

EDITORIAL	NEWS	SCIENTIFIC EVENTS	REVIEW OF LITERATURE		LINKS	PREVIOUS NEWSLETTER
			SCOLIOSIS JOURNAL	OTHER SOURCES		

EDITORIAL:

Dear Members and Colleagues,

In this issue we decided to focus our attention on the patient's point of view.

In the editorial you will find an essay by Martha Hawes Ph.D., author of the book "Scoliosis and the human spine" and a patient too. She focused on considering and managing the aesthetical factor, as an issue, in our daily practice. She suggests that sometimes the patient's concept of Aesthetics may be different from the practitioner's. Patients sometimes perceive "Aesthetics" as "Appearance", so in terms of cosmesis and not of spinal deformation. This may lead the patients to have different expectations about the treatment and its outcome. From this paper, which is the opinion of a patient involved actively in spinal deformities, we understand that as professionals we have to be very careful using the aesthetical issue as a lever to make our patients compliant to the treatment. Sometimes it may create bad reactions in the feelings of those patients who could have problems with their body image; sometimes it can create a distorted perception of the disease. The patients can react: "I don't care about my cosmetic so I don't care about the deformation"; so rejecting the treatment. Surely, giving them the instruments to understand the spinal deformation to promote treatment as a tool of prevention and to educate them into health is the best practice.

Then we are glad to announce the 6th annual meeting of SOSORT, this year to be held in Lyon and hosted by Dr. Jean Claude de Mauroy. This year the main topic of the meeting will be the deformation of the spine in the sagittal plane.

For further information and details and also for registration, please visit <http://www.sosort-lyon.net>.

As well as the previous issues we present an extract of the last month's publications on Scoliosis and an update of other indexed journals.

A sincere greeting waiting to meet everybody in Lyon.

P. Pizzetti, M.Villagrasa, F. Zaina.

EDITORIAL: THE VIEW OF THE PATIENT ABOUT AESTHETICS AND HIS/HER EXPECTATIONS ABOUT THE TREATMENT.

Martha Hawes, PhD

aesthetics: 1. the branch of philosophy that provides a theory of the beautiful and the fine art; 2. the theories and descriptions of the psychological response to beauty and artistic experiences; 3. in the philosophy of Kant, the branch of metaphysics concerned with the laws of perception. (Oxford English Dictionary)

The view of the patient about aesthetics and his/her expectations about the treatment

Shands et al (1941) deduced that individuals with scoliosis seek treatment in response to concerns about appearance, not because patients complained about appearance but because they did not complain of other symptoms. Over the years this conclusion increasingly has been transformed into the presumption by physicians that patients seek spinal fusion as cosmetic surgery, even when patients express no such sentiments. Thus, according to van Dam [1988], *'Although not expressed, cosmesis may be of primary concern to the patient'* and Weinstein [1999] suggests that adults may become *'mentally disabled'* by distress over their deformity. Lonstein [1995] has said, *"It is becoming more and more obvious that cosmesis is one of the main factors that motivate patients to seek treatment. Many will not openly discuss this aspect of their scoliosis, but once the subject of cosmesis is raised most patients show interest in improving their body image."*

It is well known that individuals with scoliosis do not always complain of symptoms even when clinical tests reveal significant deficiencies in pulmonary function, for example (Drummond 1985; Weinstein et al., 1981). In my own case, by the time I was diagnosed in 1964 I had long been aware of pulmonary, pain, and balance problems that interfered with school and other activities. But I only learned these might be related to my scoliosis when I initiated a literature search at our medical library in 1999 and read that pulmonary, pain, and balance problems often are associated with spinal deformities. This was also the first I heard about 'cosmesis' being an issue. Conversations with other patients have revealed that as a group, we have diverse opinions even about the definition of what 'aesthetic appearance' means in terms of a spinal deformity, let alone its significance. The definition of 'aesthetics' (above) is a good reminder that subjectivity among doctors with regard to whether or not a back is aesthetically pleasing is as problematical as in their patients, and several surveys have revealed major discrepancies between the judgements of doctors vs their patients [reviewed in Hawes 2007]. When patients were asked their reasons for choosing spine surgery, indeed, they reported the primary concern as long-term disability, not appearance [Bridwell et al. 2000]. Whether a patient is concealing his or her feelings about the aesthetics of having a spinal deformity, is difficult to evaluate. What is clear is that, whether the primary concern is aesthetics, disability, or both, the best solution is to prevent the progression of mild curvatures into conditions involving irreversible torso deformity, asymmetric gait and reduced respiratory function. My latest update of the scoliosis literature provides encouraging evidence for change (Table 1). With nearly 1000 new papers emerging in the last two years, articles describing surgery methods, complications, and outcomes continue to predominate. But for the first time, a significant number of studies report outcome, diagnostic methods and principles of nonsurgical approaches with interpretable illustrations that patients will be able to use to work with their doctors to judge their own problems and goals. Several recent reviews now have concluded that research into strategies for early intervention and prevention are needed.

