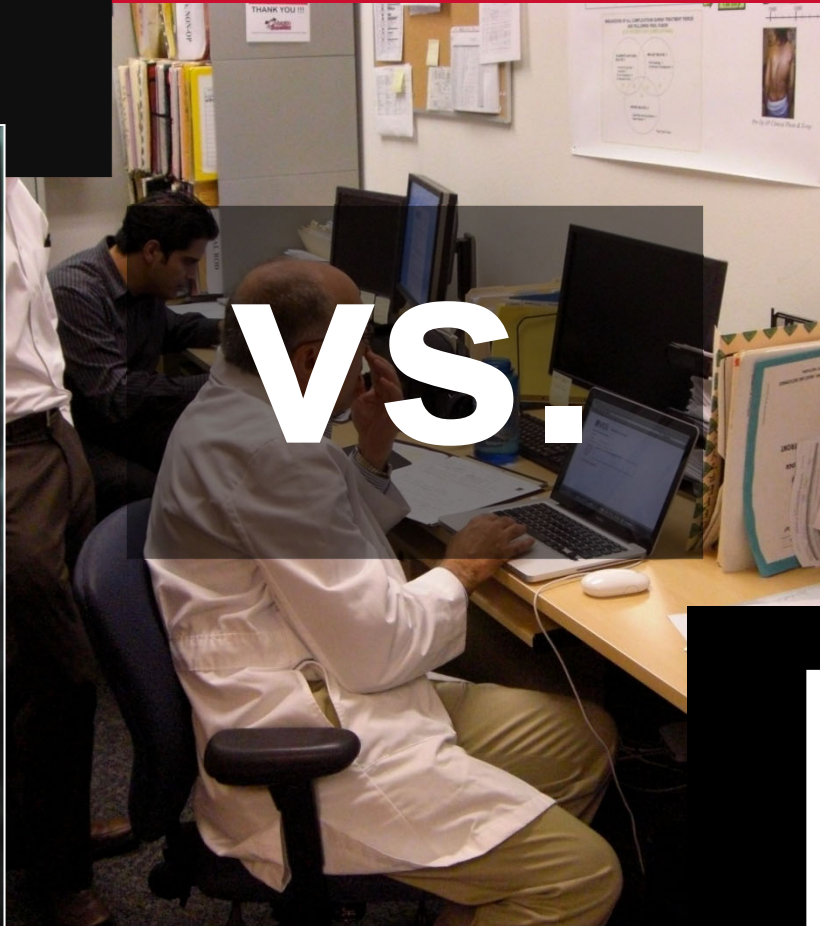
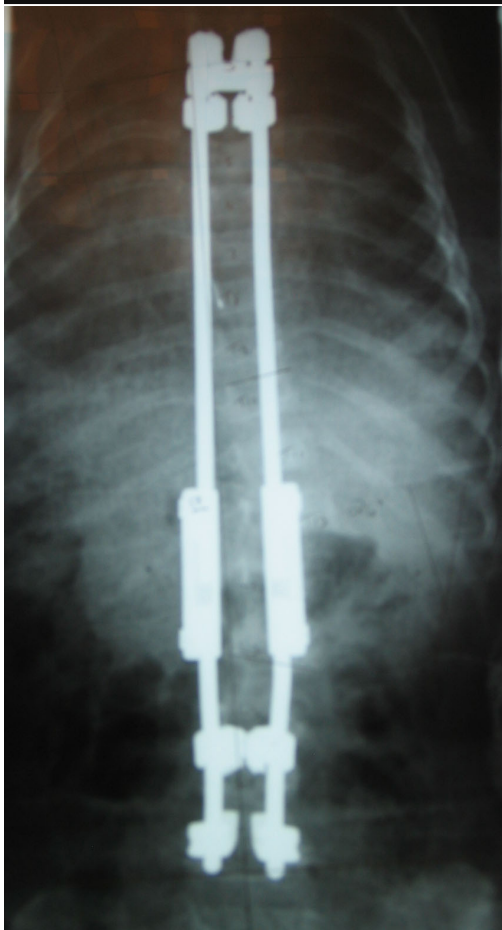
EASING MY WAY INTO ACADEMIA



