



# Surgery for Scoliosis and Spinal Deformity

Mr. Emre Acaroglu  
Ankara, Turkey



# Scoliosis



# Classification

- Structural
  - Idiopathic
  - Congenital

} *Ascending scoliosis*

  - Neuromuscular
  - Degenerative
  - Others

} *Descending scoliosis*
- Non-structural



# Adolescent idiopathic scoliosis



**Curve Type**

Type	Proximal Thoracic	Main Thoracic	Thoracolumbar / Lumbar	Curve Type
1	Non-Structural	Structural (Major*)	Non-Structural	Main Thoracic (MT)
2	Structural	Structural (Major*)	Non-Structural	Double Thoracic (DT)
3	Non-Structural	Structural (Major*)	Structural	Double Major (DM)
4	Structural	Structural (Major*)	Structural	Triple Major (TM)
5	Non-Structural	Non-Structural	Structural (Major*)	Thoracolumbar / Lumbar (TL/L)
6	Non-Structural	Structural	Structural (Major*)	Thoracolumbar / Lumbar - Main Thoracic (TL/L - MT)

\*Major = Largest Cobb Measurement, always structural  
Minor = all other curves with structural criteria applied

**STRUCTURAL CRITERIA**

(Minor Curves)

**Proximal Thoracic:** - Side Bending Cobb  $\geq 25^\circ$   
- T2 - T5 Kyphosis  $\geq +20^\circ$

**Main Thoracic:** - Side Bending Cobb  $\geq 25^\circ$   
- T10 - L2 Kyphosis  $\geq +20^\circ$




**Thoracolumbar / Lumbar:** - Side Bending Cobb  $\geq 25^\circ$   
- T10 - L2 Kyphosis  $\geq +20^\circ$


**LOCATION OF APEX**

(SRS definition)

CURVE	APEX
THORACIC	T2 - T11-12 DISC
THORACOLUMBAR	T12 - L1
LUMBAR	L1-2 DISC - L4

**Modifiers**

Lumbar Spine Modifier	CSVL to Lumbar Apex			
A	CSVL Between Pedicles	A	B	C
B	CSVL Touches Apical Body(ies)			
C	CSVL Completely Medial			

Thoracic Sagittal Profile T5 - T12	
- (Hypo) < 10°	
N (Normal) 10° - 40°	
+ (Hyper) > 40°	

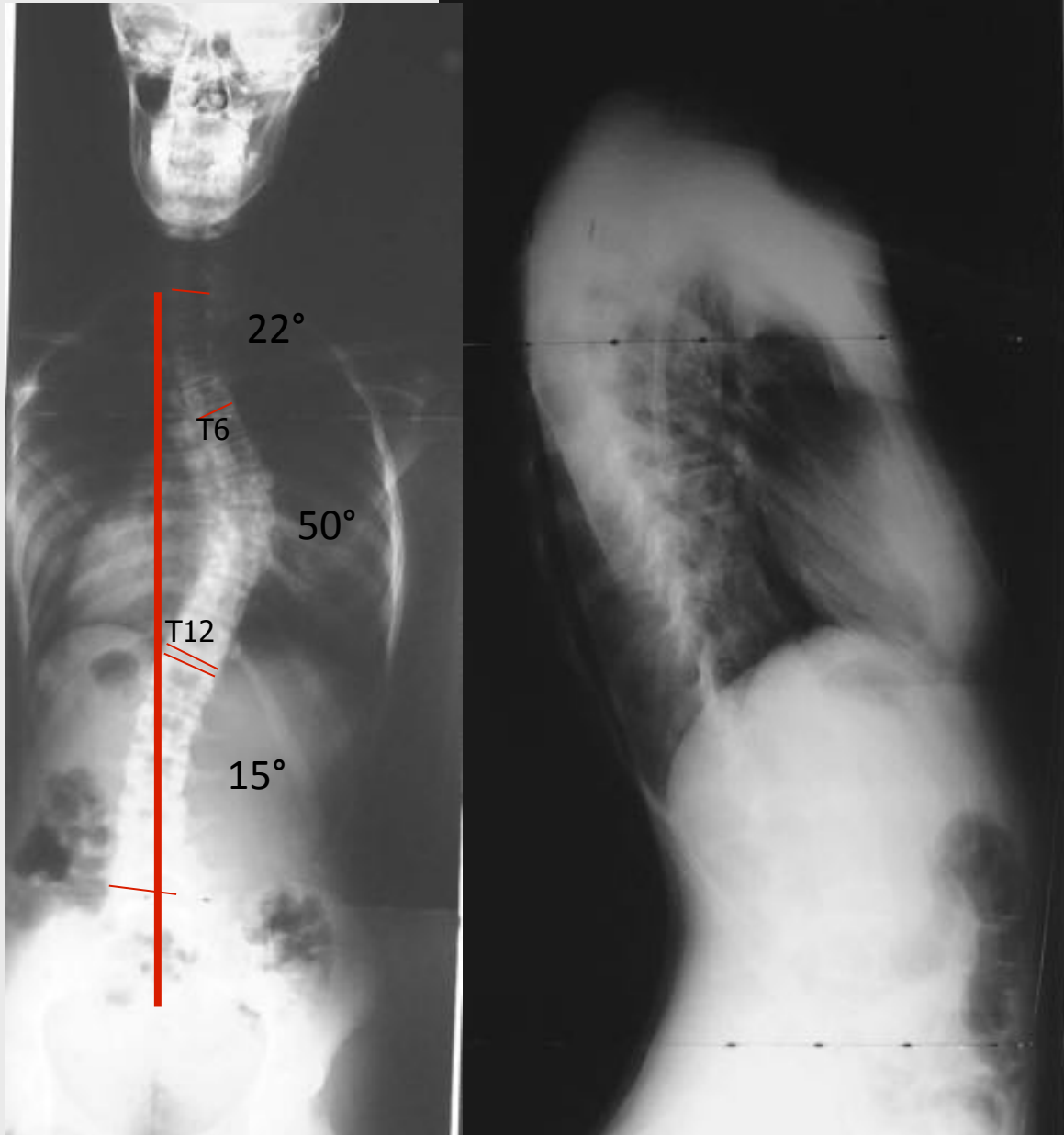
Curve Type (1-6) + Lumbar Spine Modifier (A, B, or C) + Thoracic Sagittal Modifier ( -, N, or +)

