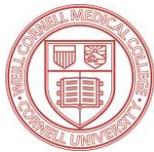


# Leg Lengthening in RSS: Who, Why, & Where?

**Magic Foundation Convention  
Lombard, IL; July 11, 2015**

**S. Robert Rozbruch, MD**

Chief, Limb Lengthening & Complex Reconstruction Service  
Professor of Clinical Orthopedic Surgery

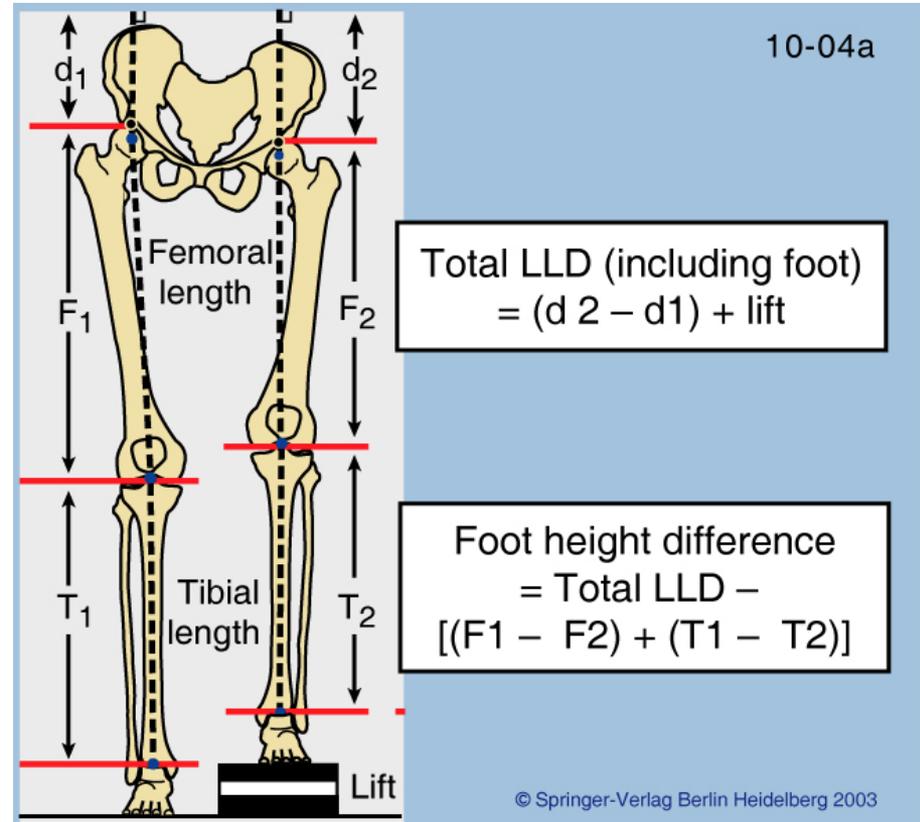


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HOSPITAL  
FOR  
SPECIAL  
SURGERY

# Evaluation

- Causes of LLD
  - Congenital
  - Traumatic Growth arrest
  - Overgrowth
  - Neural inhibition

