

# SKELETAL DYSPLASIA

William G. Mackenzie, MD; Charles I. Scott, Jr, MD; Linda Nicholson, MS, MC  
Alfred I. duPont Hospital for Children, Wilmington, DE

## INITIAL EVALUATION

### History and Physical Exam

Developmental motor delay, loss of function, neurological complaints  
Family history

Facial features; spinal deformity; limbs-joint laxity, deformity;  
neurological exam; proportion- short vs. average trunk length; limb shortening- rhizo, meso or acromelia

### Typical Radiographs

Flexion and extension lateral C-spine, AP and lateral thoracolumbar spine, AP and lateral lower extremities hip to ankles, AP both hands and wrists



4 yo fraternal twins, one with achondroplasia. Note rhizomelic limb shortening and normal trunk length



Short trunk in Morquio's syndrome



Spondyloepiphyseal Dysplasia



Platyspondyly



Metatropic Dysplasia

### Areas of Limb Involvement



Spondyloepiphyseal dysplasia. Primarily epiphyseal involvement.  
Chondroectodermal dysplasia. Selective tibial epiphyseal involvement.  
Metaphyseal dysplasia. Note similarity to rickets.  
Metatropic Dysplasia. Epiphysis and metaphysis involved.

## ACHONDROPLASIA

### Etiology

FGFR3 (fibroblast growth factor receptor 3)  
Autosomal Dominant

### Diagnosis

Clinical diagnosis at birth can be confirmed using lab tests and radiological features

### Clinical Features

Average length and weight at birth  
Macrocephaly, Mid-face hypoplasia  
Rhizomelia  
Genu varum  
Trident hand

### Clinical Problems

Foramen magnum stenosis  
Sleep apnea  
Hydrocephalus



Thoracolumbar kyphosis usually resolves  
Frequent otitis media  
Genu varum  
Lumbar and cervical spinal stenosis  
Obesity  
Rarely needs joint replacement



Narrowing interpediculate distance Champagne glass pelvis



Rhizomelia, Notched (V shaped) physes

## SPONDYLOEPIPHYSEAL DYSPLASIA

### Etiology

Multiple subtypes:  
most common – congenital  
Type II collagenopathy

### Diagnosis

At birth; Short trunk, short limb  
Radiographic features

### Clinical Features

Extreme short stature  
Long, slim fingers  
Waddling gait  
Lumbar lordosis  
Genu valgum

### Clinical Problems

Cervical instability  
Kyphoscoliosis  
Coxa vara  
Myopia, retinal detachment  
Eventual joint replacement



Platyspondyly, Scoliosis



Severe epiphyseal dysplasia, coxa vara

## MULTIPLE EPIPHYSEAL DYSPLASIA

### Etiology

COMP (collagen oligomeric matrix protein) abnormality  
Type IX collagen (less severe)  
Autosomal dominant

### Diagnosis

Radiographic features  
Not usually recognized until age 5-10 yrs

### Clinical Features

Mild short-stature  
Delayed walking  
Genu valgum

### Clinical Problems

Painful, stiff joints  
Limb malalignment  
Eventual joint replacement



Appearance of bilateral Legg-Perthes is common in MED



Delayed epiphyseal ossification and small epiphyses

## DIASTROPHIC DYSPLASIA

### Etiology

Sulphate transporter defect  
Autosomal recessive

### Diagnosis

At birth; cleft palate, clubfeet, hitch hiker thumb,  
Symphalangism, cauliflower ears develop early

### Clinical Features

Short stature  
Flexion contractures – hips knees  
Lateral patellar dislocation  
Foot deformity

### Clinical Problems

Laryngotracheomalacia  
Cervical kyphosis  
Kyphoscoliosis  
Hip dysplasia  
Limb Malalignment  
Joint replacement common



Cervical kyphosis often resolves spontaneously



Short, thick tubular bones, delayed and fragmented epiphyses, hip dysplasia

## PSEUDOACHONDROPLASIA

### Etiology

COMP (collagen oligomeric matrix protein) abnormality  
Autosomal dominant

### Diagnosis

Radiographic features  
Short-limbed dwarfism not usually recognized until 2-3 yrs

### Clinical Features

Normal face  
Short, stubby, hyper mobile fingers  
Genu varus/valgus or windswept  
Marked ligamentous laxity

### Clinical Problems

Cervical spine instability  
Limb malalignment  
Eventual joint replacement



Radiographs and MRI – C1-2 instability with cord compression



Short broad long bones with flared metaphyses and small epiphyses



Platyspondyly

## MORQUIO SYNDROME

### Etiology

Mucopolysaccharidosis Type IVA  
N-acetylgalactosamine-6-sulphatase deficiency  
Autosomal recessive

### Diagnosis

Not made at birth, short stature apparent by 2 yrs  
Radiographic features  
Urine screen – keratan sulfate  
Molecular genetic testing

### Clinical Features

Normal intelligence  
Awkward gait, genu valgum  
Barrel-shaped chest, pectus carinatum  
Extreme ligamentous laxity

### Clinical Problems

Cervical spine instability (odontoid hypoplasia)  
Limb malalignment  
Corneal opacity (at 5-10 yrs)  
Cardiomyopathy  
Joint replacement common



Platyspondyly with central beaking



Hip dysplasia