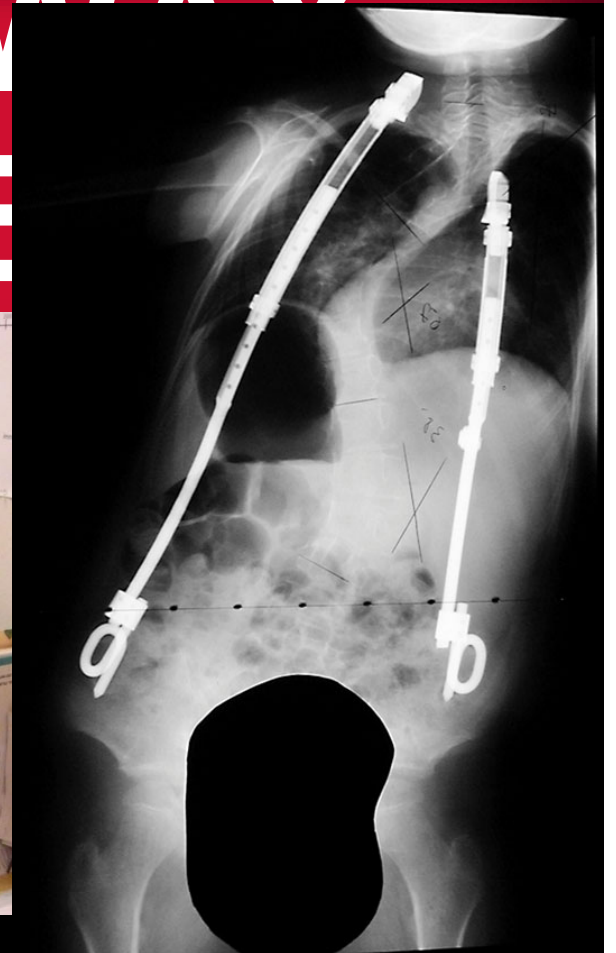
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ING MY WAY
D ACADE



vs.



PC

San Diego Center for LEGITIMATE Spine S

So what about the “debate”?

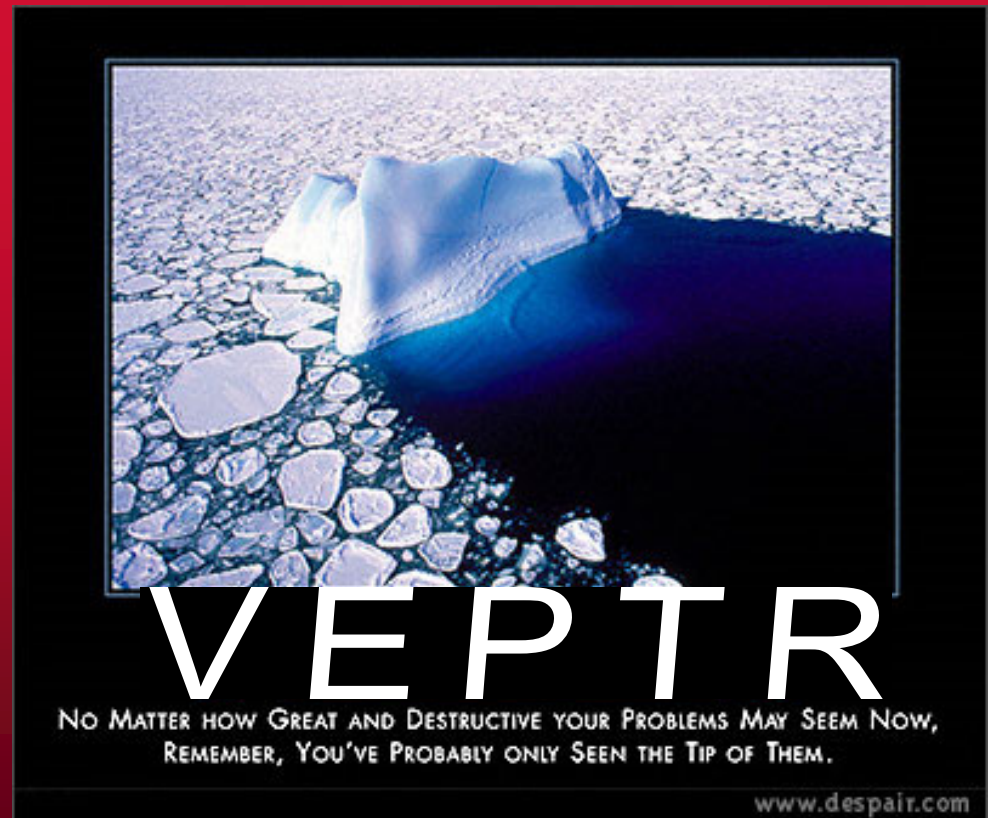
The Problem:

1. Symptomatic
Decreased Lung
Volume
2. Progressive
Spinal
Deformity

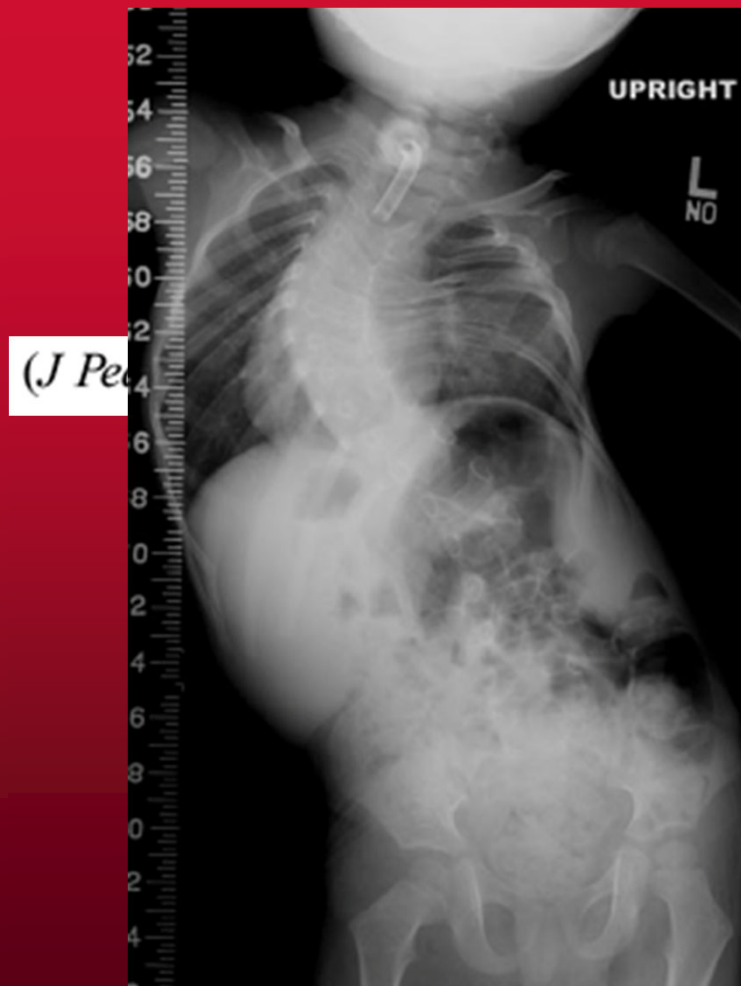
CHEST WALL PROBLEM?

NO!