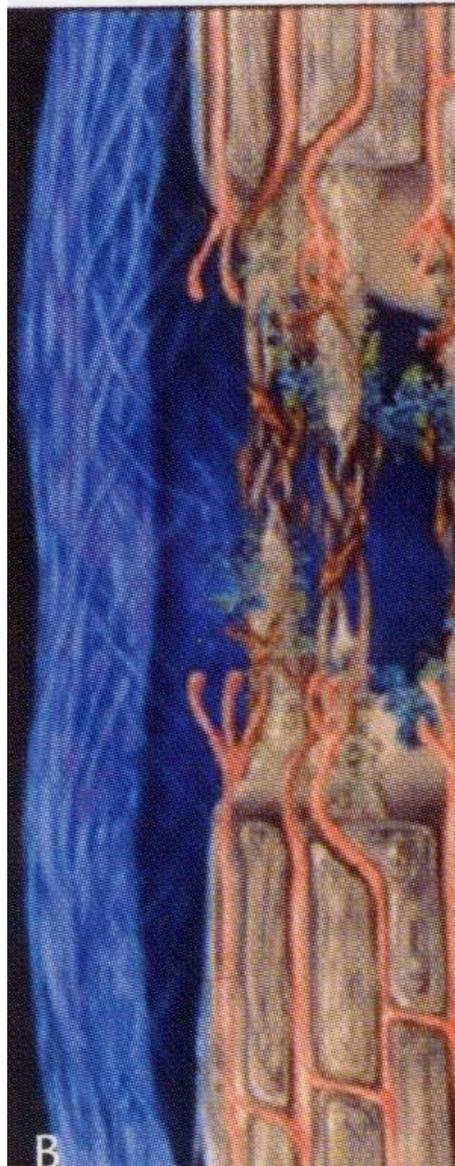


# Congenital LLD

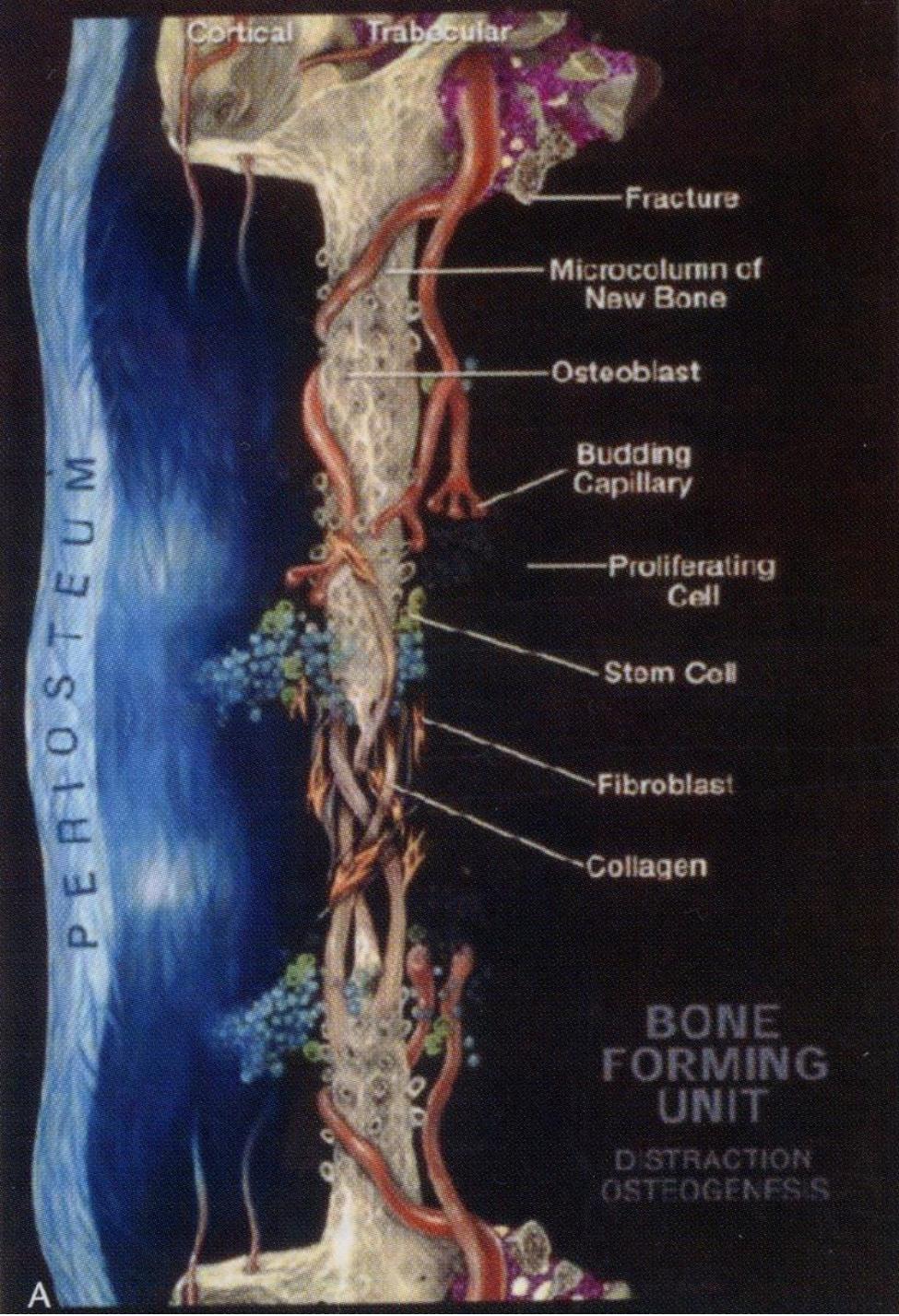
- Age at presentation
- Current LLD
- Distribution femur and tibia
- Bone Age
- Multiplier
- Compliance with shoe lift
- Treatment options
  - One stage lengthening
  - Two or more stages
  - Femur lengthening
  - Tibia lengthening