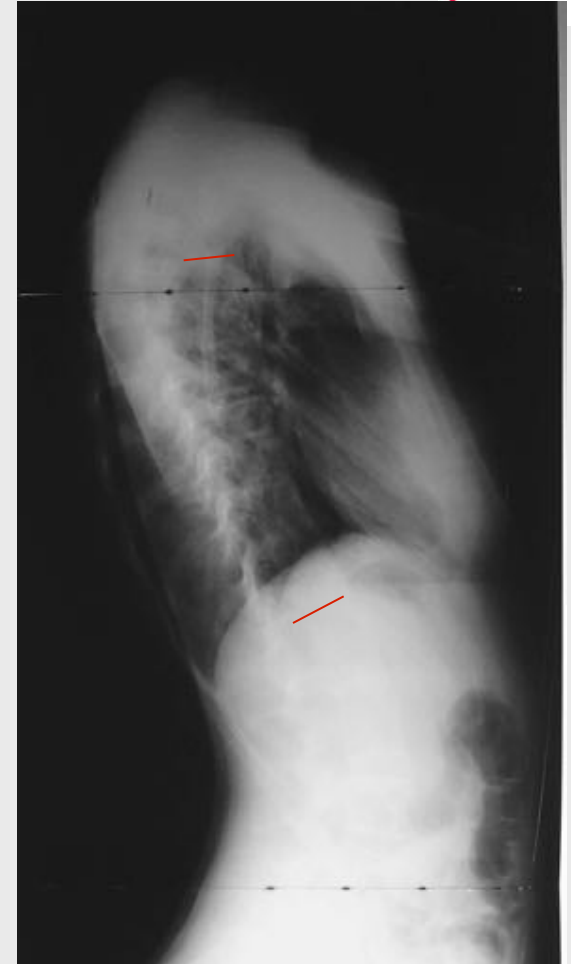
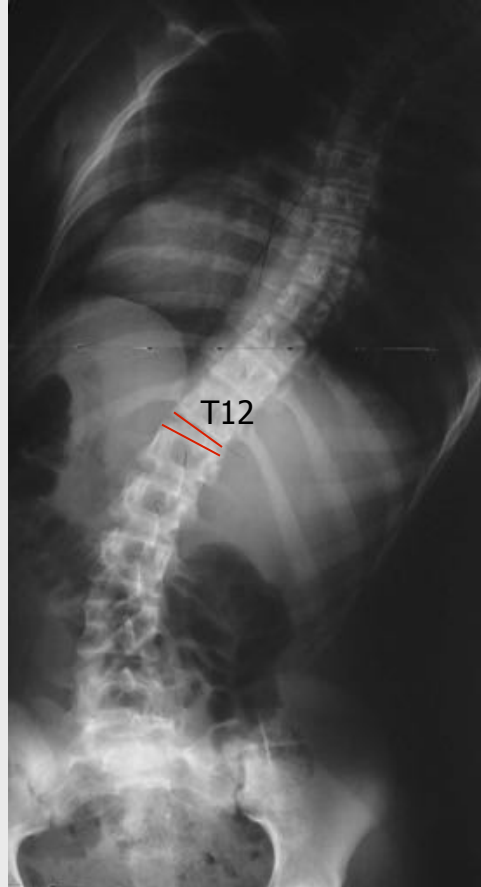
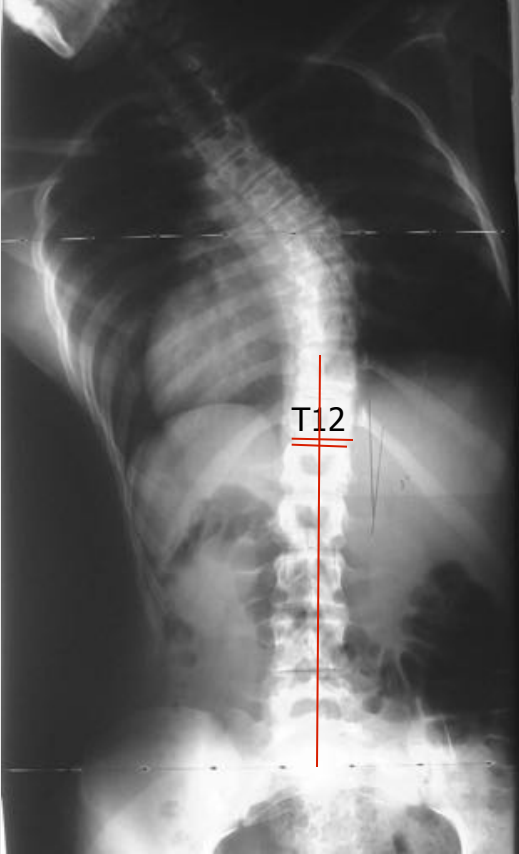
**Classification (e.g. 1B+):** \_\_\_\_\_



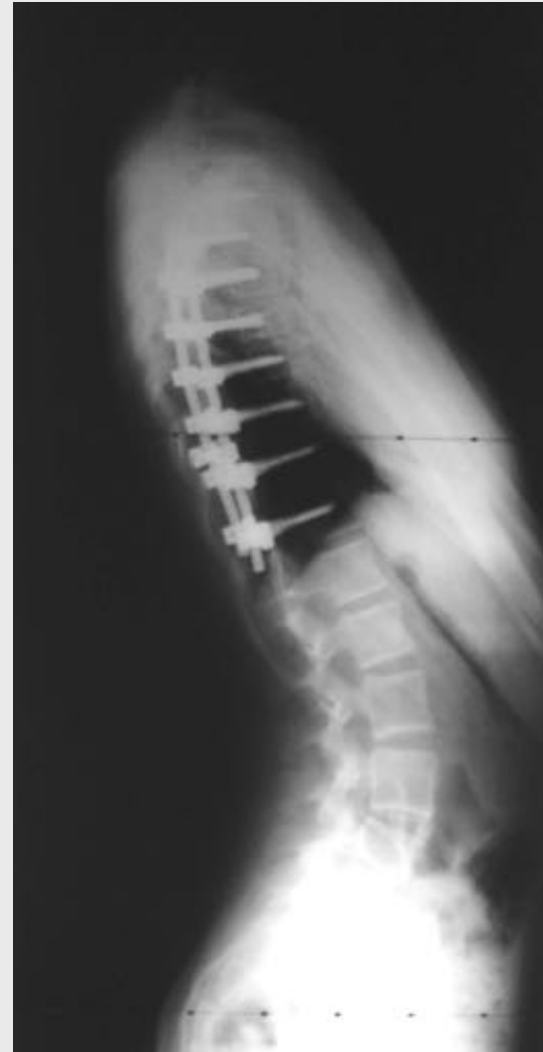
# Lenke classification in surgical planning in AIS













# Indications for surgical treatment





# Who to treat



- General approach
  - Immature patients
    - >25 degrees observation
    - 25-40 degrees brace or observation
    - <40 degrees surgery
  - Mature patients
    - >50 degrees observation
    - <50 degrees surgery



# Preoperative assessment





- Physical examination
  - Always see the physical deformity
  - Rule out easily recognizable syndromes
  - Assess balance and shoulder level
  - Assess leg length discrepancy
- Neurological examination
  - Long tract signs
  - Abdominal reflexes



- Appropriate imaging
  - Standing AP and lateral long cassette X-rays
  - *Supine bending X-rays*
  - *Traction / TUGA*
  - **MRI ?**



15 y boy,  
6 mos hx





- Discuss expectations with patient AND family
  - 1<sup>st</sup> priority safety
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> priority a balanced trunk
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> priority correction



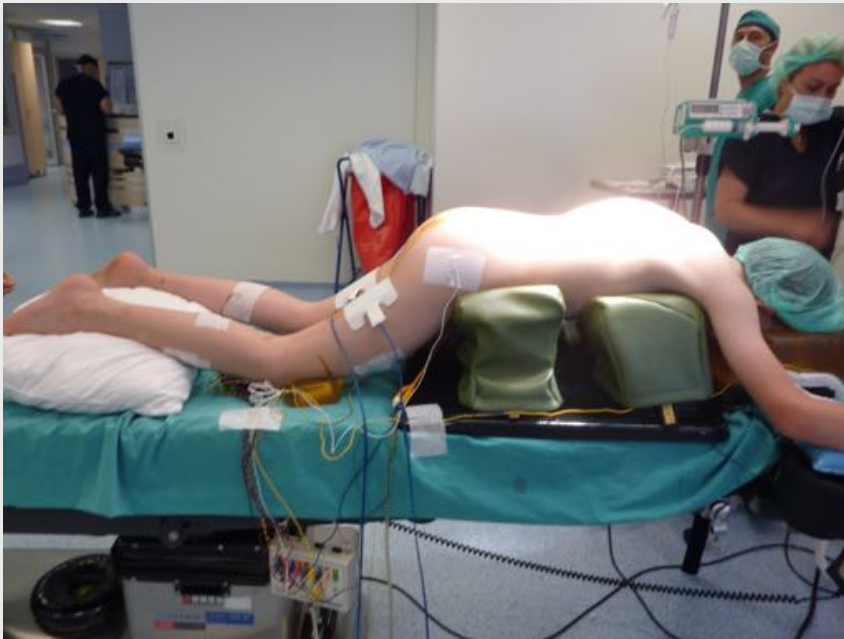


# Proper patient positioning





# Positioning and TcMEP





# Spinal cord monitorization



- Essential in deformity surgery
- How?
  - Tc MEP
  - SSEP
- Why?
  - High risk surgery
  - Class A evidence on the importance of relevant IOM changes

