



ORTHOPEDICS/ SPORTS MEDICINE

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26th Annual General Pediatric Review & Self-Assessment



Disclosure of Relevant Relationship

Dr. Wright has not had (in the past 24 months) any relevant conflicts of interest or relevant financial relationship with the manufacturers of products or services that will be discussed in this CME activity or in his presentation.

Dr. Wright will support this presentation and clinical recommendations with the "best available evidence" from medical literature.

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"Suggested Topics To Be Covered in the Orthopaedic Section:"

- Sprains/Strains (Sports Injuries)
- Fractures (Greenstick, Clavicle, Spiral, Distal Humerus) & Fracture Complications
- Radial Head Subluxation
- Developmental Dysplasia of the Hips
- SCFE, Legg-Calve-Perthes, Osteo Dessicans
- Scoliosis, Back Pain

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Orthopaedic Problems

- 20 % pediatric visits for musculoskeletal complaints
- PCP participates in management
 - Know pitfalls
 - Avoid over/under referral
 - Avoid unnecessary tests/treatments

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Diagnosis

- History Mom knows (best)
- Physical examination
 - Think of existing normal anatomy
 - Normal Wide range, age related
 - Signs of disease
 - Swelling vs effusion
 - Tenderness local/diffuse
 - Errythema
 - Heat

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Diagnosis

- Lab Simple tests (CBC, ESR, CRP)
- X-ray
 - Before "high tech"
 - Two orthogonal views
 - Growing bones have "extra" bones

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Diagnosis

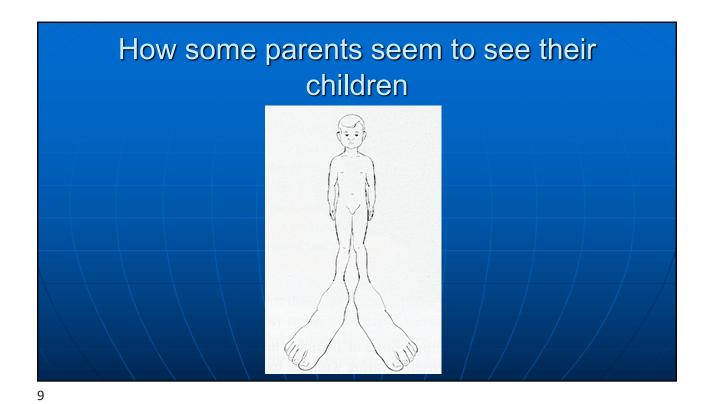
- Bone scan
 - Non-specific bone turn over
 - Increase blood flow
 - Inflammation
 - Fracture, infection, growth

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Diagnosis

- Ultrasound
 - Shows interfaces
 - Fluid
 - Cartilage surfaces
 - Bone hides all below
- MRI
 - Can <u>imply</u> inflammation/tumor
 - Soft tissue definition/bone marrow edema
 - Is predictive
 - Interpreter prejudice

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Intoeing

■ Foot: Metatarsus adductus, clubfoot

■ Leg: Internal tibial Torsion

■ Hip: Femoral anteversion/external

rotation contracture of

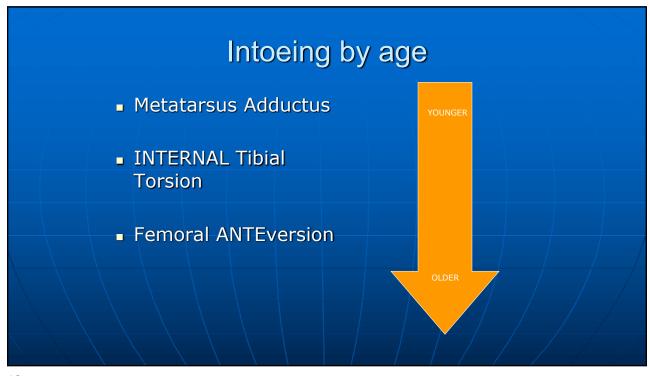
hip

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Assessing Intoeing

- Constant or intermittent
- Improving or remaining same
- Family history of same
- Foot Progression Angle
 - Angle foot makes w/ line of progression
 - Normal about 0 to 30° external rotation

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Metatarsus Adductus (MTA)

- Medial deviation of the forefoot
- Measure "heel bisector line (HBL)"
 - Normal = 2nd toe
- Begin Serial casting before 9 months
- Surgery rarely necessary



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Classification of MTA

Rigid Vs Flexible

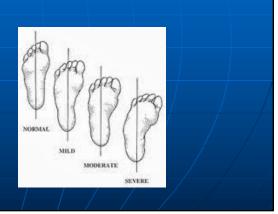
• <u>HBL</u> <u>Web Space</u>

• Normal 2-3

• Mild 3-4

• Moderate 4-5

• Severe >5



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Treatment of MTA

- Treat rigid, ≥ moderate
- Beware heel valgus!
- Serial casting prior to age 9 months
- Maintain w/ straight-last shoes
 - Avoid
 - Denis-Browne bars
 - Reverse-last shoes

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MTA Surgery

■ <u>Age Procedure</u>

■ 1-3 Medial soft-tissue release

4-6 Cuboid osteotomy

■ >7 Medial cuneiform osteotomy

Not me! MT base osteotomies

MT base capsulotomies

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Internal Tibial Torsion (ITT)

- Common before age 3
- May walk w/ knees externally rotated
- Diagnose by Thighfoot-angle
 - Normal 0 to 30° external
- X-rays not helpful unless Blount's disease suspected





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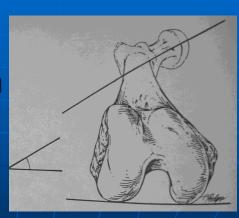
Treatment of ITT

- >90% spontaneously correct by age 5 yrs
- Braces are unproven-expensive
 - Internal tibial torsion brace
 - Dennis-Browne Bar
 - Occasionally used for TFA >- 20°
- Surgical intervention (tibial osteotomy)
 - >-15° TFA after age 5 and symptomatic

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Femoral Anteversion

- Normal anatomical development
- Axis of head and neck of femur compared to transverse axis of femoral condyles
 - 40° at birth
 - 15° at maturity
- Radiographs not helpful



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Excessive Femoral Anteversion Intermittent intoeing Fatigue Running W-sitting common Diagnosed clinically Hip internal rotation 70° Hip external rotation < 30°

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Excessive Femoral Anteversion

