# What Every Surgeon Needs To Know About Pulmonary Issues in EOS

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## Disclosures

Editor for Pediatric Pulmonary section of UpToDate.

#### Pulmonary Features of Early Onset Scoliosis



↓ Low Lung Volumes\*

 Chest Wall
 <u>Distensibility</u> and Excursion

Respiratory <u>Muscle</u> Force and Movement Hypoxemia Poor sleep Cor pulmonale

↑ Work Tachypnea + Poor Growth ↓ Exercise Tolerance

Respiratory Failure

# **General Principles of Care**

- Progressive deformity leads to decline in respiratory function.
- Current surgical interventions preserve but do not restore lung function.
- Early intervention (surgical vs nonsurgical) to prevent deformity will likely improve potential for lung development and growth.

# **More Principles**

- Age at fusion impairs further growth of the thorax, and hence lung function.
- Lung function declines as adults age.
  - Pulmonary status (and loss of reserve) will likely influence life span and quality of life.

#### Pulmonary Epochs of Care for Thoracic Insufficiency Syndrome

**Pre-operative Era....** (includes non-surgical options, e.g. casting)

- Initial Respiratory Severity AssessmentDiagnosis of Co-morbidities
- Provision of Resp. supportive care
- Monitor Progression of Respiratory status
- Philosophy of Care Pre-surgical Rx

#### Pulmonary Epochs of Care (con't)

**Operative Era.....** 

Assess changes after surgery
Assess timing of expansions
Strategize for timing of fusion

#### Post-Surgical Treatment Era.....

Provide medical home for chronic pulmonary management
Arrange transition to adult care

# Two Lung Volumes: FVC and RV in EOS



#### Effects of EOS on Breathing During Sleep

AHI







#### Lung Volumes Before and 6 Months After Device Impantation\*



Mayer OH, Redding GJ Pediatr Orthop 29(1):35-38, 2009.

# Increase in FVC After VEPTR Use: Effect of Age

Age at Surgery *N* Increase in FVC per year\*

< 6 years 16 > 6.5 years 7 14.7 +/- 8.5% 6.5 +/- 5/.5%

\*in absolute liters of lung volume

Motoyama et al. Paed Resp Rev 10:12-17, 2009.

# Pre vs Post-op Vital Capacity after Spine Fusion for AIS



Newton PO, et al. Spine 32(17):1875-1882, 2007.

#### Chest Wall Compliance Declines With Age in Normal Children



Chest wall compliance falls by 30% from 5 to 16 years of age

Effects of deformity and immobility over years?

Sharp et al. J App Physiol 29:775, 1970.

# Rotation Before and After Growing Rod Insertion



Sabourin M, et al. *Clinical Biomechanics* 25:284-291, 2010.

N=4

#### Chest Wall Compliance in Children with EOS

 Chest wall compliance is reduced:

• With post-natal age

 With progressive chest wall and spine deformity

 With combined metal implants in the chest and spine ?



# Inspiratory Respiratory Muscle Disorders



Roussos C, Macklem PT. In: The Thorax (vol 29):Marcel Dekker, Inc., 1984.

# Reduced Respiratory Muscle Strength in EOS and AIS

Reduced Intercostal Motion —>Diaphragm Dependence

Reduced Diaphragm Excursion --> Reduced Vital Capacity



Moreno LC, et al. *Am Rev Respir Dis* 132(1):48-52, 1985. Martinez-Llorens et al. *Eur Resp J* 36(2):393-400, 2010. Redding G, et al. ICEOS, 2012.



Kondo T, et al. *Respirology* 5:19-25, 2000. Cluzel P, et al. *Radiology* 215:574-583, 2000.

# Overall Respiratory Effects\* of Current Treatments of EOS

Lung and Intrathoracic volumes
Chest Wall Compliance
Respiratory Muscle functions

no change

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\*Most effects unstudied to date for different treatments

#### Pulmonary Responses to Surgical Treatment of EOS by Lung Volumes



# What are the Pulmonary Targets for "Good" Outcomes?

 American Thoracic Society definition of "disability" in adults:

Moderate impairment:

 Impairment sufficient to diminish ability to perform normal jobs: FVC = 50-59% predicted

Mild impairment: FVC = 60-79% predicted

Johnston CE, et al. Spine 36 (14); 1096-1102, 2011.

#### Summary

Current surgical treatments increase lung volumes enough to almost keep up with somatic growth.

Early non-surgical interventions that also reduce rotation may preserve lung function better than surgical distraction alone.

New multi-disciplinary approaches are needed to recover lung function already lost due to scoliosis.