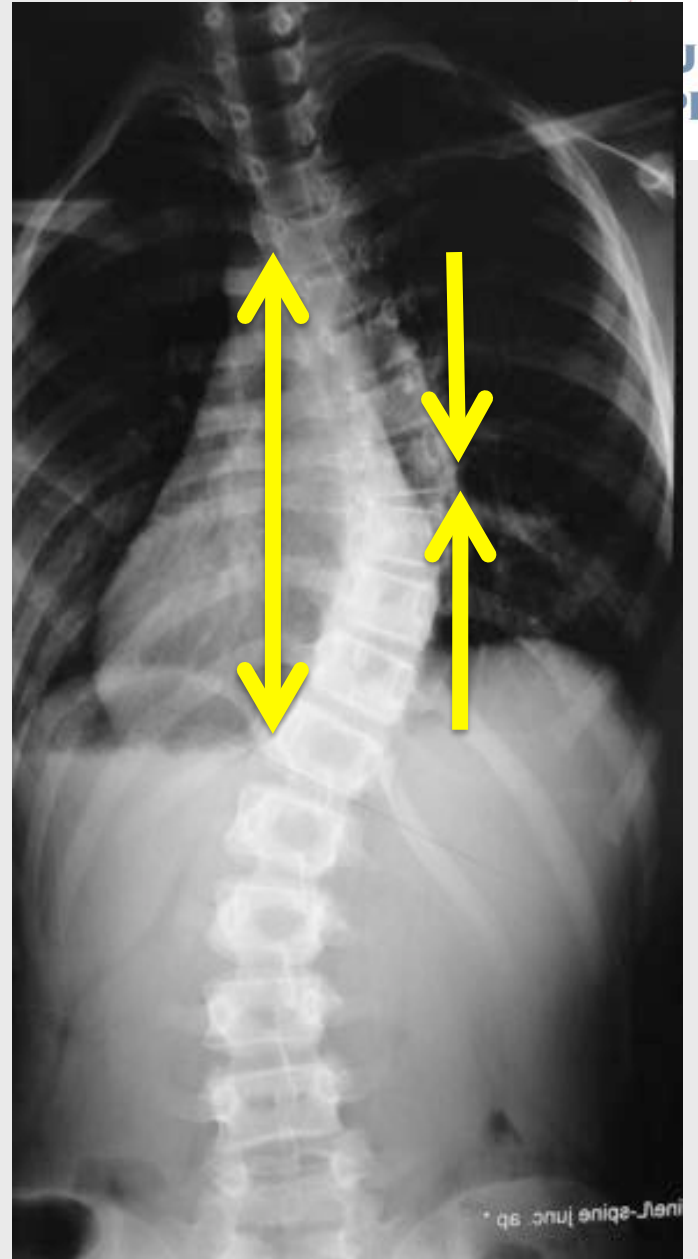


# Correction techniques



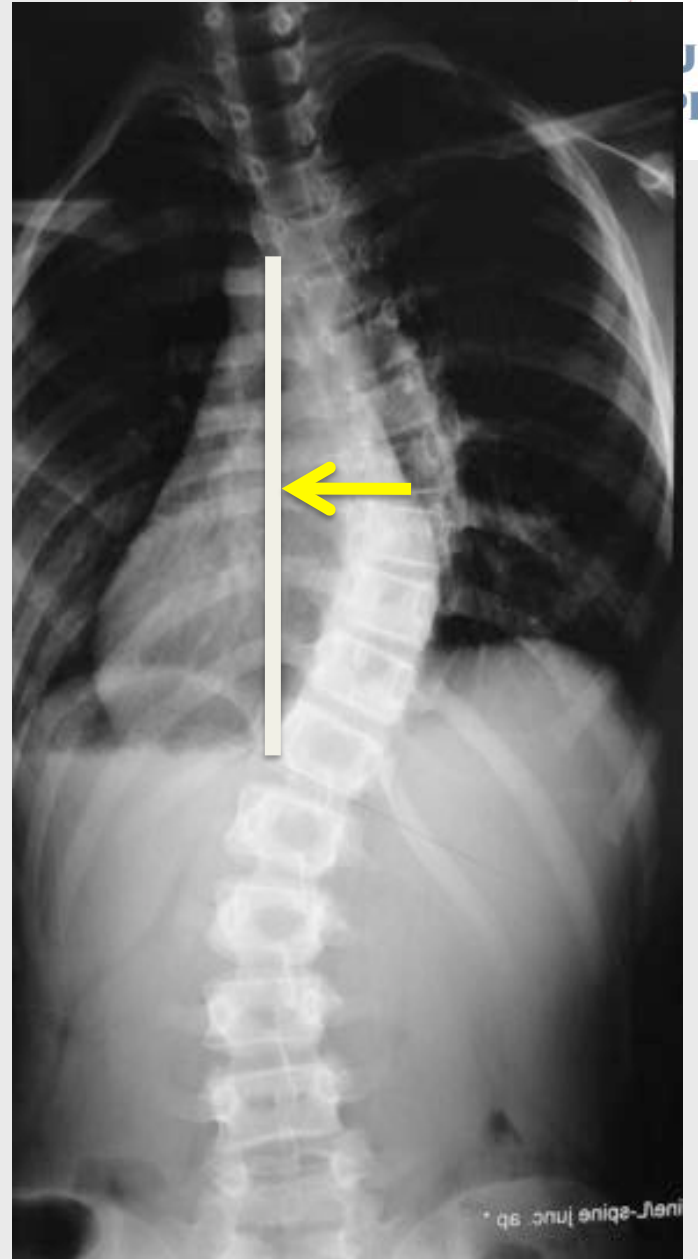


- Harrington forces



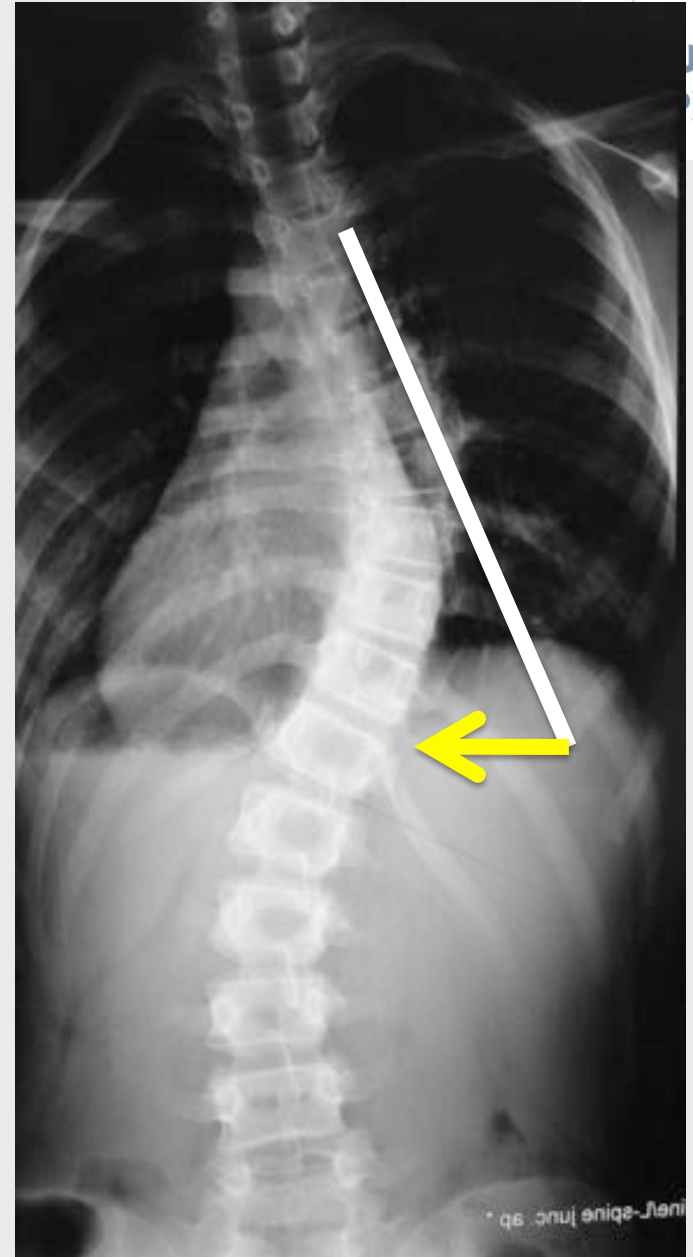


- Harrington forces
- Translation



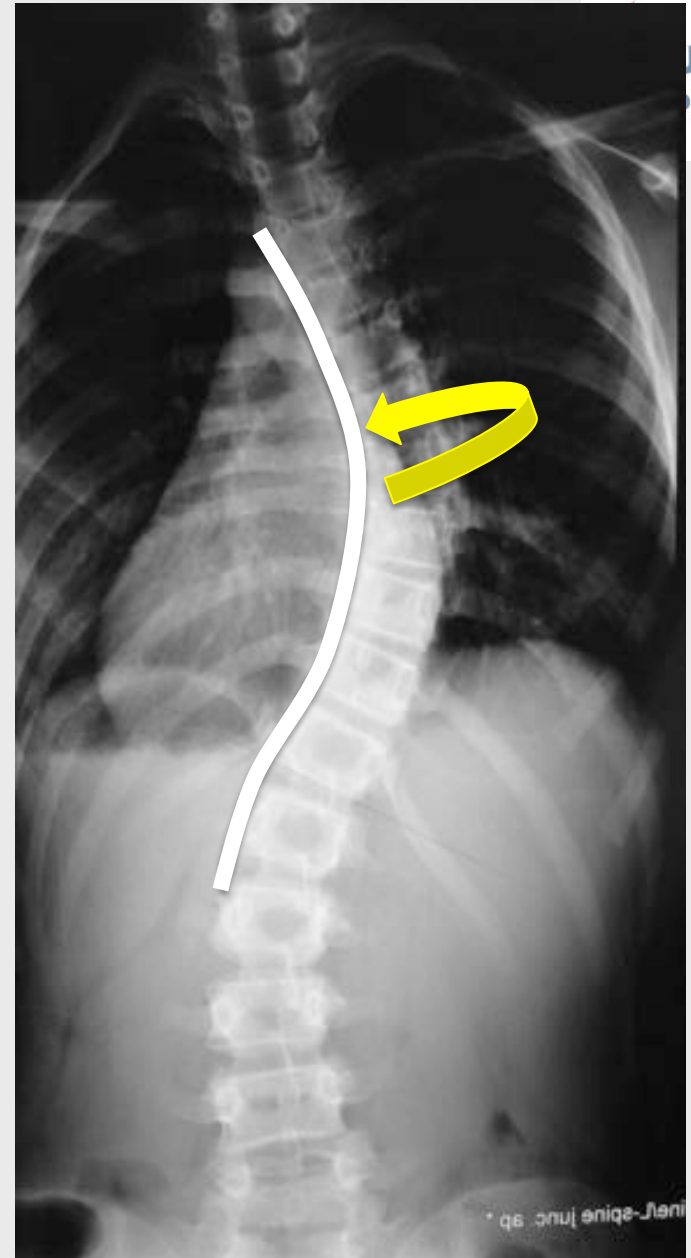


- Harrington forces
- Translation
- Cantilever correction





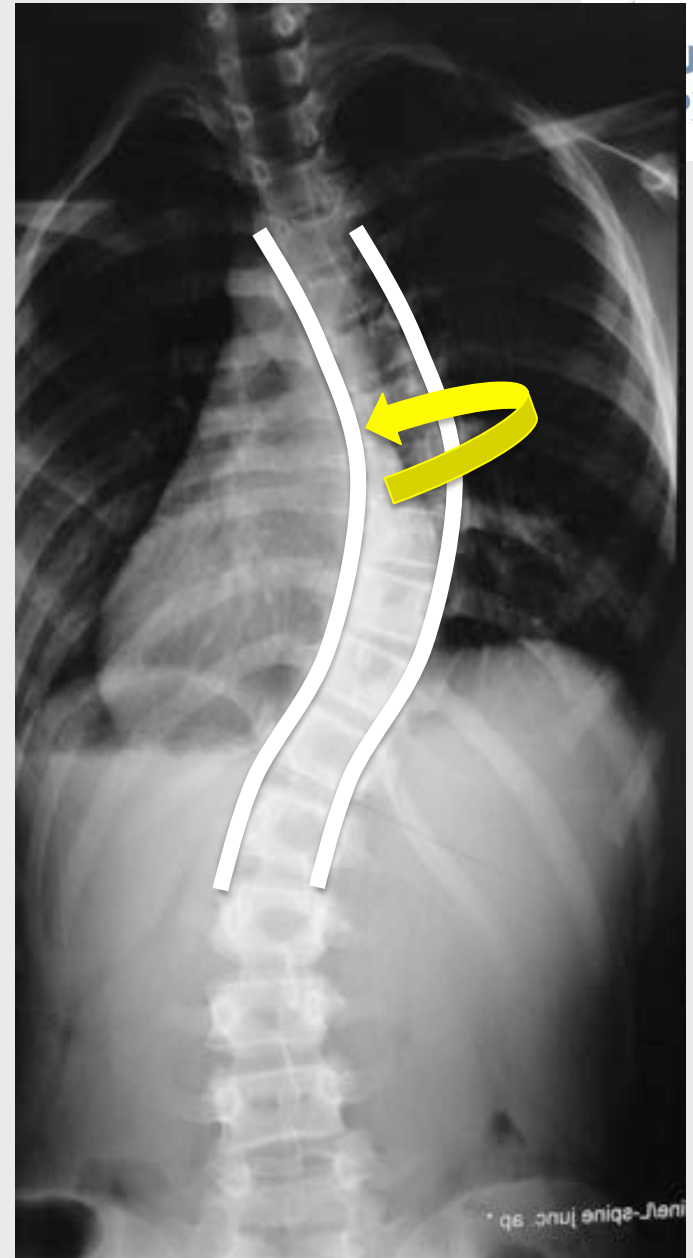
