

# Early Onset Scoliosis

**14 states**  
**4 countries**

Early onset scoliosis patients were from 14 states and 4 countries in 2011



Cincinnati Children's is ranked #4 in Orthopaedics and third among all Honor Roll hospitals in the 2012–13 *U.S. News & World Report* listing of Best Children's Hospitals

**70+**

Early onset scoliosis patients Dr. Sturm has treated with Mehta casting since he began using the technique

The Crawford Spine Center at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center is nationally recognized for the comprehensive diagnosis and treatment of every form of early onset scoliosis, including congenital scoliosis and progressive scoliosis in infants and children.

## HOW WE'RE DIFFERENT

The Crawford Spine Center's collaborative, multidisciplinary team includes renowned experts experienced in treating early onset scoliosis using a variety of treatment protocols, including Mehta casting.

Our focus on treating the whole patient — physically and emotionally — is guided by Peter F. Sturm, MD, the director of the Crawford Spine Center. Dr. Sturm has more than 20 years of experience in the treatment of pediatric scoliosis, kyphosis and other spine deformities. He has a national reputation in the treatment of children with complex spinal deformities, with a specific interest in early onset scoliosis. Dedicated spine nurses coordinate care, educate families on every aspect of their treatment, and advocate for patients throughout the entire process.

## CONDITIONS TREATED

The Spine Center provides care for children and young adults with spine conditions that include infantile/early-onset scoliosis and congenital spinal deformities.

## TREATMENT APPROACH

Each patient receives a comprehensive evaluation by our experts. The team reviews each child's medical history, performs the necessary tests and then presents a casting plan or surgical treatment plan tailored to address the patient's individual condition.

We offer a complete spectrum of treatment — from non-operative approaches to minimally invasive techniques using the latest technology developed by our physicians. Treatment may include:

- Casting
- Non-fusion surgery or growing rod surgery
- Vertical expanding prosthetic titanium ribs procedure (VEPTR surgery)



## TREATMENT TEAM

Peter F. Sturm, MD  
*Director*

Steven S. Agabegi, MD

Viral V. Jain, MD

James J. McCarthy, MD

Charles T. Mehlman, DO, MPH

Eric J. Wall, MD

Maureen Grady, RN II

Tina Deniro, RN II

## RESEARCH TO IMPROVE PATIENT CARE

Our program takes part in research to understand the best ways to treat pediatric spine problems in order to provide children access to the latest treatment and devices.

- The Spine Center is currently involved in eight prospective and 19 retrospective research studies for early onset scoliosis.
- We are one of only eight sites in a pilot study for the Chest Wall and Spine Deformity Study Group, comparing the Mehta casting technique to bracing for early onset scoliosis.
- Several members of the Spine Center are also members of the Growing Spine Study Group (GSSG), dedicated to the treatment of progressive early onset spinal deformities.
- We are part of a multicenter study evaluating the long-term clinical and radiographic outcomes of early onset scoliosis and other early onset spinal and chest wall deformities.

## BY THE NUMBERS

**In 2011, the Crawford Spine Center treated  
117 patients with Early Onset Scoliosis.**

Of those patients:

**4** were treated with Risser casts

**11** were treated with Mehta casts

**3** were treated with surgical procedure

For questions or referrals  
call our Spine Nurse Hotline  
at **513-803-2750**.