**THIS IS A SPINE
DEFORMITY
PROBLEM
LEADING TO
PULMONARY
COMPROMISE**



NOT ARGUING ABOUT THIS PATIENT



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The case for the **GROWING ROD**

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Redding ICEOS 2009

Low lung volume

+

**Asymmetric lung
function**

+

**Diaphragm
inefficiency**

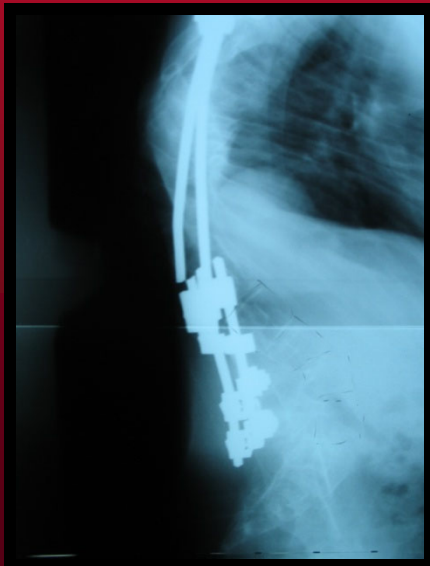
Diaphragm

**dysfunction in
light of lock box.
SO now you have
taken away the
compensatory
mechanism of
these children**

COMPLICATIONS

High in both
VEPTR and
Growing rods

Well established in
literature



Wound related
Implant related

Alignment

Learning curve
issues

Medical
complications

COMPLICATIONS

Growing Rod

- **Neuro deficits**
 - Distraction problem
 - Intraoperative recognition
 - Shorten
 - Remotely?
 - Pedicle screw problem
 - Don't use them
 - Use 4 hooks and cross connector

VEPTR

**SERIOUS WOUND
PROBLEMS**

-VEPTR II

**Brachial plexopathy is
MAJOR problem**

Cambell et al SPINE 2007

Brachial Plexopathy

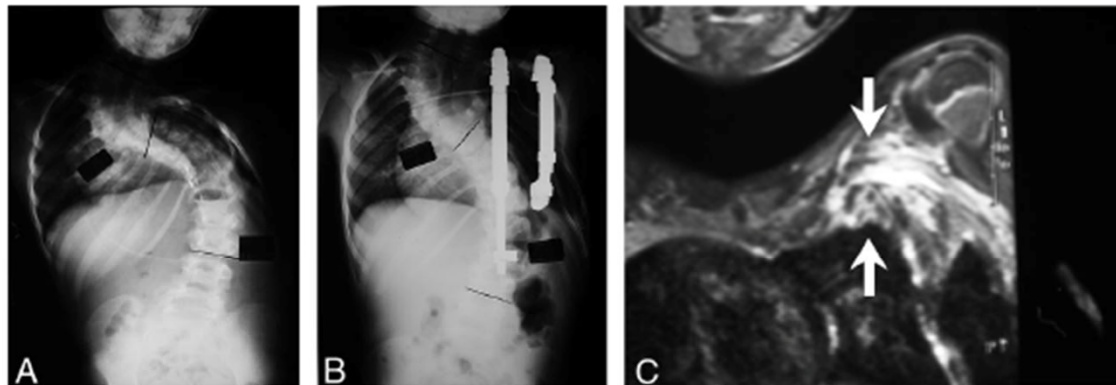
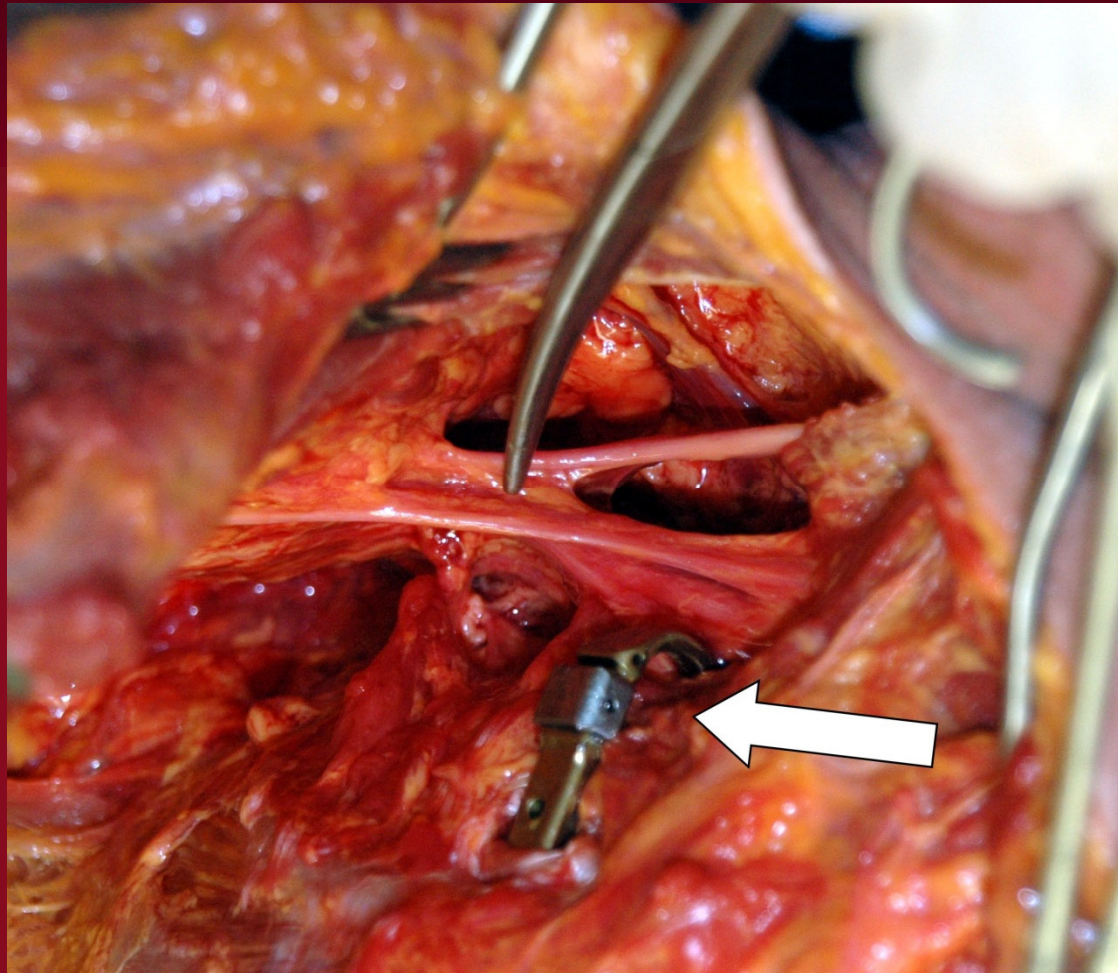