- Harrington forces
- Translation
- Cantilever bending
- Rod rotation
  - Concave rod





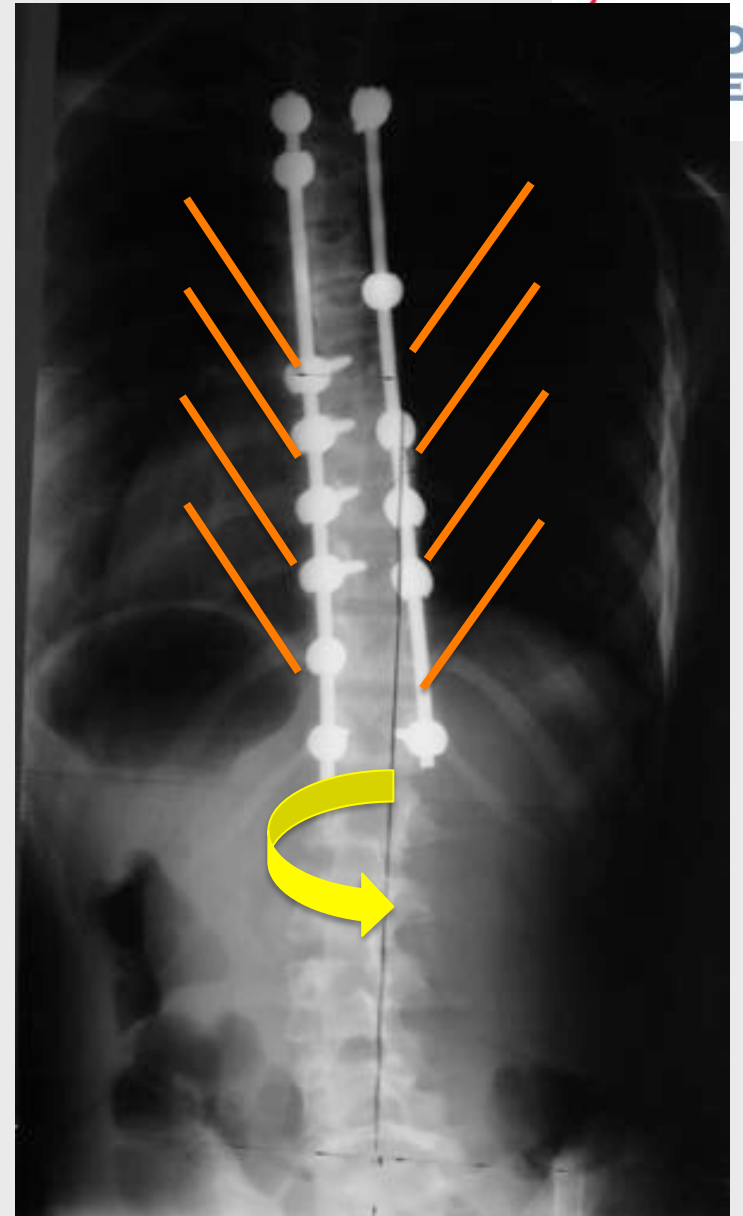


- Harrington forces
- Translation
- Cantilever bending
- Rod rotation
  - Concave rod
  - Double rod





- Harrington forces
- Translation
- Cantilever bending
- Rod rotation
  - Concave rod
  - Double rod
- Direct vertebral derotation