References

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- VanDam B (1988) Nonoperative treatment in adult scoliosis. *Orthopedic Clinics of N Amer* 19: 347.
- Weinstein SL (1999) Natural history. *Spine* 24: 2592-2600.
- Weinstein SL, Zavala DC, Ponseti IV (1981) Idiopathic scoliosis: long term follow-up and prognosis in untreated patients. *J Bone Jt Surg* 63-A:702-712.

Table 1: Literature update on'scoliosis', 2007-2008*

Subject area	Number of articles
Screening/prevention/natural history	23
Diagnosis/classification	109
Causes (including genetics)	105
Symptoms (pain, pulmonary, etc)	53
Bracing	72
Surgery	485
Exercise/PT/other nonsurgical	36
TOTAL	988

**hand-searched by title and content, using 'scoliosis' as search term in PubMed/Medline/SCI*

NEWS:

The official journal's News:

"SCOLIOSIS", the official journal of our society, has recently published the latest meeting abstracts. We invite you to take a look.

<http://www.scoliosisjournal.com/supplements/4/S1>

Volume 4 Suppl 1

5th International Conference on Conservative Management of Spinal Deformities

Meeting abstracts

Athens, Greece. 3 - 5 April 2008

Edited by Patrick Knott, Margaret King-Schumacher and Theodoros B Grivas

Committee's News:

Our society is organized into the following Committees:

Educational Committee:

Chair: Manuel Rigo

Book committee:

Chair: Theodoros B. Grivas

Membership committee:

Chair: Fabio Zaina

Clinical Committee:

Chair: Stefano Negrini

Scientific, Research & Consensus Committee:

Chairs: Tomasz Kotwicki, Jacek Durmala, Toru Maruyama

Newsletter Committee:

Chair: Mònica Villagrasa

Ethic Committee:

Chair: Tamar Neuhous

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Chair: Elias Vasiliadis

If you want to be part of one of these committees you can register on-line after login (User Menu) in the Lyon's Meeting Web

http://www.sosortlyon.net/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=67&Itemid=83. In this link you can read our proposals and the way you can actively participate.

The first committee's meeting will take place in Lyon on Wednesday, May 20th at 4 pm. We need your collaboration to develop and improve our work. We are awaiting you!

The Kyphosis Consensus' News:

Lyon Meeting will be the reference for our Society and the SIRER in the Kyphosis field. We are defining the **standards of management of juvenile & adolescent Kyphosis with corrective braces and physiotherapy in everyday clinics** to obtain a guideline.

To help us to compile data about how you are managing Kyphosis you can fill in the questionnaire shown in the Lyon Meeting's website: http://www.sosortlyon.net/index.php?option=com_forme&Itemid=73. The information obtained will be revealed in the Meeting during the **Sosort Consensus Session** that takes place on **Thursday, May 21, 18.00 - 19.00**; and will be discussed by all participants.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS:

23rd-24th April 2009, Leicester, UK: British Scoliosis Society Annual Meeting

6th SOSORT MEETING. LYON, May 20th-23rd, 2009. by Dr. Jean Claude de Mauroy

23rd-26th September 2009, San Antonio, Texas, USA: 44th SRS annual meeting

2010 Edmonton, Canada: IRSSD meeting

REVIEW OF LITERATURE:

SCOLIOSIS JOURNAL:

Update (October 2008 - January 2009)

Methodology:

[TRACE \(Trunk Aesthetic Clinical Evaluation\), a routine clinical tool to evaluate aesthetics in scoliosis patients: development from the Aesthetic Index \(AI\) and repeatability](#)

Fabio Zaina, Stefano Negrini, Salvatore Atanasio

Reviews:

[Vertebral rotation measurement: a summary and comparison of common radiographic and CT methods](#)

Gabrielle C Lam, Doug L Hill, Lawrence H Le, Jim V Raso, Edmond H Lou

Researches:

[Guidelines on "Standard of management of idiopathic scoliosis with corrective braces in everyday clinics and in clinical research": SOSORT Consensus 2008](#)

Stefano Negrini, Theodoros B Grivas, Tomasz Kotwicki, Manuel Rigo, Fabio Zaina

[The Sforzesco brace can replace cast in the correction of adolescent idiopathic scoliosis: A controlled prospective cohort study](#)

Stefano Negrini, Salvatore Atanasio, Francesco Negrini, Fabio Zaina, Gianfranco Marchini

[Magnetic resonance imaging of the erector spinae muscles in Duchenne muscular dystrophy: implication for scoliotic deformities](#)

Gnahoua Zoabli, Pierre A Mathieu, Carl-Eric Aubin

[Reliability and development of a new classification of lumbosacral spondylolisthesis](#)

Jean-Marc Mac-Thiong, Hubert Labelle, Stefan Parent, Michael Timothy Hresko, Vedat Deviren, Mark Weidenbaum, members of the Spinal Deformity Study Group

[Juvenile idiopathic scoliosis treated with posterior arthrodesis and segmental pedicle screw instrumentation before the age of 9 years: a 5-year follow-up](#)

Ahmet Yilmaz Sarlak, Halil Atmaca, Levent Buluc, Bilgehan Tosun, Resul Musaoglu

Case Reports:

[Congenital scoliosis in monozygotic twins: case report and review of possible factors contributing to its development](#)

Angelos Kaspiris, Theodoros B Grivas, Hans-Rudolf Weiss

[Adult scoliosis can be reduced through specific SEAS exercises: a case report](#)

Alessandra Negrini, Silvana Parzini, Maria Gabriella Negrini, Michele Romano, Salvatore Atanasio, Fabio Zaina, Stefano Negrini

[Cauda Equina Compression in Achondroplastic Dwarf. Is complex anterior and posterior surgical intervention necessary?](#)

George S Sapkas, Konstantinos Kateros, Stamatios A Papadakis, Michael Papadakis, George A Machairas

Medline – Pubmed:

Review

[The pathogenesis of adolescent idiopathic scoliosis: review of the literature.](#)

Kouwenhoven JW, Castelein RM.

Adult scoliosis

[Unusual case of secondary scoliosis in a 20-year-old man.](#)

Messerschmitt PJ, Stambough JL.

Genetics

[\[Association of PAX1 gene polymorphisms with susceptibility to congenital scoliosis in Chinese Han population.\]](#)

Fei Q, Wu ZH, Yuan SM, Wang H, Zhou X, Liu Z, Song HF, Yin RF, Wang YP, Qiu GX.

[Promoter polymorphism of matrilin-1 gene predisposes to adolescent idiopathic scoliosis in a Chinese population.](#)

Chen Z, Tang NL, Cao X, Qiao D, Yi L, Cheng JC, Qiu Y.

[\[Genetic polymorphism of growth hormone gene in adolescent idiopathic scoliosis.\]](#)

Qiu XS, Deng LS, Yang XE, Zheng ZY, Qiu Y.

Basic Science

[Idiopathic-type scoliosis is not exclusive to bipedalism.](#)

Gorman KF, Breden F.

[Spinal growth modulation with use of a tether in an immature porcine model.](#)

Newton PO, Upasani VV, Farnsworth CL, Oka R, Chambers RC, Dwek J, Kim JR, Perry A, Mahar AT.

[Estrogen cross-talk with the melatonin signaling pathway in human osteoblasts derived from adolescent idiopathic scoliosis patients.](#)

Letellier K, Azeddine B, Parent S, Labelle H, Rompré PH, Moreau A, Moldovan F.

Research

[Can 'sniff nasal inspiratory pressure' determine severity of scoliosis in paediatric population?](#)

Ramappa M.