Figure 4. A, A 4-year-old girl with fused ribs and scoliosis. B, Immediate post-VEPTR opening wedge thoracotomy complicated by brachio-plexopathy. C, A MRI with contrast showed tenting up of the brachial plexus by the fused, stenotic first/second ribs lifted proximally by the opening wedge thoracotomy. The clavicle does not seem to be compressing the plexus. The plexus was decompressed by cutting a channel through an axillary approach in the first and second ribs just beneath the plexus so there was clearance. The child went on to recover.



Cadeveric dissection demonstrates the brachial plexus draping over the first rib. White arrow shows a VEPTR cradle on the first rib – rib anchors on the first rib alone should be avoided. (reproduced with permission of Children's Orthopaedic Center, Los Angeles)

WHY RISK THE OCCURRENCE OF THIS???

Iatrogenic Thoracic Outlet Syndrome Secondary to Vertical Expandable Prosthetic Titanium Rib Expansion Thoracoplasty

Pathogenesis and Strategies for Prevention/Treatment

Ahmad Nassr, MD, Annalise Noelle Larson, MD,* Benjamin Crane, MD,† Kim W. Hammerberg, MD,‡§
Peter F. Sturm, MD,‡ and Steven M. Mardjetko, MD‡*

Background: An innovative treatment for thoracic insufficiency

(*J Pediatr Orthop* 2009;29:31–34)

DEFORMITY CORRECTION

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GROWING RODS

SPINE Volume 33, Number 9, pp 984-990
©2008, Lippincott Williams & Wilkins

■ Dual Growing Rod Technique Followed for Three to Eleven Years Until Final Fusion

50% 100%

SPINE Volume 30, Number 17S, pp S46-S57
©2005, Lippincott Williams & Wilkins, Inc.