# Growth Arrest

- Extent of damage
- Deformity
- Shortening
- Growth remaining
- Bone Age
- Multiplier
- Treatment options
  - Hemiepiphysiodesis to prevent worsening deformity
  - Close growth plate, correct deformity and lengthen leg
  - One or more lengthenings
  - Bar excision



B



A



# Outline

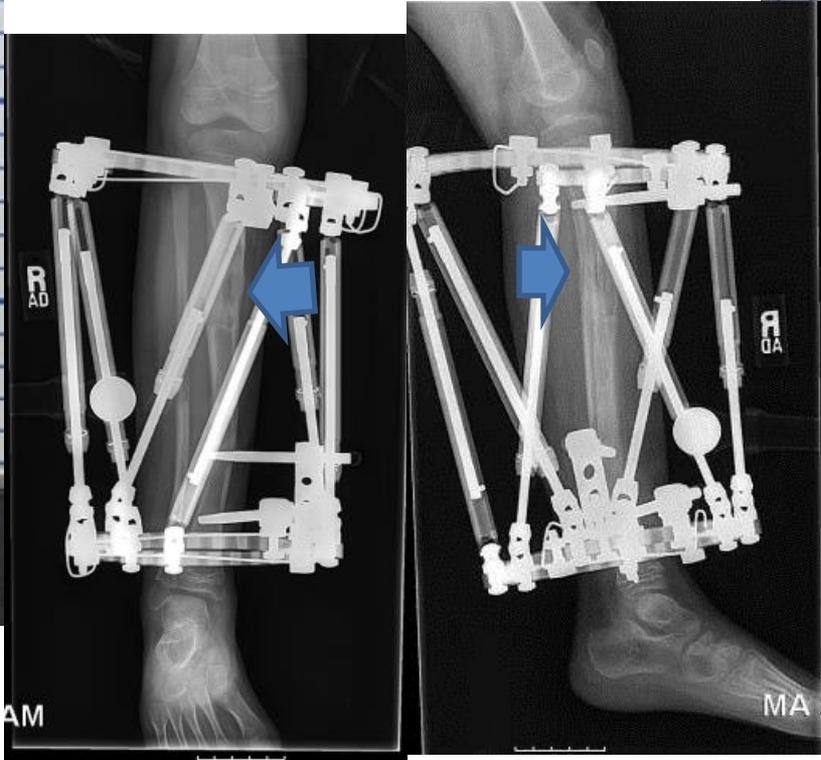
- Limb Lengthening examples
- RSS limb lengthening
- New Magnetic Internal Lengthening Nail
  - PRECICE NAIL
- Question & Answer



Posteromedial bow, age 6  
LLD= 36 mm, all tibia  
M= 1.68  
PLLD= 6.1 cm

Plan: lengthen tibia 3.6 cm  
Correct some prox tibia varus  
Second lengthening in future