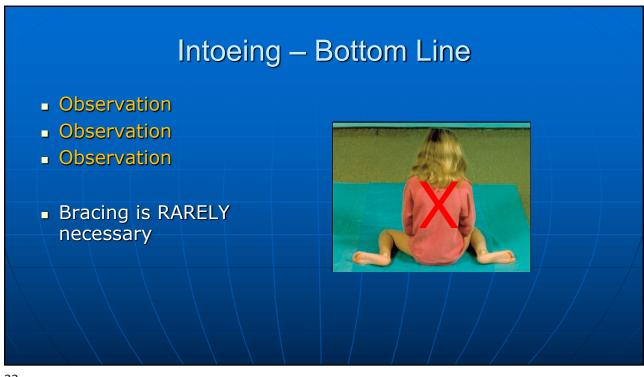
- Intoeing resolves in 90% by age 8
- No brace or shoe modifications changes spontaneous resolution
 - Twister cables prevent tripping?
 - Expensive
 - Ugly
 - Tear up clothing

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Excessive Femoral Anteversion

- Surgery intervention
 - Proximal femoral osteotomy
 - Indications: Severe persistent intoeing w/ frequent tripping
 - Patello-femoral malalignment/tracking
 - Acetabular dysplasia

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Clubfoot

Congenital talipes equinovarus

CAVE"

Cavus

Adductus

Varus Heel

Equinus

S307 - Dr. Wright 12

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Clubfoot - Treatment Serial casting up to 3 months Surgical release commonly Multiple operations later possible

Pes Planus

LT/AS





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Flat Feet - Asymptomatic

- "Orthopaedic shoes" do not create arches
- Arch supports do not support the arch
- Reassurance/education is helpful
- Growth is facilitated with activity
- "Support" induces weakness/alters mechanics



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Flat Feet - Symptomatic

- Tight heelcord: Stretching exercises
- Look for signs of rigid flatfoot
- Prominent navicular bone
- Peroneal spasm
- Plantar fascia
- Sever's disease
- Stress fractures

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Rigid Flatfoot

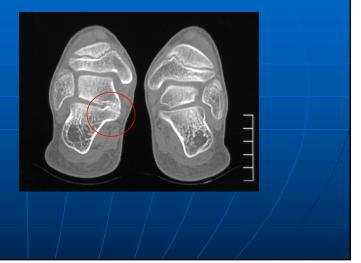
- Not passively correctable
- Often unilateral
- Stiff subtalar joint
- Painful by adolescence
- Refer to Pedi Ortho specialist
- Usually require surgical treatment



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Rigid Flatfoot - Causes

- Congenital vertical talus
- Tarsal coalition
- Fibular hemimelia
- Spastic peroneals
 - Subtalar arthritis
 - Neurological condition



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Developmental Dysplasia of Hip

- Nomenclature
 - DDH vs CDH
 - Dislocated (+Ortoloni, Allis)
 - Dislocatable (+Barlow)
 - Subluxated/Subluxable (Ultrasound)
- Etiology: Intra-uterine positioning (?)
- Incidence: 2 per 1000 live births

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Developmental Dysplasia of the Hip

- Occurs in neonatal period
- More common in first-borns and breech position deliveries
- Association with congenital muscular torticollis and metatarsus adductus

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DDH - Risk Factors

- Family history (10% unstable)
- Breech presentation 3rd trimester (5%)
- Large birth weight
- Torticollis or metatarsus adductus
- 1st born, female

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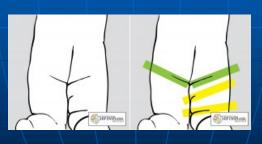
DDH

- Detection
 - At birth: Ortoloni/Barlow tests
 - After 6 wks: Limited Abduction
 - After 3 months: Allis (Galeazzi), LLD
- Left hip 60%, Bilateral 20%

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Clinical Features: Your First Clue

- Asymmetric hip creases
- Positive Barlow and/or Ortolani maneuver
- Limited abduction of hip

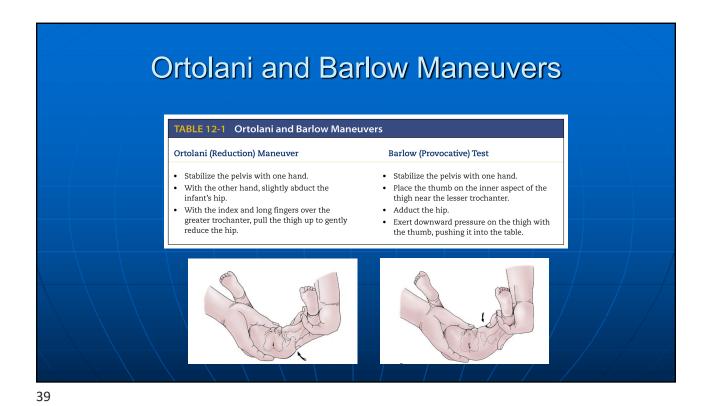


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DDH

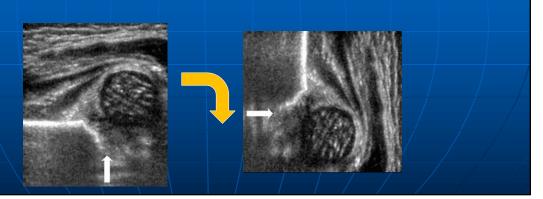
- X-rays in first 6 weeks unreliable
- Ultrasound reliable, assess suspect hip
- Pavlik harness successful 95%
- Surgical treatment of failed Pavlik/late Dx
- Reduction prior to 1st birthday critical

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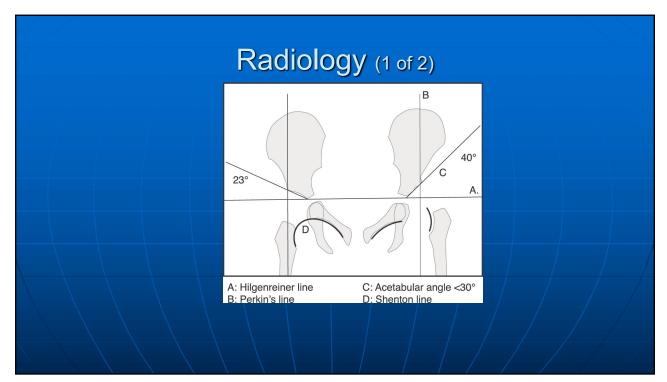


