## Flexible/Fixed Deformity Principles

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### Disclosure

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### Core Competencies

- Patient Care
  - Evaluation & treatment of adult deformity.
- Medical Knowledge
  - Biomedical and clinical data for evaluation and management of patients with adult deformities.
- Practice-Based Learning and Improvement
- Interpersonal and Communication Skills
- Professionalism
- Systems-Based Practice
  - Costs associated with adult deformity surgeries.



### **Diagnosing Pathology**





### Types of Deformities

#### • Flexible

- Idiopathic scoliosis
- Iatrogenic decompression (acute)
- Fractional compensatory curve
- Fixed
  - Degenerative
  - Traumatic
  - Iatrogenic decompression (chronic)
  - Iatrogenic fusion
  - Asymmetric disc collapse





### A Deformity Is Not A Deformity



### Patient Assessment







### X-Ray Considerations

- Hips and knees extended fully to negate compensatory mechanisms.
- Clavicle position is optimal (Horton 2005)
  - Most accurate measurements





### **Imaging Studies**







### Flexible Vs. Fixed Fusions





Patient Positioning













### Osteotomies







Vertebral Column Resection. Depiction of a Sharp Angular Kyphosis In the Thoracic Spine



Vertebral Column Resection. Resection of Two Vertebral Segments and Three Discs, Anteriorly and Posteriorly



Vertebral Column Resection. Closure of the Vertebral Column Resection With Reconstruction of the anterior Column With Cage and Posterior Column With Pedicle Screw Instrumentation



Figure 4. (A) Vertebral column resection. Depiction of a sharp angular kyphosis in the thoracic spine. (B) Vertebral column resection. Resection of two vertebral segments and three discs. (C) Vertebral column resection. Closure of the vertebral column resection. Reconstruction of the anterior column with a cage and the posterior column with pedicle screw instrumentation. Note the anterior and posterior columns are not closed bone-on-bone. A generous posterior central enlargement is maintained to observe the thecal sac. Performance of the vertebral column resection was preceded by resection of the transverse processes and ribs at these levels.

#### • Remove vertebral body

- Corpectomy, lamina, pedicles, TP's, rib heads
- Insert cage and posteriorly close vertebral column
- Not bone on bone as dura may kink
- Suk et al: Spine 2005
- Bridwell: Spine 2005



### Percutaneous Techniques







### Global Correction Methods





### **Global Correction Methods**



Department of Neurological Surgery

### **Regional Correction Methods**



FIGURE 1. Illustrations of the posterior rod derotation technique using the Cotrel-Dubousset system (from, Bauer R, Kerschbaumer F, Porsel S: Atlas of Spinal Operations. New York, Thieme, 1993, pp 140).







### Segmental Correction Methods

"Open the closed spaces and close the open spaces."



### **Construct Forces**











#### McCord Spine 17:S235, 1992



### Conclusion

- Clinical and radiographical data is needed to assess if curve is flexible or fixed
- Flexible curves can be reduced on positioning
- Fixed curves require spinal column release with osteotomies and VB resection



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# Thank You!

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