3 months  
In frame

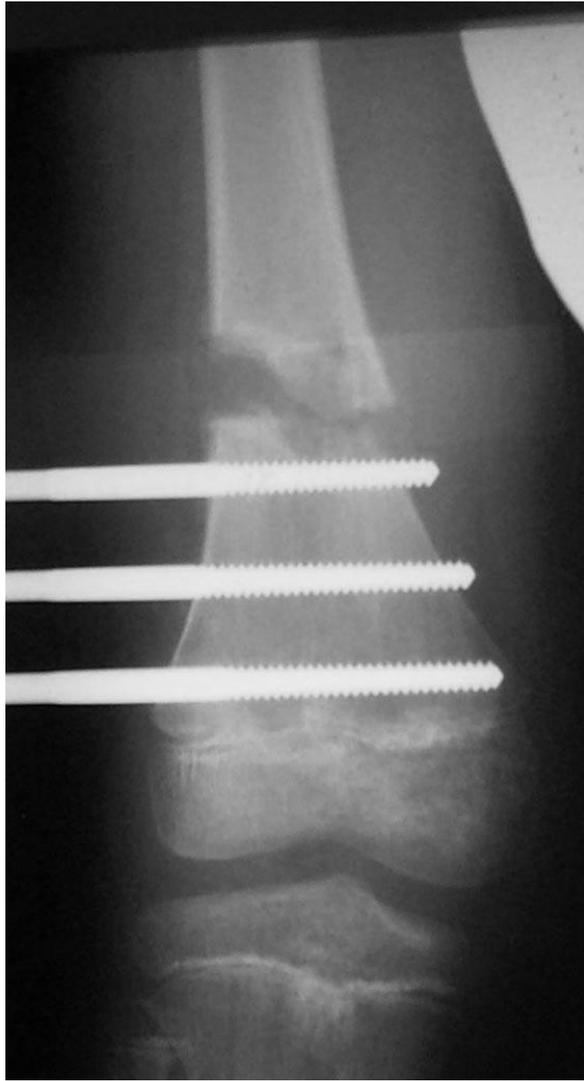


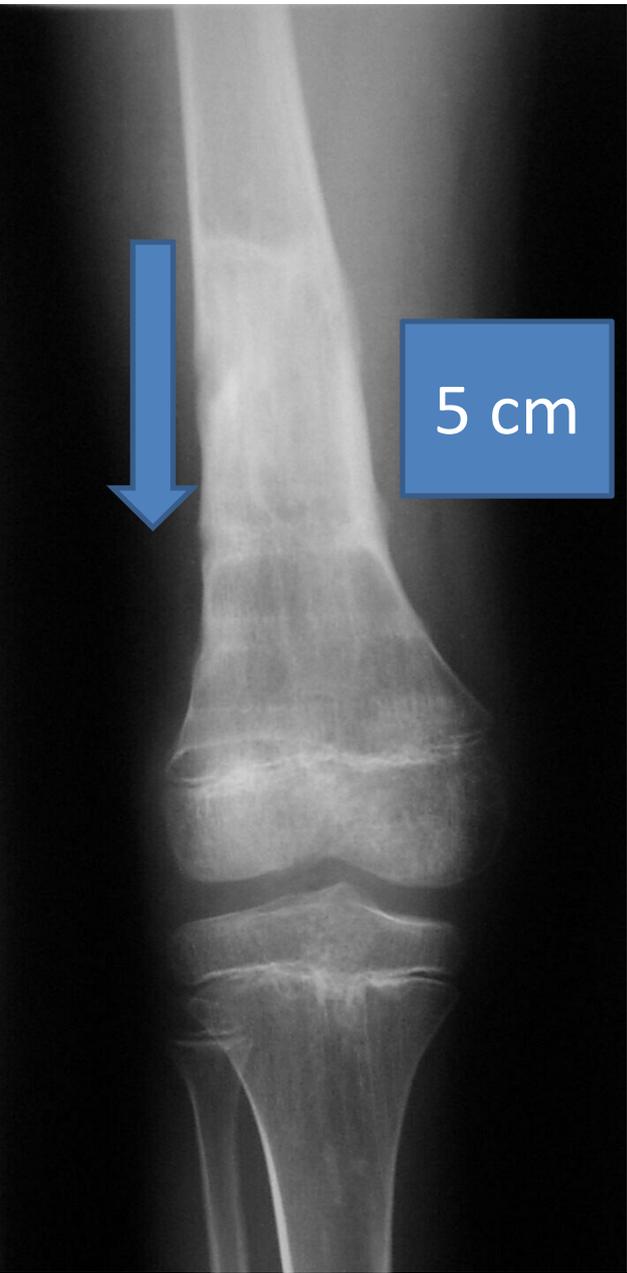
I want this  
frame to  
come off  
now please.  
thank you  
FROM Luke .B