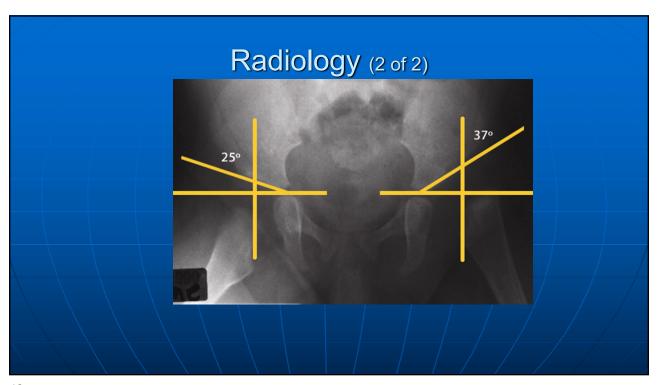
Diagnostic Studies

- Dynamic ultrasonography in neonates and young infants
- Plain AP pelvis and frog-leg views in older infants and children

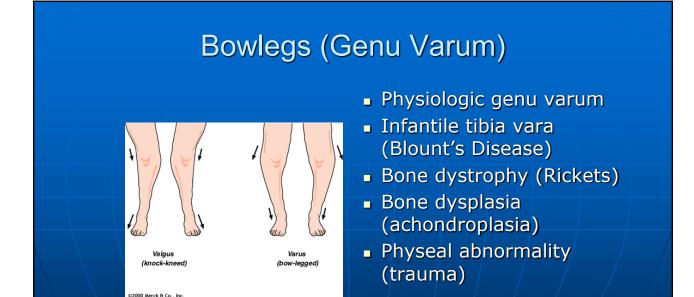


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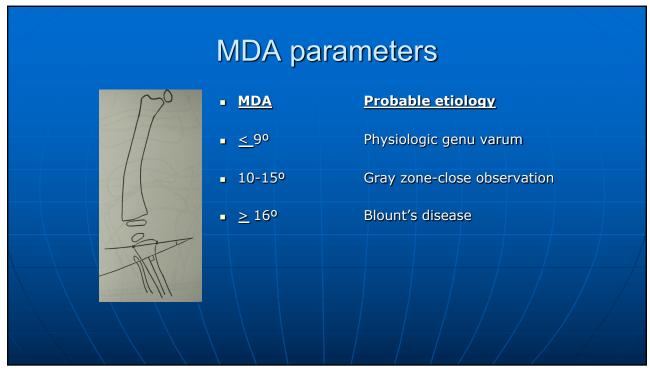
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Physiologic Genu Varum

- Usually corrects by 20 24 months
- Treatment: Reassurance only
- Worrisome: Progressive or unilateral
 - Blount's disease most likely
- X-ray: Measure metaphyseal-diaphyseal angle (MDA) - 11° or more

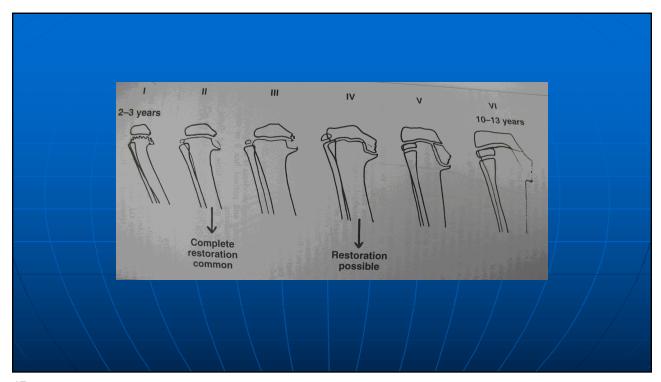
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Infantile Tibia Vara (Blount's)

- Usually bilateral and progressive
- Obesity and ITT common
- Early bracing may help
- Surgical treatment often required
- Morbidity fairly common
 - Recurrence, joint incongruity, arthritis
- Pedi Ortho referral always indicated

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Perthe's Disease

- Typical age 4-8 years
- Limping +/- Pain
- Limited hip abduction/IR
- 12% bilateral
- Onset after age 6 = worse prognosis
- Femoral head small, flattened

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Perthe's Pitfalls

- Referred pain to knees
- Early x-rays may be normal
- Radiographic appearance variable
- Include frog lateral views both hips
- Epiphyseal dysplasia my mimic AVN
- MRI unnecessary

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Perthe's Charades

- Epiphyseal dysplasia
- Spondyloepiphyseal dysplasia
- Hypothyroidism
- Sickle cell disease
- TB of hip

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Perthe's Treatment

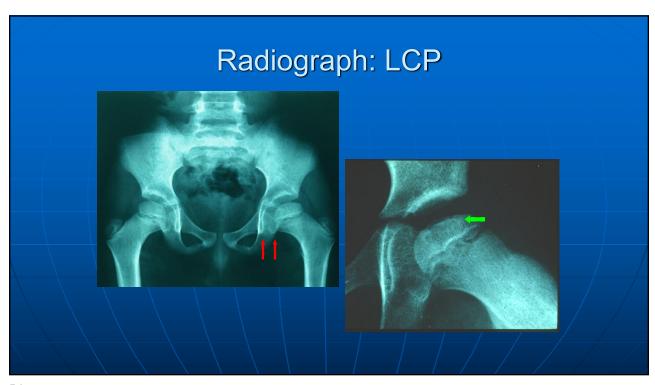
- Not an emergency
- 2 to 4 year process
- Activity reduction
- NSAID's
- Gentle hip ROM exercises

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Perthe's Treatment

- Older age (>7-8 yrs)
- Total head involvement
- Prolonged regeneration stage
- Hip containment
 - Abduction traction or Petrie casting
 - Ambulator abduction bracing
 - Proximal femoral osteotomy
 - Salter pelvic osteotomy

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Legg-Calvé-Perthes Disease

- Avascular necrosis leading to collapse, fragmentation, and then reossification
- Most frequent between 4 and 9 years
- Boys more often than girls
- Bilateral in 10% of cases

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Clinical Features: Your First Clue

- Knee or hip pain
- Limp
- Shortened limb
- Limited range of motion of hip

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Diagnostic Studies

- Radiology
 - AP and frog-leg pelvis radiographs
- Findings
 - Femoral head smaller and cartilage space appears wider
 - Crescent sign
 - Fragmented femoral head—less radiopaque
- MRI

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Management

- Disease is self-limited limp can last 2 to 4 years
- Nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory agents
- Limit activities
- Crutches/braces occasionally needed
 - May help maintain spherical femoral head
- Better outcomes in younger children

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Slipped Capital Femoral Epiphysis (SCFE)

- 65% obese males
- Peak adolescent growth spurt
- Limping with external rotation LE
- X-rays diagnostic
- Urgent surgical treatment required
- High morbidity