■ Dual Growing Rod Technique for the Treatment of Progressive Early-Onset Scoliosis
A Multicenter Study

Behrooz A. Akbarnia, MD,* David S. Marks, FRCS,† Olanoba Boachie-Adjei, MD,‡
Alistair G. Thompson, FRCS,† and Marc A. Asher, MD§

53%

The role of bracing, casting, and vertical expandable prosthetic titanium rib for the treatment of infantile idiopathic scoliosis: a single-institution experience with 31 consecutive patients

Clinical article

JASON R. SMITH, P.A.-C., AMER F. SAMDANI, M.D., JOSHUA PAHYS, M.D., ASHISH RANADE, M.D., JAHANGIR ASGHAR, M.D., PATRICK CAHILL, M.D., AND RANDAL R. BETZ, M.D.

Shriners Hospital for Children, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Correction of deformity???

TABLE 2: Curve correction in patients with IIS

Tx Group	RVAD (°)	Mean Cobb Angle in Degrees (range)			% Flexibility	Initial % Correction	Overall % Correction
		Pre-Tx	Post-Tx	Recent			
all	26.4	54.8 (20–113)	38.0 (12–78)	31.0 (5–77)	48.6	32.0	47.8
cast	33.0	50.4 (31–73)	28.5 (12–44)	21.3 (5–35)	50.4	43.3	59.0
brace	18.0	35.3 (20–45)	29.9 (19–41)	16.3 (11–25)	74.6		51.2
VEPTR	31.6	90.0 (50–113)	51.9 (29–78)	52.5 (14–77)	45.1	33.7	33.8

Bilateral use of the vertical expandable prosthetic titanium rib attached to the pelvis: a novel treatment for scoliosis in the growing spine.

Samdani AF, Ranade A, Dolch HJ, Williams R, St Hilaire T,
Cahill P, Betz RR.

Shriners Hospital for Children, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
19141.com

28%

58°

See the corresponding article in this issue, pp 3–8.

J Neurosurg Spine 10:287–292, 2009

Editorial

Infantile idiopathic scoliosis

MARK F. ABEL, M.D.

Bilateral use of the vertical expandable prosthetic titanium rib attached to the pelvis: a novel treatment for scoliosis in the growing spine

Clinical article

AMER F. SAMDANI, M.D., ASHISH RANADE, M.D., HENRY J. DOLCH, D.O.,
REED WILLIAMS, B.A., TRICIA ST. HILAIRE, B.A., PATRICK CAHILL, M.D.,
AND RANDAL R. BETZ, M.D.

Shriners Hospital for Children, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

And I quote...

Like so many other uncontrolled retrospective studies, this report (regarding the use of vertical expandable prosthetic titanium rods for IIS. However, given the 33% complication rate with the VEPTR seen in this study, the inferior correction compared with growth rods, and other methodological deficiencies, I am not convinced that this technique offers much advantage over the growth rod procedure of Akbarnia et al.^{1,2}

SAGITTAL PLANE PROBLEMS

San Diego Center for LEGITIMATE Spine Surgery

KYPHOSIS

- This is a spine problem not CHEST
- Go to where the money is...the SPINE

Dual Growing Rod Technique for the Treatment of Progressive Early-Onset Scoliosis

A Multicenter Study

Behrooz A. Akbarnia, MD,* David S. Marks, FRCS,† Oheneba Boachie-Adjei, MD,‡
Alistair G. Thomson, FRCS,† and Marc A. Asher, MD§

50° → 35° → 45°

SPINE Volume 30, Number 18, pp 2039-2044
©2005, Lippincott Williams & Wilkins, Inc.

Comparison of Single and Dual Growing Rod Techniques Followed Through Definitive Surgery

A Preliminary Study

George H. Thompson, MD,* Behrooz A. Akbarnia, MD,† Patricia Kostial, RN, BSN,†
Connie Poe-Kochert, CNP,* Douglas G. Armstrong, MD,* Jeffrey Roh, MD,‡
Robert Lowe, MD,‡ Marc A. Asher, FRCS,§ and David S. Marks, MD||

Kyphosis (°)			
Preoperative initial	42 ± 21	33 ± 18	49 ± 26
Postoperative initial	28 ± 15	32 ± 9	26 ± 10
Preoperative final	52 ± 25	41 ± 18	38 ± 10
Postoperative final	55 ± 20	33 ± 17	42 ± 9

Bilateral use of the vertical expandable prosthetic titanium rib attached to the pelvis: a novel treatment for scoliosis in the growing spine.