# The technique I use



15 y boy,  
6 mos hx





# Exposure, screw placement



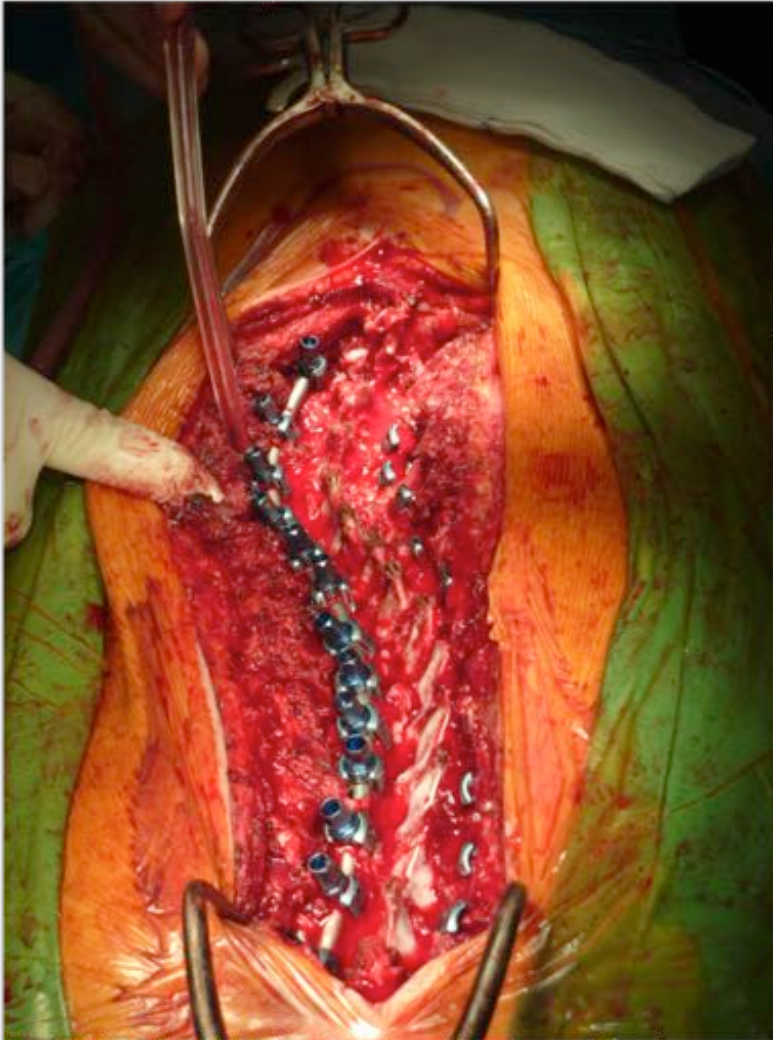


# C-arm, check screws



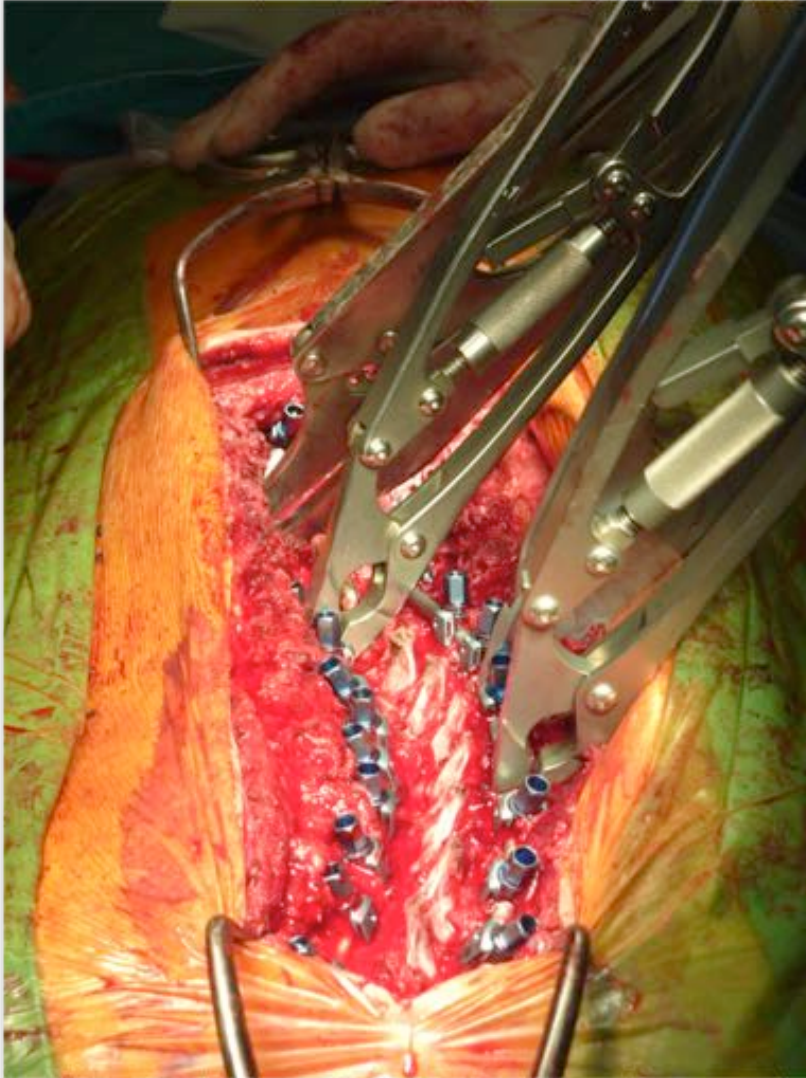


# Bend and insert both rods





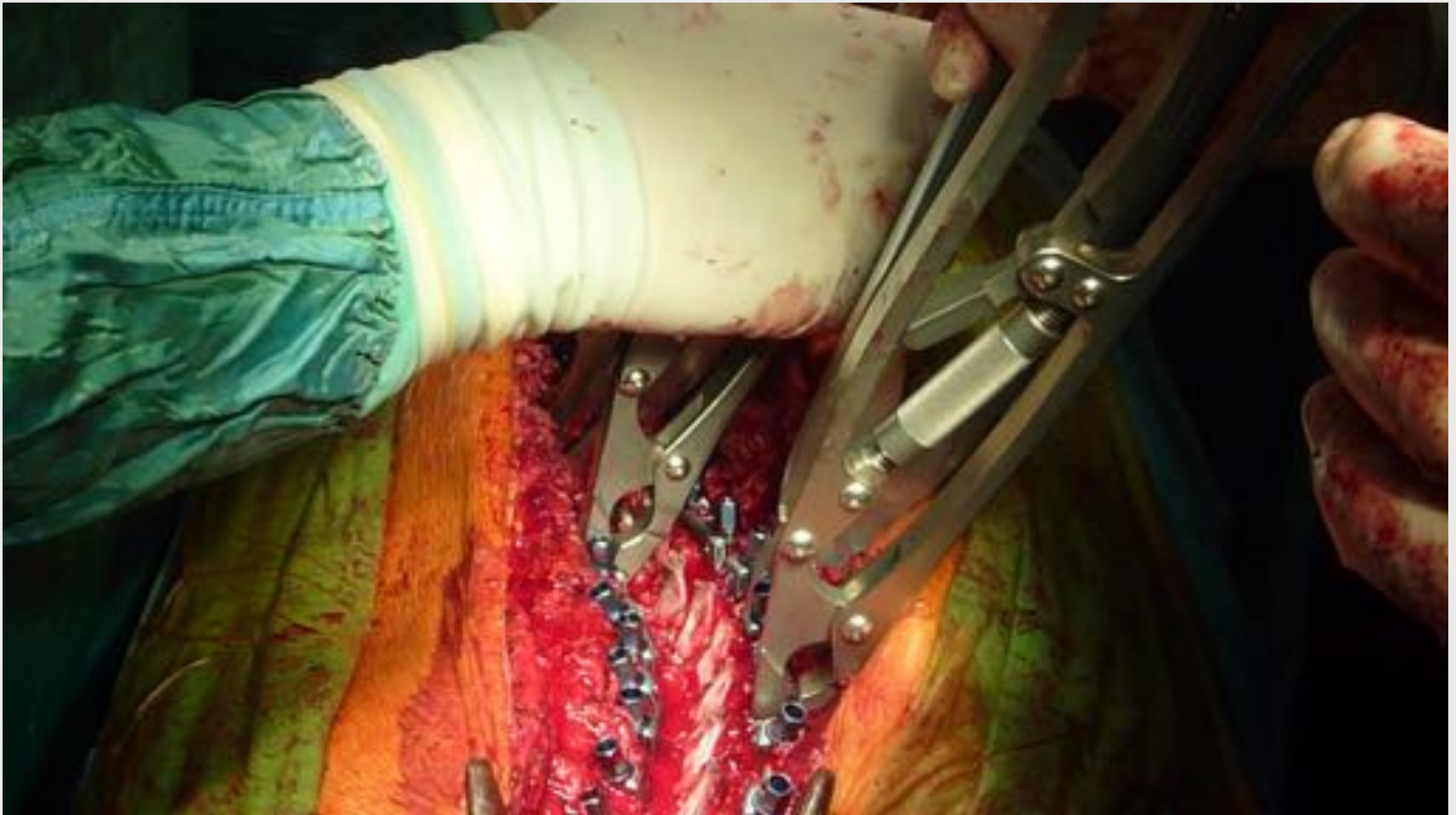
# Double rod rotation







# Rod rotation



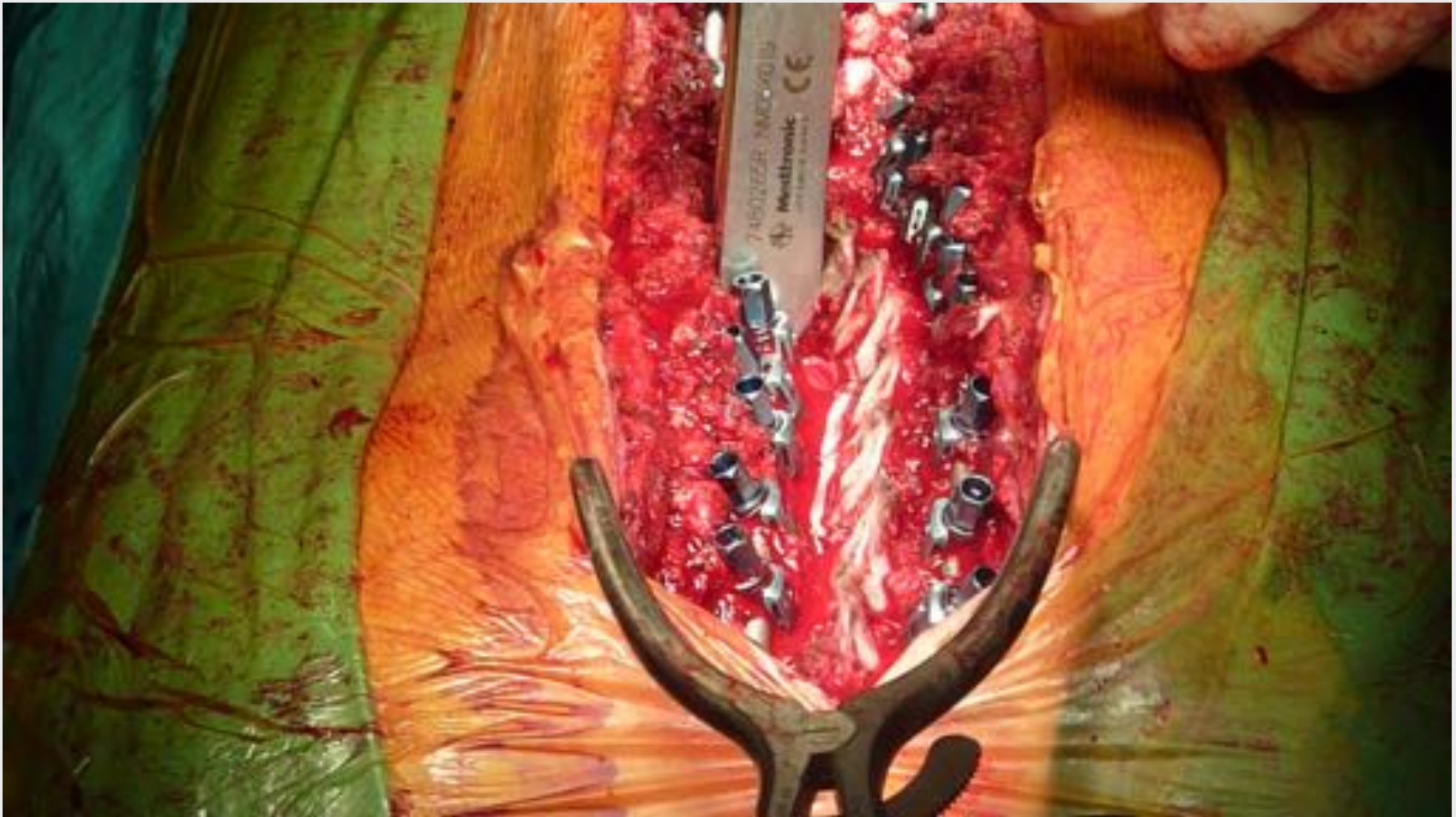


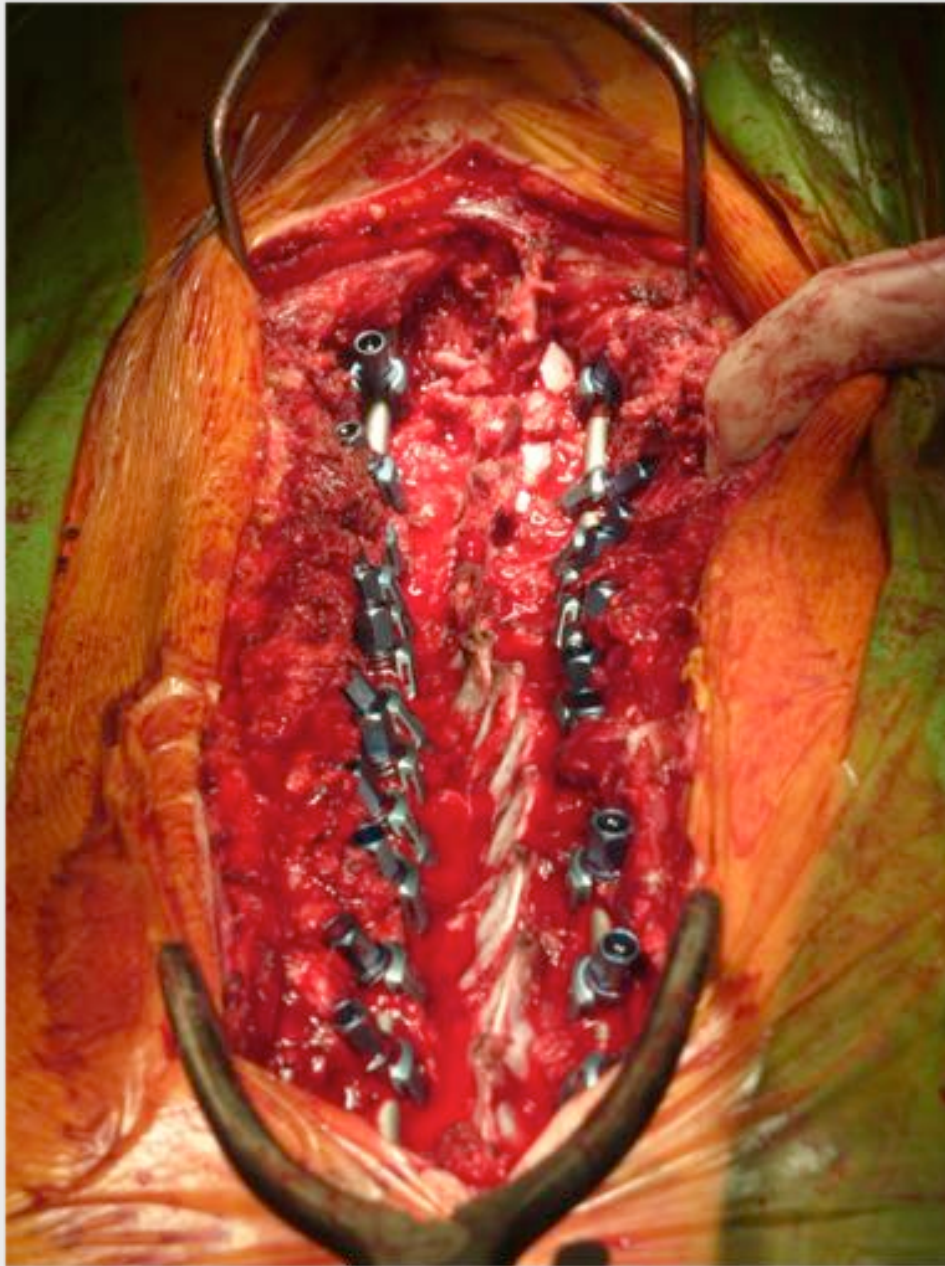
# Rib hump reduction





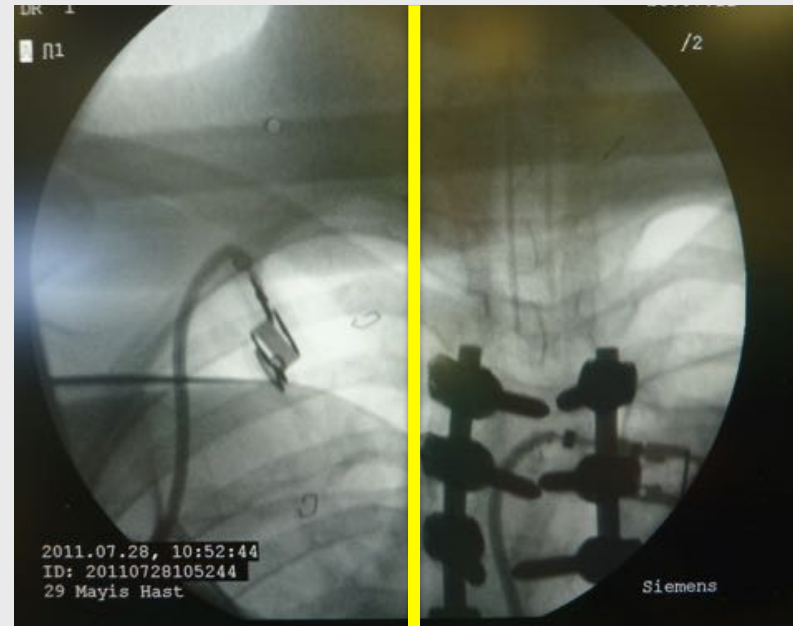
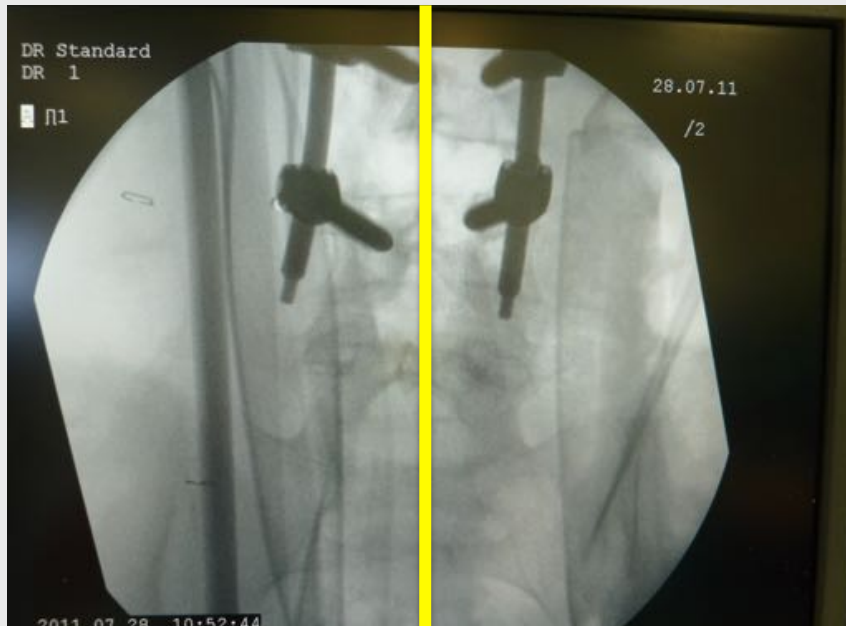
# Coronal correction





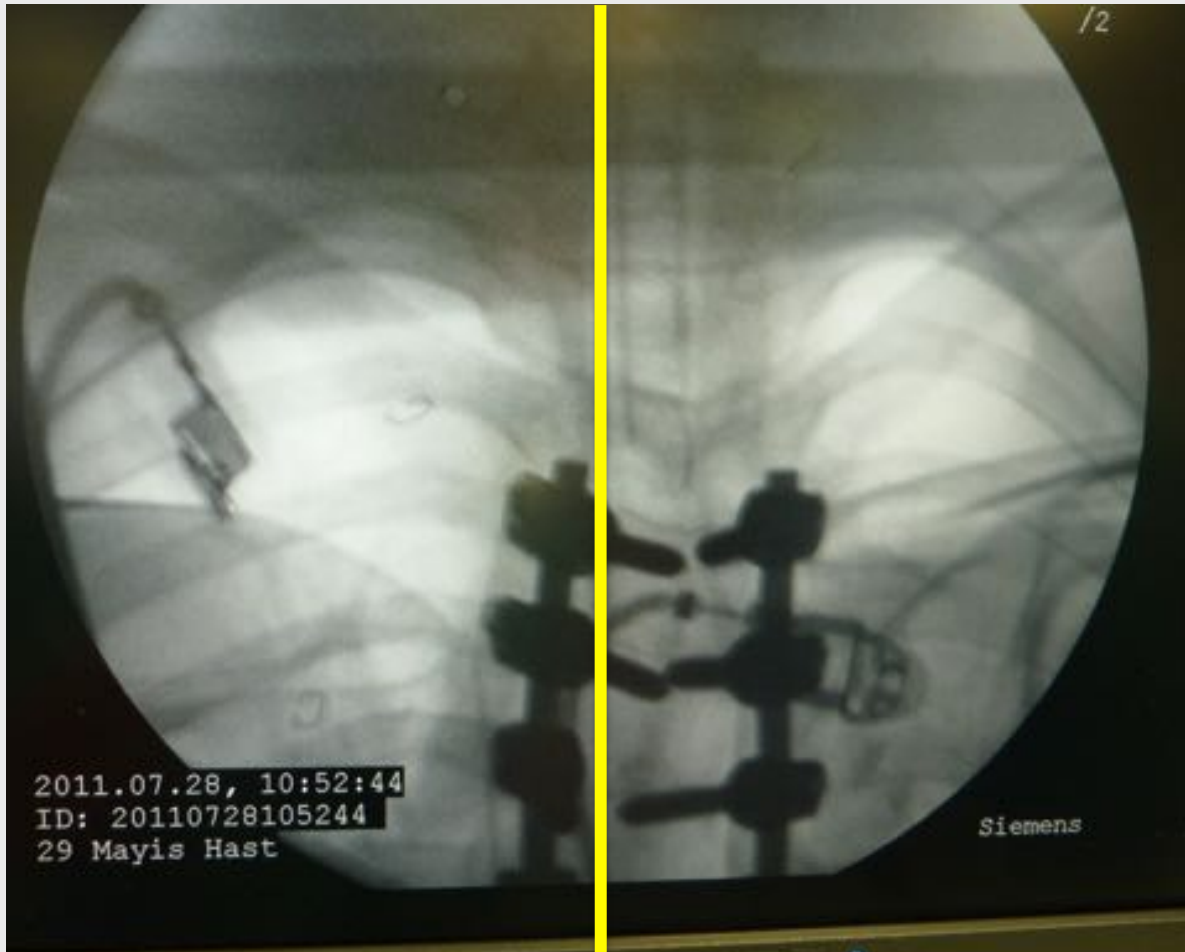