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SCFE Classification

- Stable
 - Able to bear weight on limb
 - Good prognosis
- Unstable
 - Unable to bear weight
 - Poor prognosis
- "Head-Shaft angle" measures deformity

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SCFE Treatment

- Percutaneous pinning of hip
 - Stabilization of epiphysis
 - Closure of physis
- Prophylactic pinning opposite hip?
 - 40% bilateral occurance
- Spica cast immobilization x 3 months

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SCFE Pitfalls

- Referred pain to the knee
- Bedrest/crutches not protective
- Slip more visible on lateral hip x-ray
- Endocrinopathy-early, bilateral SCFE
- 40-50% develop SCFE other hip
- No sports until both hip physis fused

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SCFE Pitfalls

- Osteonecrosis femoral head
- Chondrolysis
- Restricted hip motion
- Leg length discrepancy
- Premature hip arthrosis

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SCFE: Background

- Incidence: 1-3/100,000
- Occurs during early adolescence
- Increased forces during growth spurt
- Males 2 times as frequent as females
- Obese in 2/3 of cases
- Can become bilateral in up to 40% of children

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Clinical Features: Your First Clue

- Obese preadolescent or adolescent
- Often weeks to months of discomfort
 - Acute visit precipitated by trauma
- Limp
- Hip, thigh, groin, or knee pain
- Decreased range of motion of hip

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Diagnostic Studies

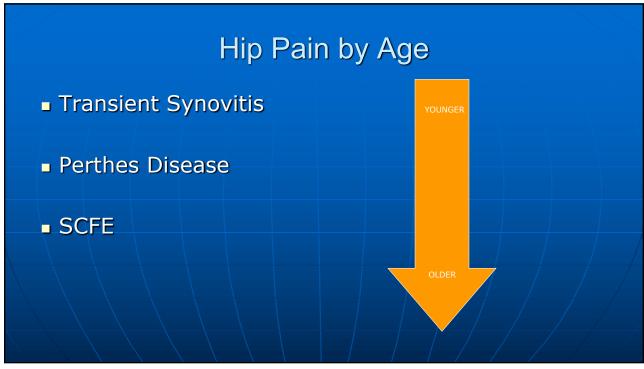
- Radiology
 - AP pelvis and frog-leg of hips
- Signs
 - Physeal widening
 - Klein line
 - Epiphysis inferior and posterior
 - Disruption of Shenton line

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Infection

- Osteomyelitis
- Septic Arthritis
 - Hematogenous
 - Direct extension
 - Sub acute
 - Chronic

- Agents
 - Bacterial: Staph aureus
 - TB
 - Fungal

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Septic Arthritis: Background

- Occurs in all age groups
 - More common in younger children
- Majority of cases in lower extremity
- Mechanism of entry
 - Hematogenous seeding
 - Local spread
 - Traumatic or surgical introduction of bacteria

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Septic Arthritis

- History
 - Onset-rapid
 - Limp/refusal to walk
 - Fever (>102)
 - Swelling (knee/ankle)

- Physical
 - Pain w/ motion Severe
 - Pseudoparalysis
 - Effusion
 - Increase warmth
 - Cellulitis confuses

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Septic Arthritis

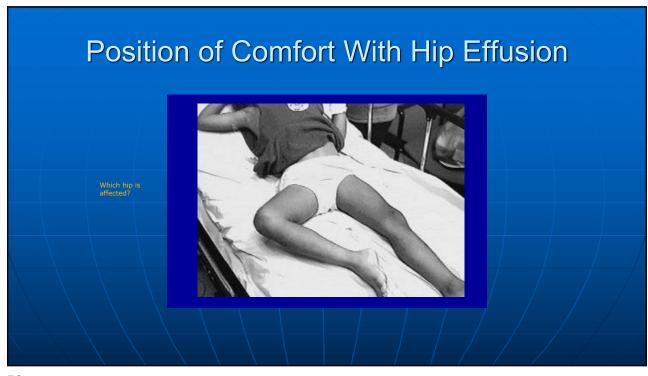
- Prognosis
 - Early diagnosis: Good
 - Hip, late dx: ON
 - Serial aspiration: Usually adequate
 - Surgical drainage: Morbidity

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Clinical Features: Your First Clue

- Irritability
- Fever
- Erythema
- Limp/refusal to walk
- Decreased range of motion of limb

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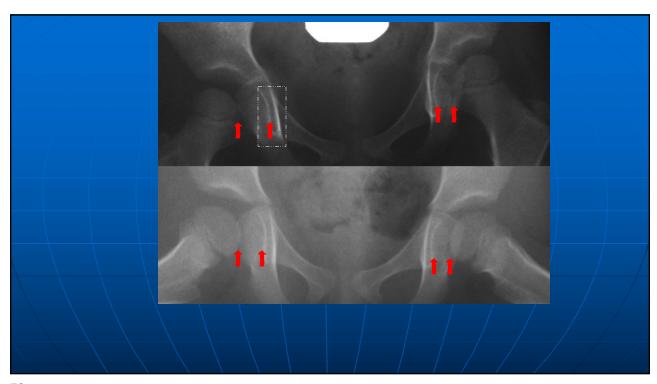


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Diagnostic Studies

- Radiology
 - Radiograph may be nondiagnostic
 - Ultrasonography helpful in detecting fluid
- Laboratory
 - CBC
 - CRP (more helpful than ESR)

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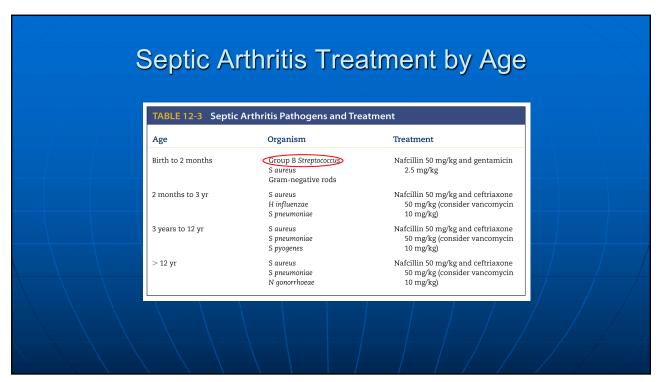
Management

