Spinal Alignment

Goals of Care

Development of an Impact-based Classification



Sigurd Berven, M.D. Professor in Residence University of California San Francisco

Overview

- Sagittal Alignment, Balance, Harmony
- Etiologies of Sagittal Plane Deformity

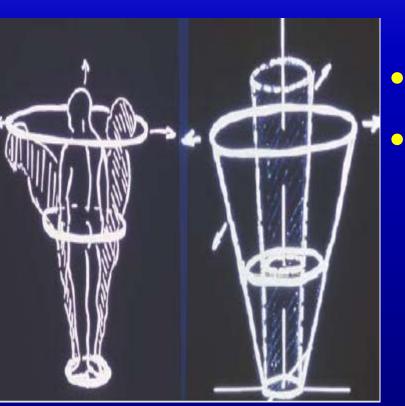
 Historical Perspective on Flatback Deformity- Lagrone
- Surgical goals and appropriate alignment
 - Thoracolumbar- Tortolani
 - Cervicothoracic- Protopsaitis
 - Degenerative Pathology
- Case Discussions

Reflections of an Orthopaedic Surgeon on Patient Care and Research Into the Condition of Scoliosis

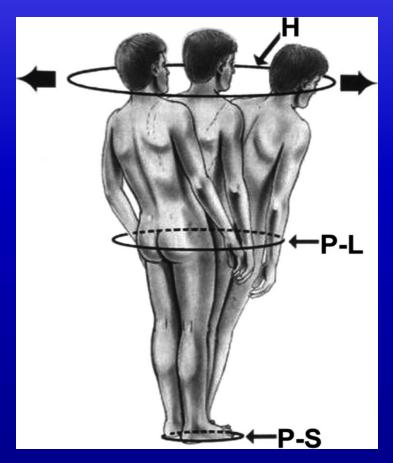
Jean Dubousset, MD

J Pediatr Orthop 2011;31:S1-S8





Cone of Economy
Minimum muscular energy is required to maintain balance between the heavy cephalic vertebrae (the head) and the polygon of support (both feet). Sagittal Alignment Cone of economy



• Muscle demand

- Fatigue
- Pain/Disability
- Loss of forward gaze

• Loss of head over pelvis

Jean Dubousset

Spinal Alignment, Balance, and Harmony through the ages

Jean Dubousset Académie Nationale de Médecine Paris France

Conclusion and summary : Alignment, Balance and Harmony are always linked to achieve in the human spine the best economical function as in a static posture as during movements. This was acquired progressively during growth thanks to a genetic, biomechanical, and neurological control giving a fluid and harmonious function. Pathological or degenerative insults may destroy this beautiful arrangement, but the numerous possibilities of compensation mechanisms often suffice to maintain an acceptable function. When a surgical treatment requiring fusion is decided the goal must look to reestablish the harmony of the spinal organ leaving as much as possible the sources of compensation and flexibility above and below the fused area.

Alignment, Balance and Harmony

- Alignment- Static
- Balance- Dynamic
- Harmony- Functional interplay of Alignment and Balance







Adult Spinal Deformity





Goals of Care

- Safety
- Improve Neural Compression
- Improve Back Pain
- Improve Sagittal and Coronal Alignment
- Effective Arthrodesis
- Improve Self-Assessment of Health-related Quality of Life
- Optimize Value of Care



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