Samdani AF, Ranade A, Dolch HJ, Williams R, St Hilaire T,
Cahill P, Betz RR.

**Shriners Hospital for Children, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
19140, USA. amersamdani@yahoo.com**

**VEPTR= kyphosis generator
23° post op → 37° (25 mo later)**

Growth of the Thoracic Spine in Congenital Scoliosis After Expansion Thoracoplasty

Robert M. Campbell, Jr. and Anna K. Hell-Vocke
J Bone Joint Surg Am. 2003;85:409-420.

**Without fusion group:
Overall Kyphosis-**

decrease in the Cobb angle of 9°. The mean thoracic kyphosis in the group without fusion increased from 21° to 39°. There

Journal of Pediatric Orthopaedics B:

July 2009 - Volume 18 - Issue 4 - pp 197-203

doi: 10.1097/BPB.obo13e32832bf5e0

Spine

The Vertical Expandable Titanium Rib in the



Hey Lincoln,
What do you
think of those
stats?

THAT'S 50%
MORE!!!!
ISN'T THAT
PROGRESSIVE
DADDY?

ICEOS 2009- CWSG (Vitale)

Hyperkyphosis pts

-avg start 70°

-reduced to mid 50° s

-final 75°

NOT FINAL FOLLOW UP JUST

42 mo

KYPHOSIS

**In a pole by Dr.
Sponseller on
11/20/2009 this very
audience showed a
“preponderance” for
GROWING RODS**

I HAVE ACTED CRAZY AT TIMES



San Diego Center for Minimally Invasive Spine Surgery

BUT...



**...THIS IS NOT ONE OF
THEM**

San Diego Center for LEGITIMATE Spine Surgery

**But VEPTR improves
QOL...**

Right?

WRONG

Health-Related Quality of Life in Children With Thoracic Insufficiency Syndrome

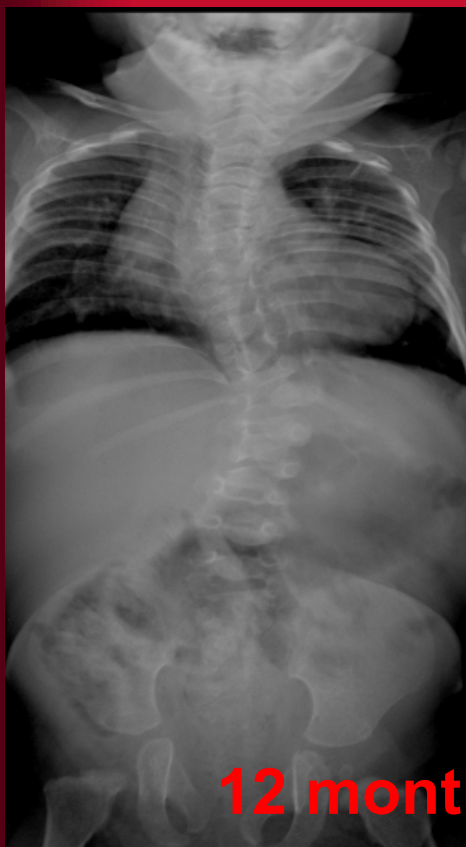
Michael G. Vitale, MD, MPH,†‡ Hiroko Matsumoto, MA,*†‡ David P. Roye Jr, MD,*†
Jaime A. Gomez, MD,*† Randal R. Betz, MD,§ John B. Emans, MD,|| David L. Skaggs, MD,¶
John T. Smith, MD,# Kit M. Song, MD,** and Robert M. Campbell Jr, MD††*

(J Pediatr Orthop 2008;28:239–243)