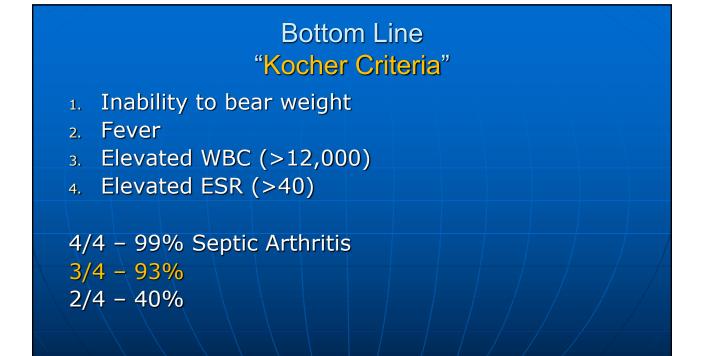
- Once the diagnosis of septic joint is made, surgical intervention should proceed ASAP.
 - Needle aspiration or open surgical drainage required

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Synovial Fluid Findings TABLE 12-4 Synovial Fluid Findings in Different Types of Arthritis. Character WBC count (/uL) PMNs (%) Mucin clot Other Normal Clear; yellow Juvenile Turbid 250-50,000 Fair to poor 50-70 arthritis complement Cloudy to turbid; Increased reactive 1,000-150,000 Fair to poor 50-70 complement Lyme arthritis 500-100,000 Poor >50 Septic arthritis Turbid; white-10,000-250,000 Low glucose High lactate

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Transient Synovitis

- Common in 2-8 year group
 - Afebrile or low grade
 - Limp/gait ceases
 - Pain at extremes of motion
 - Small effusion

- Aspiration (if done)
 - Small amount
 - 5-15,000 WBC
 - 75% poly's
 - Glucose 60 or higher

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Osteomyelitis

- History
 - Rapid to insidious onset
 - Limp/refusal to walk
 - Fever (>102)
 - Swelling near joint

- Physical
 - Local tenderness
 - Swelling +/- effusion
 - Loss of motion not prominant
 - Errythema, heat common
- Sub-acute or chronic
 - Symptoms/signs subtle

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Osteomyelitis

- Lab
 - WBC, ESR, CRP inc. sig.
- Imaging
 - X-ray: normal early (< 10D)
 - US: Periosteal abscess
 - MRI: Bone and soft tissue edema

- Culture
 - Staph aureus
 - Neonate: Strep B, E. coli
 - Infant to 4: Pneumo, Strep A, H. flu
 - 4 and up: Staph aureus
- Sub-acute or chronic
 - Variable, often normal

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Osteomyelitis

- Treatment: Medical/Surgical
 - Neonate: Ox/Gent or Cefotaxime
 - Infant to age 4: Ox, Cef 1, Clinda
 - 4 and up: Ox, Cef 1, Clinda
 - 6 weeks IV, variable oral

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Osteomyelitis

- Prognosis
 - Low incidence of Chronic osteo
 - Growth arrest in late diagnosis
 - Overgrowth of extremity can occur
 - Medical complications not benign

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Subacute Osteomyelitis

- Subtle, chronic symptoms
- Muscular atrophy, limp
- No fever
- Radiograph: diaphyseal lesion
- Tumor must be ruled out

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Chronic Recurrent Multifocal Osteomyelitis

- Insidious onset
 - Localized bone pain
 - Palmoplantar pustulosis/psoriasis
 - Fever not common
 - Can be single or or multiple
 - Culture negative usually

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Chronic Recurrent Multifocal Osteomyelitis

X-ray: suggestive of osteo

■ Bone scan: other locations

■ Biopsy: r/o tumor, histiocytosis

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Diskitis

- Inflammation of IVD
- Etiology uncertain
- Self limited?
- Bx/Asp only in resistant cases
- Staph aureus virtually all
- Antibiotic treatment generally recommended

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Diskitis

- Symptoms vary per age group
- < 3: Hip irritability in extension</p>
- 3 to 9: Abdominal pain, some back
- > 9: Back pain, "walk on eggs"
- Fever uncommon
- WBC nl, ESR elevated
- X-ray: Narrow disc space
- Bone scan: sensitive, not infallable

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Sacroiliitis

- Back pain
- FABER +
- Same Labs as septic arthritis
- No aspiration
- Medically treated
- Prognosis good

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Tropical Myositis

- Staph aureus in muscle
 - Fever
 - WBC, ESR, CRP increased
 - Joint/Bone studies negative
 - MRI can be most helpful
- Prolonged illness
- Multiple absesses common
- Surgical, medical treatment needed

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Appendicitis

- Can be mistaken for hip/SI infection
- Index of suspicion
- Sympathetic hip joint effusion
- Aspirate: Negative for infection
- Abdominal CT

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TB Spine

- Onset insidious
- Collapse of vertebral body first
- Multiple levels common
- Treatment usually medical
- Surgery for neurological symptoms

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TB Hip/Other joints

- Insidious onset
- Painless limp
- Fevers variable
- Destruction of both sides of joint

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Scoliosis

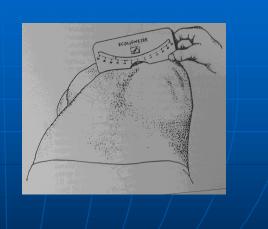
- Idiopathic
- Congenital
- Paralytic
- Functional
- Hysterical

- Discogenic
- Traumatic
- Tumor

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Idiopathic Scoliosis

- Cause unknown
- Structural curve > 10°
- Screening: Adam's forward bend test
- Scoliometer
- Common Curves: R thoracic/ L lumbar
- Not painful



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Scoliosis Progression

- Associated with:
 - Size of Curve
 - Rate of growth
 - Growth remaining (Risser Sign)

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Scoliosis Pitfalls

- Failure to examine back!
- Over -referral
 - Leg length discrepancy
 - Scoliometer > 7° suggests curve > 20°
- Unusual curve pattern (left thoracic)
 - Refer to Pedi Ortho specialist
 - Neuro exam (abdominal reflex)
 - MRI spinal cord

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Scoliosis Surgery

- Curves >40 degrees
- Segmental fixation
- Autologous blood
- 5 to 6 days hospital
- Skeletally immature-Ant/Post
- Superior mesenteric syndrome
 - Early, day 3
 - Late (typical), day 5-7

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Congenital Scoliosis

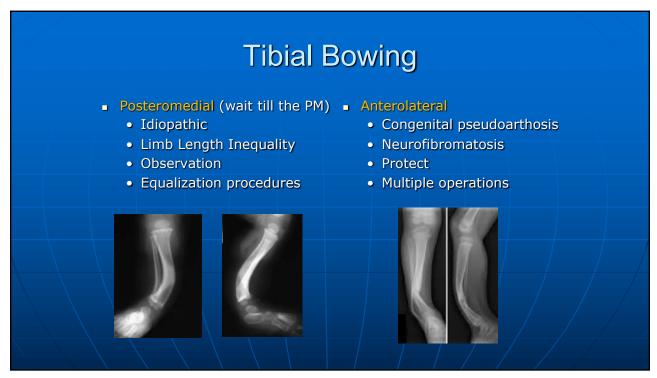
- Errors in vertebral development during embryogenesis
 - Failure of Formation
 - Failure of Segmentation
- Associated anomalies:
 - 20% urinary tract
 - 25% cardiac