# Check for balance





# Adjustment





# Final





# Early post-op







@ 2 years






# Identify relevant complications





- Complications due to poor positioning
  - Pressure sores
  - Blindness
  - Nerve injury
    - Femoral nerve
    - Brachial plexus
- Neurological complications
- Wound complications
  - Infection
  - Dehiscence

A stylized graphic of a spine with a red vertical line indicating a specific level or area of interest.

## • Mechanical complications

- Rod breakage
- Screw loosening
- Balance problems
  - Inappropriate fusion levels
  - Over/under correction
  - Disease progression
- Pseudoarthrosis
- Proximal/distal junctional kyphosis



# Summary AIS



- Classification is fairly easy and effective in decision making
- Success depends on appropriate analysis of the patient and proper communications
- Proper patient positioning and monitorization is essential
- More than one way to correct any deformity
- Understanding and identification of possible complications is the most efficient way to avoid them



# Adult deformity







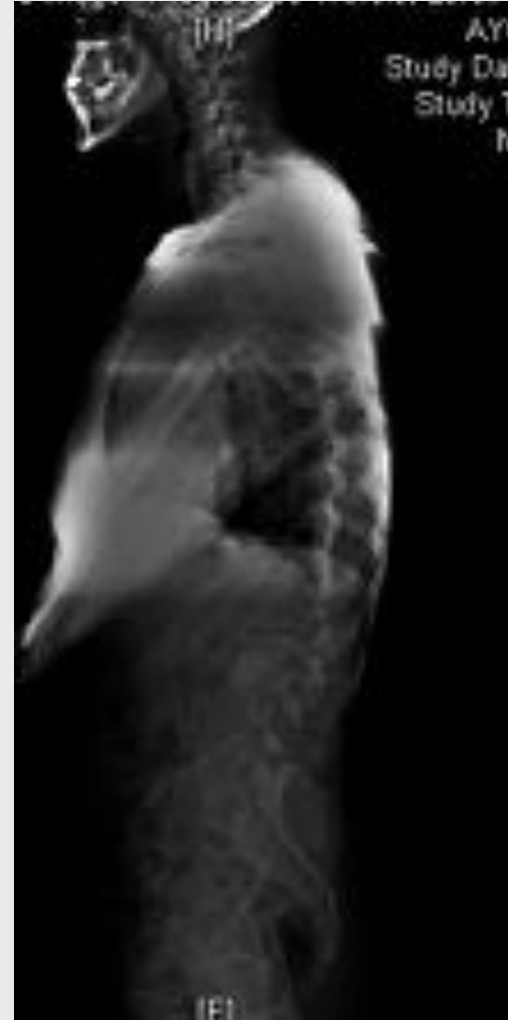
# Why different ?