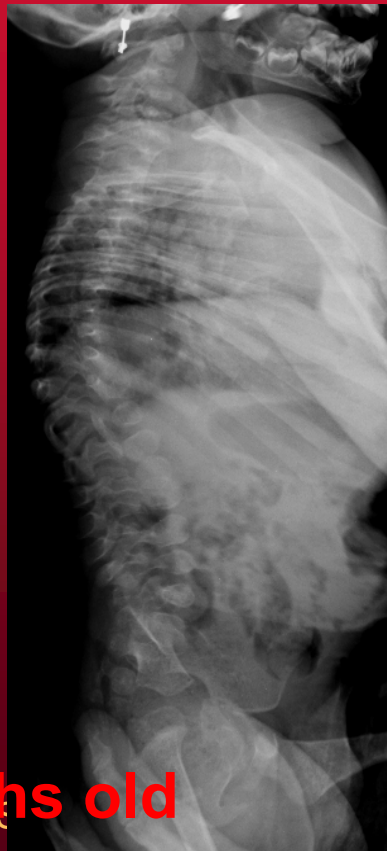
Conclusions: The children with TIS had lower physical scores and higher caregiver burden scores than healthy children. However, the scores in psychosocial domains were similar to those in healthy children. Our study demonstrated that QOL of children and burden of care in their parents remained the same after VEPTR instrumentation. Children's QOL seemed to be not affected by whether they had VEPTR-related complications or not.

History

Deformity progression at 12 and 30 months age



12 months old



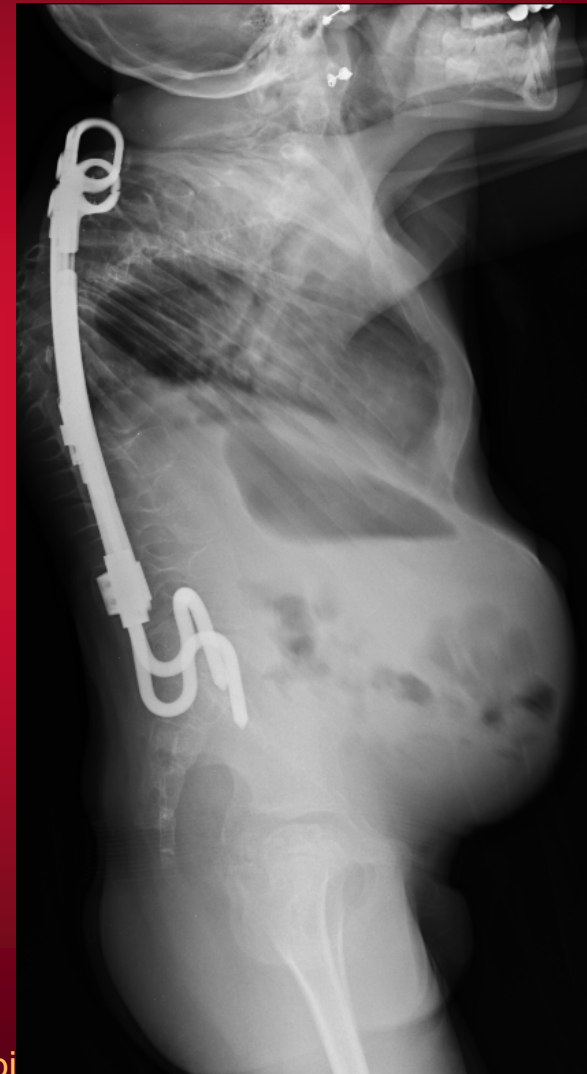
LEGIT



30 months old



22 months post-op



San Diego Children's U-CLIMATE Spine Surgery

Can't Wait to show this
one to Bob!!!



Can't Wait to show this
one to Bob!!!

GITIMA Spine Surgery

For the love of everything
HOPKINS, Uncle Bob wants
to “give” you a VEPTR!



Oh Thank you Papa
Behrooz for **DOING THE
RIGHT THING**

Papa Behrooz
s you with
ING RODS!!!



MAC's RULE



Think different.



San Diego Center for LEGITIMATE Spine Surgery