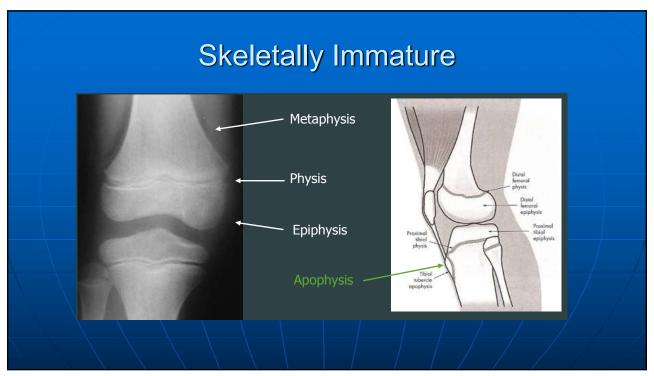
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Radial Head Dislocation

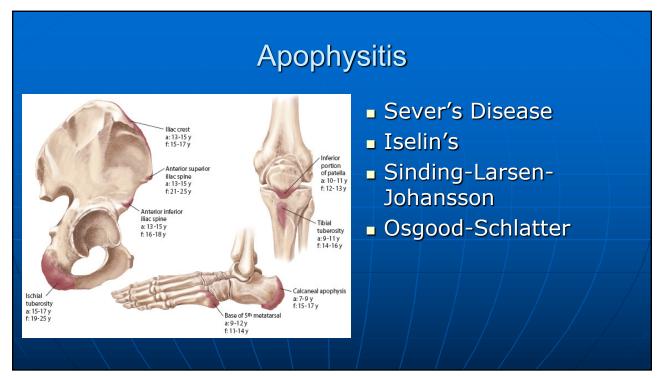
- Idiopathic vs Syndrome
- Prominence lateral elbow
- ROM restricted to some degree
- Observation +/- surgery at maturity

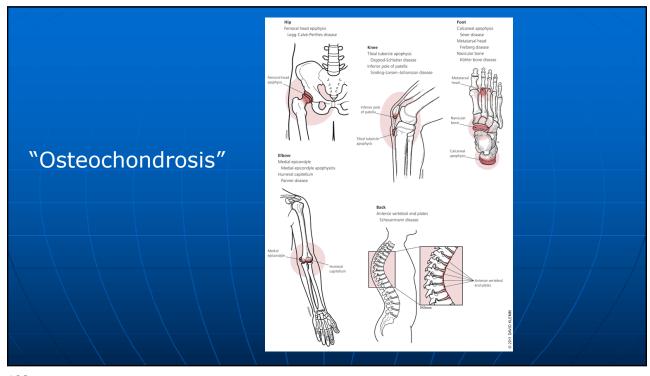
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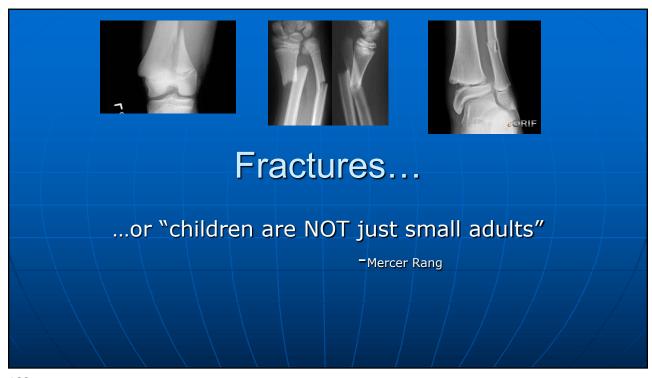


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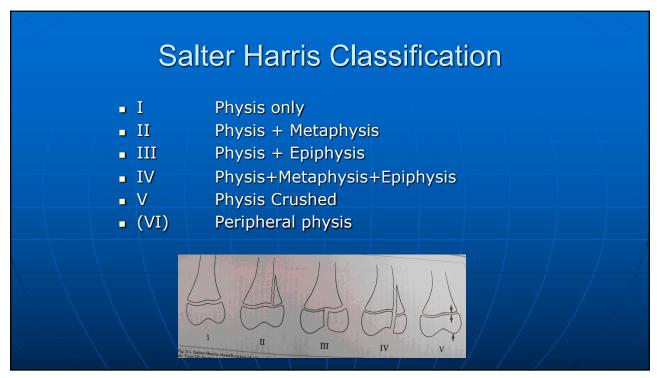
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Fractures

- Stronger in tension
- Periosteum thick
- Elastic physiology
- Growth plates weak link
- Growth arrest
- Remodeling

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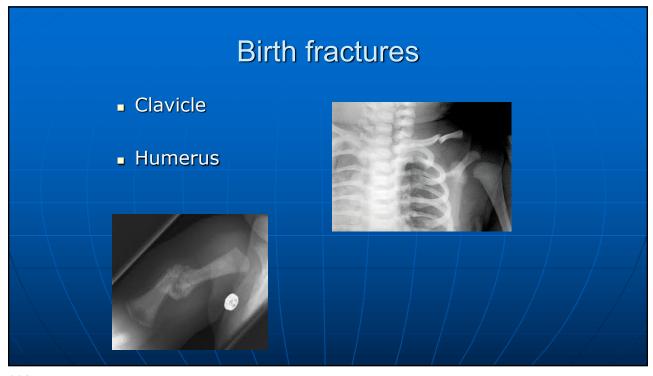




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"Trivial" Fractures Nurse Maid Elbow Clavicle Humerus Toddler fx: tibia "Torus Bone fails in compression Deformity usually minimal Heal in 3 to 4 weeks Growth arrest very rare

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Dangerous Fractures

- Humeral supracondylar
- Lateral condyle fracture of elbow
- Peri-articular
- Femoral neck
- Knee
- Ankle



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Compartment syndrome

How many "P's"?