[\[Digital skeletal age and histological evaluation for residual spine growth potential in idiopathic scoliosis.\]](#)

Qiu Y, Wang SF, Zhu ZZ, Zhu F, Ma ZL, Xia CW.

[Scoliosis: a straightforward approach to diagnosis and management.](#)

Smith JR, Sciubba DM, Samdani AF.

[Craniofacial Features of Children with Spinal Deformities.](#)

Segatto E, Lippold C, Andras V.

[Postural imbalance in non-treated adolescent idiopathic scoliosis at different periods of progression.](#)

Beaulieu M, Toulotte C, Gatto L, Rivard CH, Teasdale N, Simoneau M, Allard P.

[Preference assessment of recruitment into a randomized trial for adolescent idiopathic scoliosis.](#)

Dolan LA, Sabesan V, Weinstein SL, Spratt KF.

[Assessing the rotation of the spinal cord in idiopathic scoliosis: a preliminary report of MRI feasibility.](#)

Dohn P, Vialle R, Thévenin-Lemoine C, Balu M, Lenoir T, Abelin K.

[Discrepancy between radiographic shoulder balance and cosmetic shoulder balance in adolescent idiopathic scoliosis patients with double thoracic curve.](#)

Qiu XS, Ma WW, Li WG, Wang B, Yu Y, Zhu ZZ, Qian BP, Zhu F, Sun X, Ng BK, Cheng JC,

Qiu Y.

[Observer reliability between juvenile and adolescent idiopathic scoliosis in measurement of stable Cobb's angle.](#)

Modi HN, Chen T, Suh SW, Mehta S, Srinivasalu S, Yang JH, Song HR.

[Impaired dynamic balance control in adolescents with idiopathic scoliosis and abnormal somatosensory evoked potentials.](#)

Lao ML, Chow DH, Guo X, Cheng JC, Holmes AD.

[Using the Sauvegrain method to predict peak height velocity in boys and girls.](#)

Hans SD, Sanders JO, Cooperman DR.

[Posture and equilibrium in orthopedic and rheumatologic diseases.](#)

Missaoui B, Portero P, Bendaya S, Hanktie O, Thoumie P.

[\[Development of the personalized finite element model of the adolescent idiopathic scoliosis and its significance\]](#)

Wang Z, Liu Z, Wang Z, Wang C.

[Horizontal gaze palsy with progressive scoliosis: CT and MR findings.](#)

Bomfim RC, Távora DG, Nakayama M, Gama RL.

[Neurological symptoms and deficits in adults with scoliosis who present to a surgical clinic: incidence and association with the choice of operative versus nonoperative management.](#)

Smith JS, Fu KM, Urban P, Shaffrey CI.

[The influence of adolescent idiopathic scoliosis on the dynamic adaptive behaviour.](#)

Bruyneel AV, Chavet P, Bollini G, Allard P, Mesure S.

[The association between melatonin signaling dysfunction and idiopathic scoliosis.](#)

Shangguan L, Fan X, Luo Z.

[Experience with an online prospective database on adolescent idiopathic scoliosis: development and implementation.](#)

Arlet V, Shilt J, Bersusky E, Abel M, Ouellet JA, Evans D, Menon KV, Kandziora F, Shen F, Lamartina C, Adams M, Reddi V.

[Clinical monitoring of torso deformities in scoliosis using structured splines models.](#)

Ajemba PO, Durdle NG, James Raso V.

[Low bone mineral status in adolescent idiopathic scoliosis.](#)

Li XF, Li H, Liu ZD, Dai LY.

[Lateral steps reveal adaptive biomechanical strategies in adolescent idiopathic scoliosis.](#)

Bruyneel AV, Chavet P, Bollini G, Allard P, Berton E, Mesure S.

[Effects of short-term brace wearing on the pendulum-like mechanism of walking in healthy subjects.](#)

Mahaudens P, Banse X, Detrembleur C.

[The practice of physical and sporting activity in teenagers with idiopathic scoliosis is related to the curve type.](#)

Meyer C, Haumont T, Gauchard GC, Leheup B, Lascombes P, Perrin PP.

[Computer-generated index for evaluation of idiopathic scoliosis in digital chest images: a comparison with digital measurement.](#)

Tang FH, Chan LW, Lau HP, Tsui PY, Cheung CW.

