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Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children's Leadership in Scoliosis

Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children (TSRHC) has cared for children with scoliosis since its very early years. The hospital has emerged as a leader in spine research due to its prestigious research efforts and innovative treatment methods. TSRHC has significantly improved the care of young patients with spinal deformities throughout Texas, the United States and the world, and has treated tens of thousands of children with scoliosis.

Center for Excellence in Spine Research

In 2005, TSRHC established the Sarah M. and Charles E. Seay/Martha and Pat Beard Center for Excellence in Spine Research (Seay/Beard Center) to determine the cause of scoliosis, better understand the factors that lead to curve progression, explore ways to prevent curve progression and improve scoliosis surgical treatments. This revolutionary center provides a forum for experts from diverse disciplines to collaborate on specific challenges related to spinal deformities.

The Seay/Beard Center staff focuses on six main areas of research: basic science, new implant design and modification, understanding spinal deformity and spinal growth, outcome studies following non-operative and operative treatment, defining adverse outcomes and complications and investigation of minimal access surgical techniques.

TSRH® Spinal System and TSRH® SiLo™ 5.5 Spinal System

In the mid-1980s, TSRHC researchers developed a segmental spinal instrumentation based on the Cortel and Dubousset (CD instrumentation) concept. Because the TSRH Spinal System does not require postoperative immobilization, thereby reducing recovery time before a patient can return to physical activities, it became the most widely-used implant system in the world for both spinal deformity and adult degenerative conditions.

TSRHC introduced a modified design, TSRH SiLo™ 5.5 Spinal System, in 2005, offering a side-loading alternative used in trauma, tumor and deformity surgery. Today, more than 2.75 million TSRH Spinal Systems have been used to treat complex spinal conditions.

Scoliosis Surgical Outcomes Database

Many TSRHC scoliosis patients participate in research studies. The TSRHC Scoliosis Research Database is a unique research tool currently containing information for over 600 participating individuals with idiopathic scoliosis. Information such as age, weight, family history, disease onset, disease progression etc., can easily be compared and linked to clinical and laboratory data. The database will ultimately integrate information for at least 2,000 research participants with idiopathic scoliosis in the next three to four years.

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