- 1. Pain
- 2. Pallor
- 3. Paresthesia
- 4. Paralysis
- 5. Poikilothermia
- 6. Pulselessness

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Compartment syndrome

- Elbow, knee, tibia, ankle
 - Pain out of proportion
 - Pain w/ passive motion
 - Motor loss
 - Sensory +/- loss
- Pulses often normal
- Capillary refill often normal
- Index of suspicion HIGH

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Amputations

- Amniotic bands
- Failure of formation
 - Transverse (amputation)
 - Longitudinal (Hemimelia)
 - Intercalary (Phocomelia)

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Systemic

- Bone dysplasias
 - Muccopolysaccharid osis
 - Achondroplasia
 - Diastrophic
 - MED
 - OI
 - Vitamin D dependent rickets

- Osteochondromato sis
- Enchondromatosis
 - Ollier's disease
 - Maffuci's disease

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Neoplasia

- Benign
 - Borders well defined
 - No periosteal reaction
 - No endosteal reaction
 - Deformity of bone sharp/defined

- Malignant
 - Vague borders
 - Periosteal reaction new
 - Endosteal destruction permeative
 - Matrix mottled, irregular

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Neoplasia

- Caffey's
 - Onion skinning
 - Diaphyseal, total
 - Mimics infection/Ewings

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Neoplasia Eosinophyllic Mimics Granuloma Infection Sclerotic border • Tumor (Ewings, neuroblastoma, Lytic center • Ewings, Faded border neruoblast., Periosteal elevation lymphoma possible • Verbra Plana unique to this

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Neoplasia Ewings Diaphyseal Permeative destruction Periosteal elevation Mimics Infection Caffey's EG

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Neoplasia

- Osteoid osteoma
 - Sclerotic border
 - Lytic center (Target)
 - Faded border
 - Periosteal rxn rare
 - Mimics
 - infection
 - EG

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Leukemia

- Periphyseal lysis
- Multiple bones
- Vertebral compression

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Neuromuscular Cerebral palsy Quadriplegic Hemiplegic

- Diplegic
- Spastic/Athetoid
- Myelomeningocoele
- Tethered Cord

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Neuromuscular ■ Prader-Willi ■ Down's

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Neuromuscular

- Muscular dystrophy
- Charcot-Marie-Toothe
- Myotonic Dystrophy
- Arthrogryposis
- Benign congenital hypotonia
- Guillian-Barre Syndrome

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Nutritional

- Rickets
- Vitamin D Toxicity
- Scurvy
- Diffuse Periostitis
 - Prostaglandin E infusion
 - Syphilis
 - Vit D Toxicity
 - Caffey's

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Shoes, Braces and Things

- Orthopaedic shoes
 - Straight last
 - Reverse last
 - Thomas heel
 - MLA support
 - Cookies
 - Metatarsal pads
- Orthotics (custom/commercial)
- UCB University of California -Berkley

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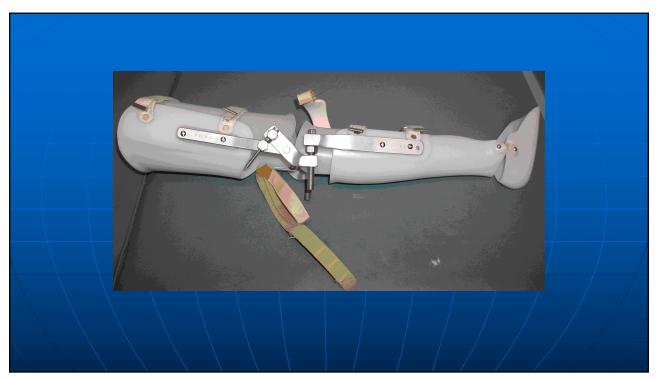
Shoes, Braces and Things

- AFO, KAFO, etc
 - Named for joint controlled
 - Custom or off "the shelf"
 - Solid or hinged, plastic or metal
 - Functional, retentive or corrective
- Twister cables
- Internal Tibial Torsion Brace
- Dennis Browne Bar

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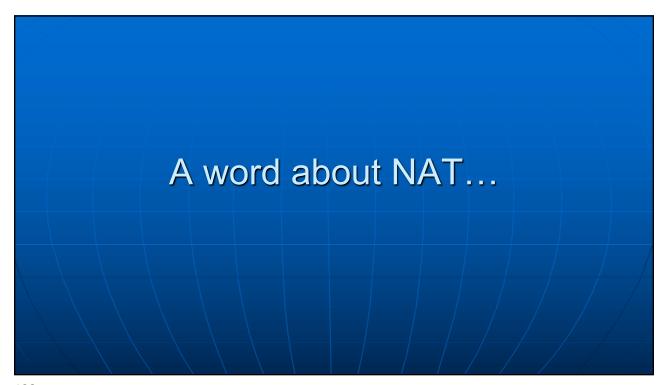
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Battered Child (NAT) • History • Delay in eval • Vague, inconsistent history • Unobserved injury • Repeated visits • Fracture: none pathognomonic • Humerus/tibia fx in < 1 year old • Femur fracture, transverse esp. • "Corner fracture"

Myth

Easy to recognize child with NAT

Fig. 3. Third most common type: femur, transverse, middle third.

Recognition of NAT Important

- Unrecognized and return to home
 25% risk of serious injury, 5% risk of death
- Recognize and get child into safe environment
- Abuse second leading cause of mortality in infants and children

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How Widespread a Problem?

- 1 1.5% of children are abused per year
- 70,000 2,000,000 children are abused annually in US.

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"Quoted" Risk Factors for NAT

- Young
- First born children
- Premature infants
- Disabled children
- Stepchildren
- Single-parent homes
- Drug abusing parents
- Families with low income
- Children of parents who were abused

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Signs of NAT

- Inconsistent history of injury
- Delay in presentation
- Reported mechanism of injury insufficient to explain injury
- Parents/caregivers may be hostile or indifferent

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Evaluation

- Team approach helpful pediatrician, medical social worker, subspecialties, law enforcement, government child protection agencies
- Orthopaedic surgeon may be alone in recognition and documentation

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Risk Factors

- Children of all ages, socioeconomic backgrounds, family types may be subjects of abuse
- Up to 65% may have only isolated long bone fracture



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Child Abuse - Epidemiology

- >1 million children/year are victims of abuse and/or neglect
- >1,200 deaths/year
- Fractures are 2nd most common presentation of physical abuse
- 1/3 of abused children eventually seen by orthopaedic surgeon

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Fractures in Abused Children

- 25-50% of children with documented NAT will have fx's
- 31% of child NAT victims had fx's

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Isolated Long Bone Fracture

Loder, JPO 1991

- Most common orthopaedic presentation of children with NAT - 65% of children with fx's
- Only 13% of children with fractures presented with multiple fractures in different stages of healing

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NAT Fx Pattern

- Most are similar to accidental trauma fracture patterns
- Must rely on other factors, history, physical examination, etc...
- Age of child with specific fx's