[Recent advances in the aetiology of adolescent idiopathic scoliosis.](#)

Cheung KM, Wang T, Qiu GX, Luk KD

Secondary Scoliosis

[A rare cause of neuromuscular scoliosis: Alexander disease.](#)

Ozturk C, Tezer M, Karatoprak O, Hamzaoglu A.

[Hemihyperplasia-multiple lipomatosis syndrome \(HHML\): a challenge in spinal care.](#)

Schulte TL, Liljenqvist U, Görgens H, Hackenberg L, Bullmann V, Tinschert S.

[Assessing functional outcomes of children with muscular dystrophy and scoliosis: the Muscular Dystrophy Spine Questionnaire.](#)

Wright JG, Smith PL, Owen JL, Fehlings D.

[Is scoliosis an issue for giving growth hormone to children with Prader-Willi syndrome?](#)

Diene G, de Gauzy JS, Tauber M.

[SHOX gene is expressed in vertebral body growth plates in idiopathic and congenital](#)

[scoliosis: Implications for the etiology of scoliosis in turner syndrome.](#)

Day G, Szvetko A, Griffiths L, McPhee IB, Tuffley J, Labrom R, Askin G, Woodland P, McClosky E, Torode I, Tomlinson F.

[\[Patient with scoliosis and neurofibromas. Is the spine involved in Recklinghausen disease?\]](#)

Schuh A, Hönle W.

[Impingement of spinal cord by dislocated rib in dystrophic scoliosis secondary to neurofibromatosis type 1: radiological signs and management strategies.](#)

Yalcin N, Bar-on E, Yazici M.

[Convexity of scoliosis related to handedness in identical twin boys with Duchenne's muscular dystrophy: a case report.](#)

Werner BC, Skalsky AJ, McDonald CM, Han JJ.

[Polyneuropathy, scoliosis, tall stature, and oligodontia represent novel features of the interstitial 6p deletion phenotype.](#)

Zirn B, Hempel M, Hahn A, Neubauer B, Wagenstaller J, Rivera-Bruguès N, Strom TM, Köhler A.

[Five new consanguineous families with horizontal gaze palsy and progressive scoliosis and novel ROBO3 mutations.](#)

Abu-Amero KK, Dhalaan HA, Zayed ZA, Hellani A, Bosley TM.

[Examination of the newborn with congenital scoliosis: focus on the physical.](#)

Brand MC.

[Differential diagnosis of muscular hypotonia in infants: the kyphoscoliotic type of Ehlers-Danlos syndrome \(EDS VI\).](#)

Voermans NC, van Engelen BG.

[Scoliosis in Prader-Willi syndrome: prevalence, effects of age, gender, body mass index, lean body mass and genotype.](#)

de Lind van Wijngaarden RF, de Klerk LW, Festen DA, Hokken-Koelega AC.

School screening

[\[Screening of scoliosis in a school population of 8 to 12 years in the province of Granada \(Spain\)\]](#)

Zurita Ortega F, Moreno Lorenzo C, Ruiz Rodríguez L, Martínez Martínez A, Zurita Ortega A, Castro Sánchez AM.

[Children at risk identified in an urban scoliosis school screening program: a new model.](#)

Kapoor M, Laham SG, Sawyer JR.

Treatment

[The effect of myofascial release \(MFR\) on an adult with idiopathic scoliosis.](#)

LeBauer A, Brtalik R, Stowe K.

Historical research

[Skeletal dysplasia in ancient Egypt.](#)

Kozma C.

The Newsletter Committee is grateful for Martha Hawes' style correction support.

LINKS :

Scientific Societies

www.sosort.org
www.sosort-lyon.net
www.spine.org
www.srs.org
www.liv.ac.uk/HumanAnatomy/phd/bss/bss.html
www.bsrp.co.uk
www.gss.it
www.gis.it
<http://www.boa.ac.uk>

Patients associations

www.escoliosis.org
www.scoliosis.org
www.sauk.org.uk
www.scoliosis-assoc.org
www.scoliosis-info-forum.de
www.scoliosis-australia.org
<http://scoliosi.forumfree.net>
www.SpineKids.com
www.scoliosiscare.org

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