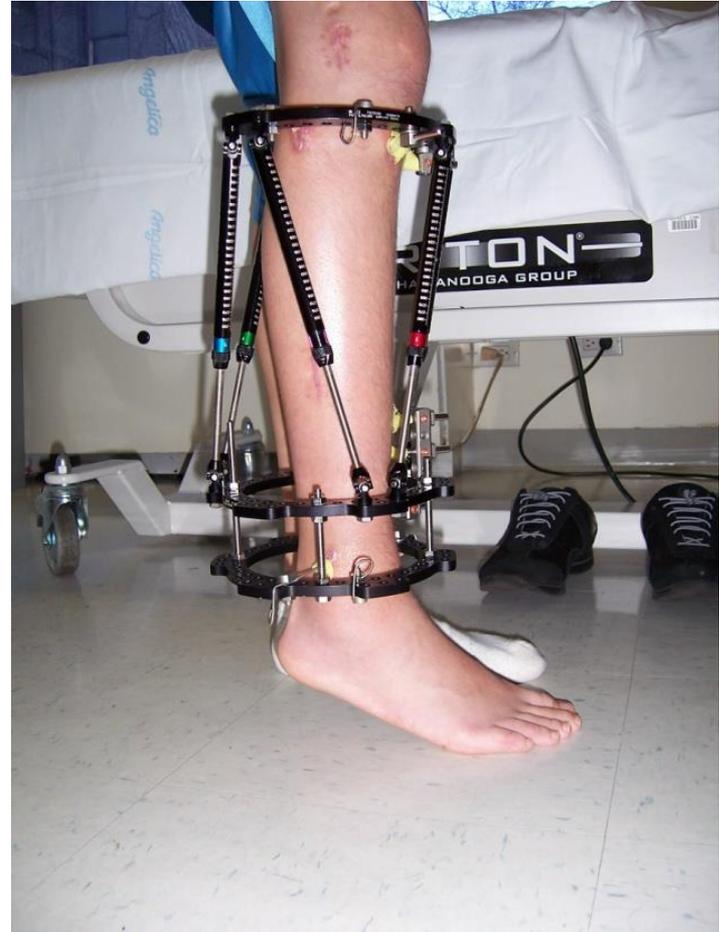
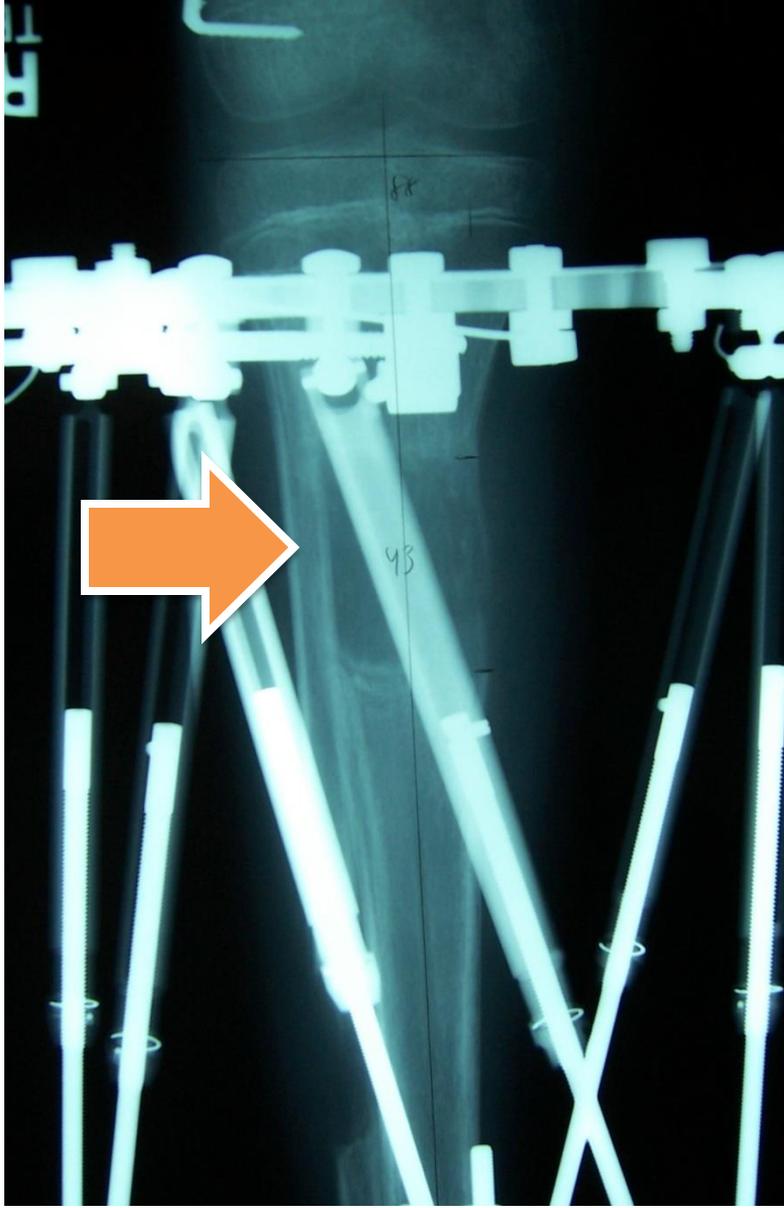