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Associated Features of NAT

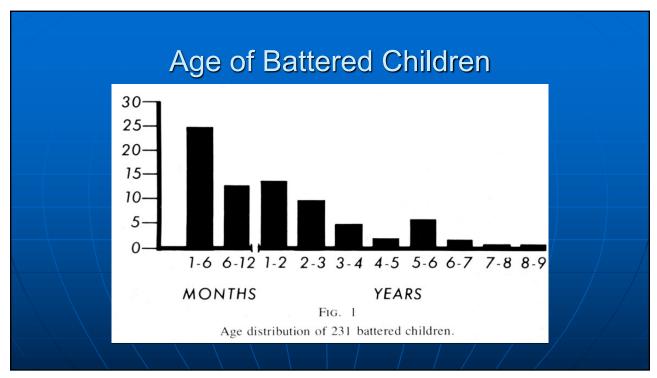
- Multiple fractures in different stages of healing
- Soft tissue injuries bruising, burns
- Intraabdominal injuries
- Intracranial injuries

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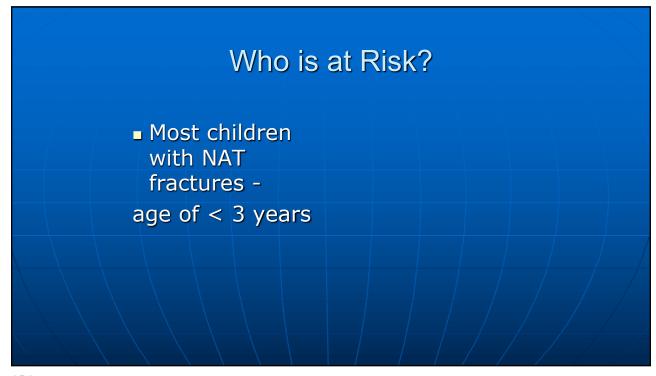
Flags for NAT

- AGE of Patient
- History
- Social Situation
- Other injuries (current and past)
- Specific injuries/ fractures

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Who's at Risk?

- Most femur fx's in children who are < 1 yo of age are from NAT (60-70%)
- Most femur fx's in children > 1 yo accidental



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Features that Increase Chance of NAT

- Inappropriate clinical hx
- Failure to seek medical attention
- Discovery of fx in healing state

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History

- Is the injury consistent with the explanation given?
- Is the explanation consistent with the child's level of development?
- Does the story change between caregivers? between child and caregiver?

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History

- Has there been a delay in seeking medical treatment?
- Is the parent reluctant to give an explanation?
- Drug or alcohol abuse?
- Parents in abusive relationships?

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History

- Is the affect inappropriate between the child and the parents? (lack of concern, overly concerned)
- Poor compliance with past medical treatment
- Adults were victims of child abuse
- Families under stress (loss of job, etc..)

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History - Associated Risks

- Children born to adolescent parents
- Children who suffer from colic
- The abused child may be overly compliant and passive or extremely aggressive
- Role reversal

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Physical Examination

- Undress the child
- Look for areas of bruising
 - Bruises at different stages of healing

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Physical Examination

- Careful search for signs of acute or chronic trauma
- Sign bruises, abrasions, burns
- Head examine for skull trauma, palpate fontanelles if open, consider funduscopic exam for retinal hemorrhage
- Trunk palpate rib cage, abdomen
- Extremities careful palpation
- Genitalia consider exam for sexual abuse

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Fractures Commonly seen in NAT - High Specificity

- Femur fracture in child1 year old
- Humeral shaft fracture in < 3 year old
- Sternal fractures
- Metaphyseal corner (bucket-handle) fractures
- Posterior rib fxs
- Digit fractures in nonambulatory children



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Radiographic W/U

- Skeletal survey for children with suspicion of NAT
- "Babygram" not sufficient as does not provide necessary detail to identify fractures

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Myths Spiral Fractures have a high association with NAT Actually commonly seen accidental fx pattern FG. 4. Fourth most common type: termur. spiral, midel

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Management - NAT Suspected

- Professional, tactful, nonjudgmental approach in initial encounter and workup
- Explain workup to parents as standard approach to specific ages/injury patterns
- Early involvement of child protection team if available
- Early contact/involvement of child's primary care physician

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Management - Documentation

- Many cases result in medical records becoming part of legal record
- Carefully document history, physical exam and radiographic findings
- Document evidence supporting physical abuse
- Document statement regarding level of certainty of abuse

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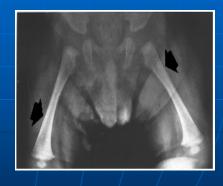
Legal Aspects of NAT

- All states require reporting of suspected cases of abuse by medical professionals
- Need only reasonable suspicion to report suspected maltreatment
- Law affords immunity from civil or criminal liability for reporting in good faith

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Differential Diagnosis - NAT Fractures

- Accidental trauma
- Osteogenesis Imperfecta
- Metabolic Bone Disease (rickets, etc.)
- Birth trauma
- Physiologic periostitis



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Summary

- Isolated diaphyseal fx's common in NAT and accidental trauma
- Remember other factors, history, physical examination



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NAT Summary

- Humerus diaphyseal fx's < 3 yo are almost always associated with NAT
- Femur fx's < 1 yo are usually due to NAT

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The Bottom Line

- Causes of nontraumatic orthopedic emergencies vary with age.
- Always examine the hips in patients with knee pain.
- Radiographs are often needed to establish the diagnosis.
- Not all elbow fractures are the same
- Prompt orthopedic referral for specific conditions
- Always keep NAT in the back of your mind...

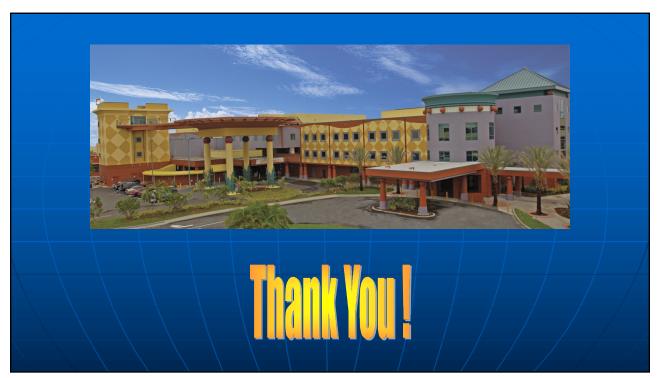
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Acknowledgments

- www. (almost anything you can imagine!)
- APLS Pediatric Emergency Medicine Resource

OTA

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