- A very heterogeneous population
  - Age
  - Etiology
  - Location
- Needs and problems very different than pediatric deformity
  - Cosmesis less important
  - Function more important



38 y  manual worker





# 72 y ♀ can only walk 50 m



## Coefficients of correlation between radiologic parameters and quality of life

	Coronal Cobb	Thoracic kyphosis	Lumbar lordosis	Lordosis Gap	SVA	T1SPI	PT
<b>SRS22 SubTotal</b>	n. s.	n. s.	-0.246 p= 0.003	-0.289 p= 0.001	-0.305 p= 0.000	-0.273 p= 0.002	-0.261 p= 0.003
<b>SRS22 Pain</b>	n. s.	n. s.	-0.320 p= 0.000	-0.336 p= 0.000	-0.329 p= 0.000	-0.294 p= 0.001	-0.286 p= 0.001
<b>SRS22 Function</b>	n. s.	n. s.	-0.373 p= 0.000	-0.402 p= 0.000	-0.363 p= 0.000	-0.358 p= 0.000	-0.353 p= 0.000
<b>ODI</b>	n. s.	n. s.	0.195 p= 0.019	0.252 p= 0.005	0.293 p= 0.001	0.207 p= 0.020	0.232 p= 0.009

No change in HRQoL



67 y





# Early post-op



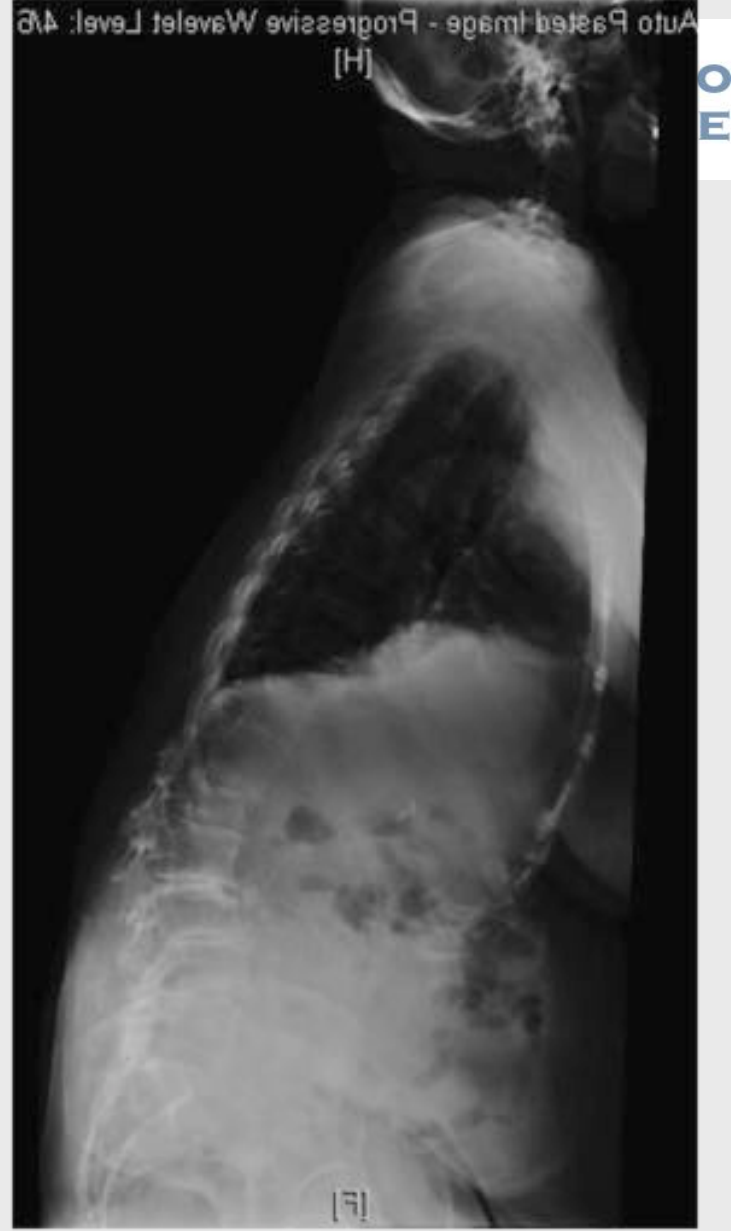


2 years





78 y





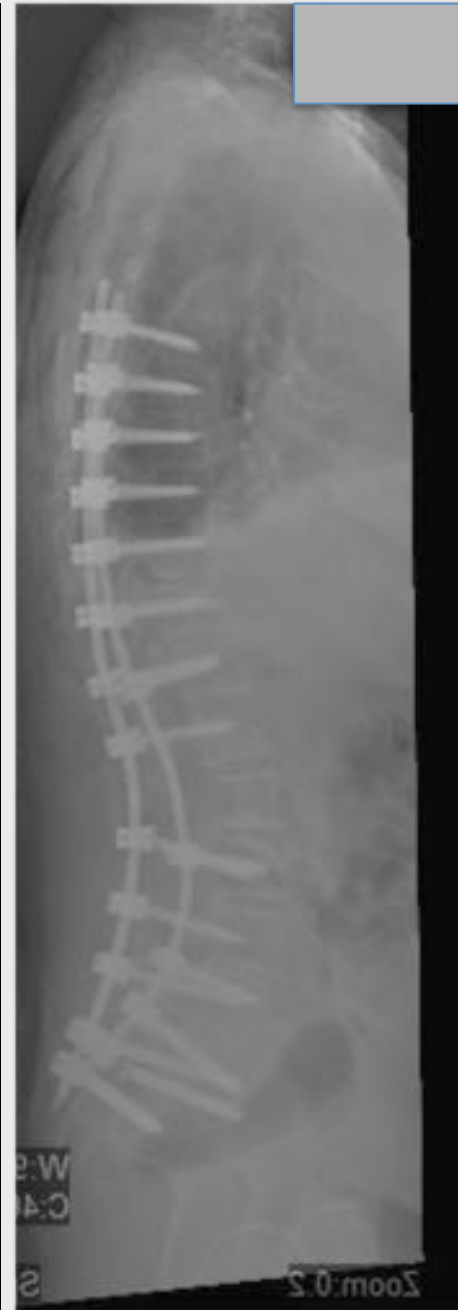


# Early post-op





1 year





61 y



EURO  
SPINE



# Post- op





1  
year





# Summary Adult Deformity



- **Adult spinal deformity**
  - Is not similar to pediatric deformity
    - Different problem
    - Different needs
  - Restoration of function is the ultimate goal
    - Function is dependent on the sagittal balance
  - Restoration of sagittal balance takes
    - Longer instrumentation and fusion
    - Often w/ spinal osteotomies



# TB Spondylitis

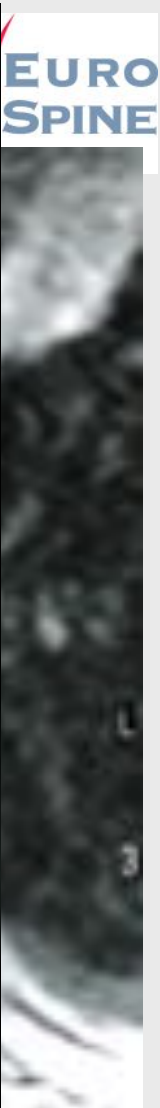




# Surgery for Tb Spondylitis

- Generally considered as an adjuvant to effective chemotherapy
- Indications
  - Neurologic involvement
  - Deformity / impending deformity
  - Presence of large abscess / necrotic tissue







# Summary



- Deformity surgery is one of the last frontiers in Spine Surgery
- Success depends on:
  - Good patient selection
  - Good pre-op evaluation and planning
  - Having adequate resources (mandatory)
  - Knowing the spectrum of possibilities
  - Being aware of your abilities (and shortcomings)
  - LEAST on the type of instrumentation