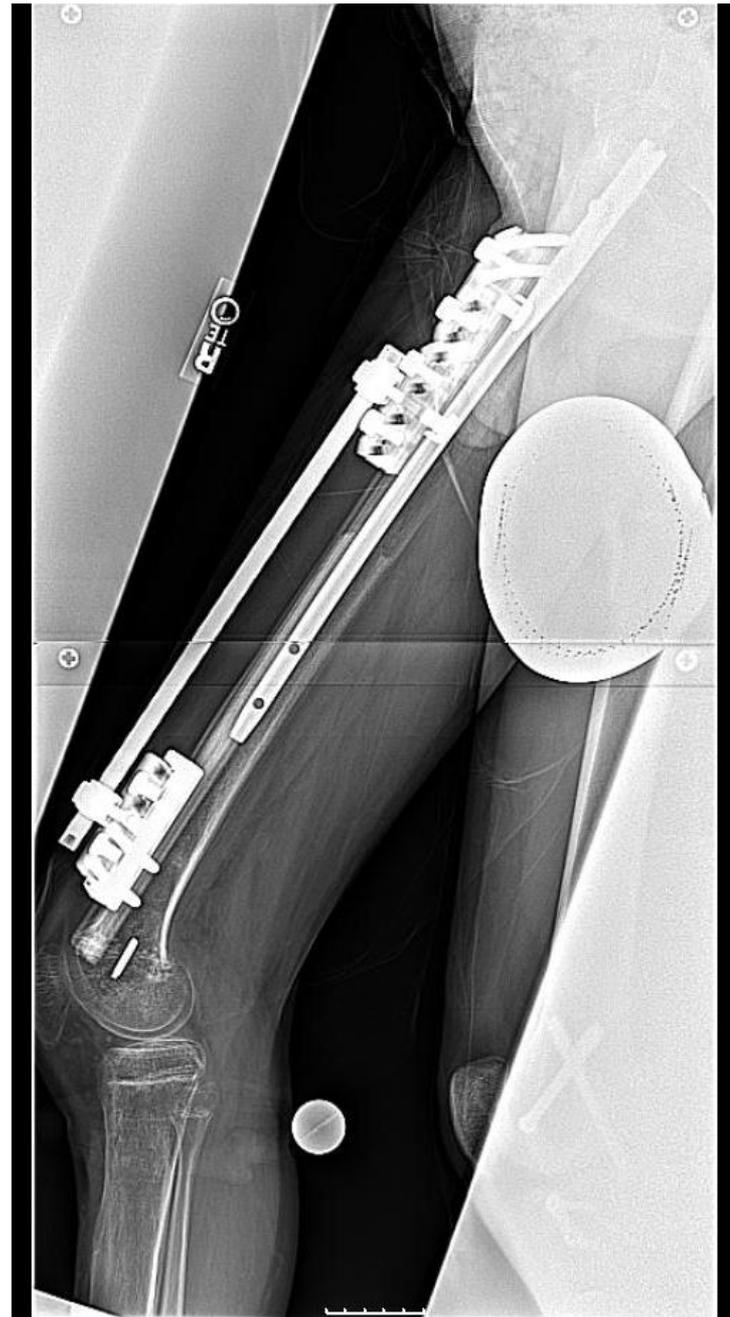
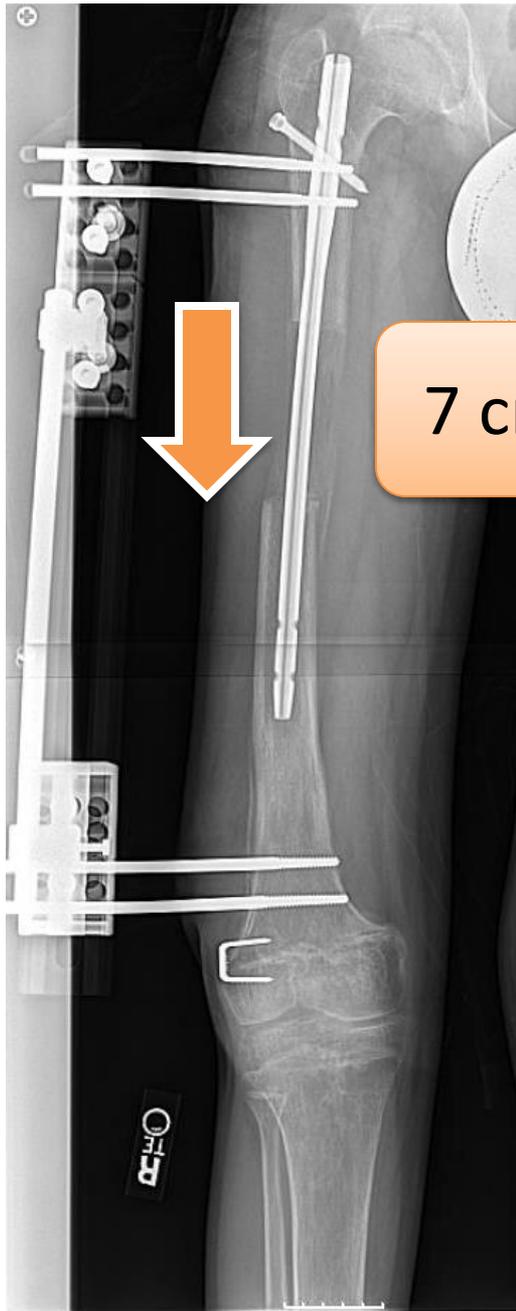


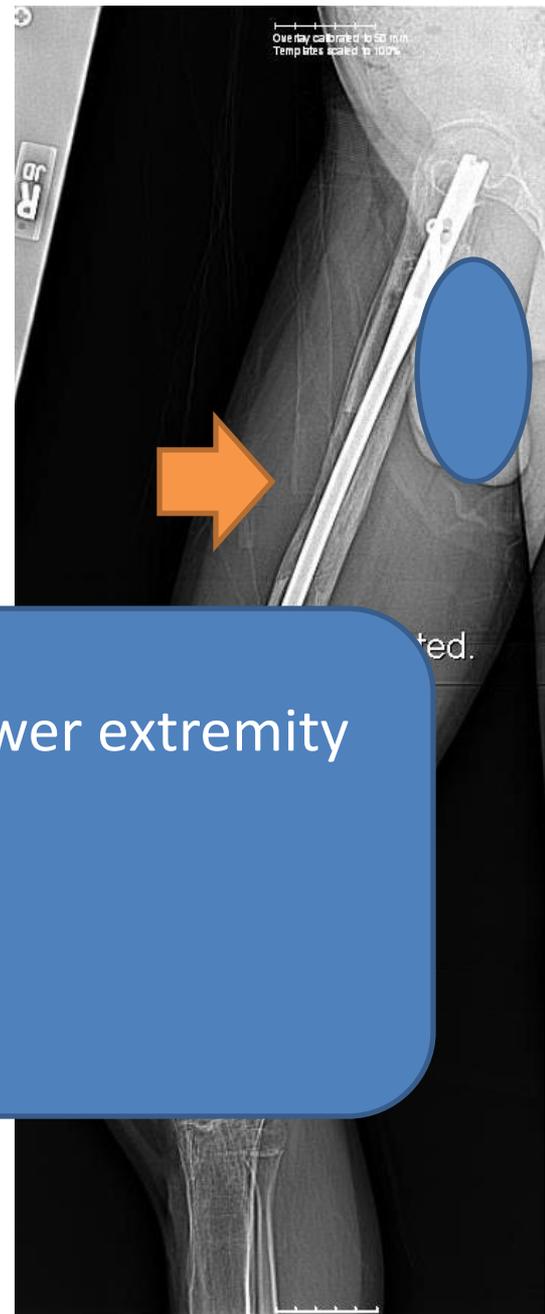










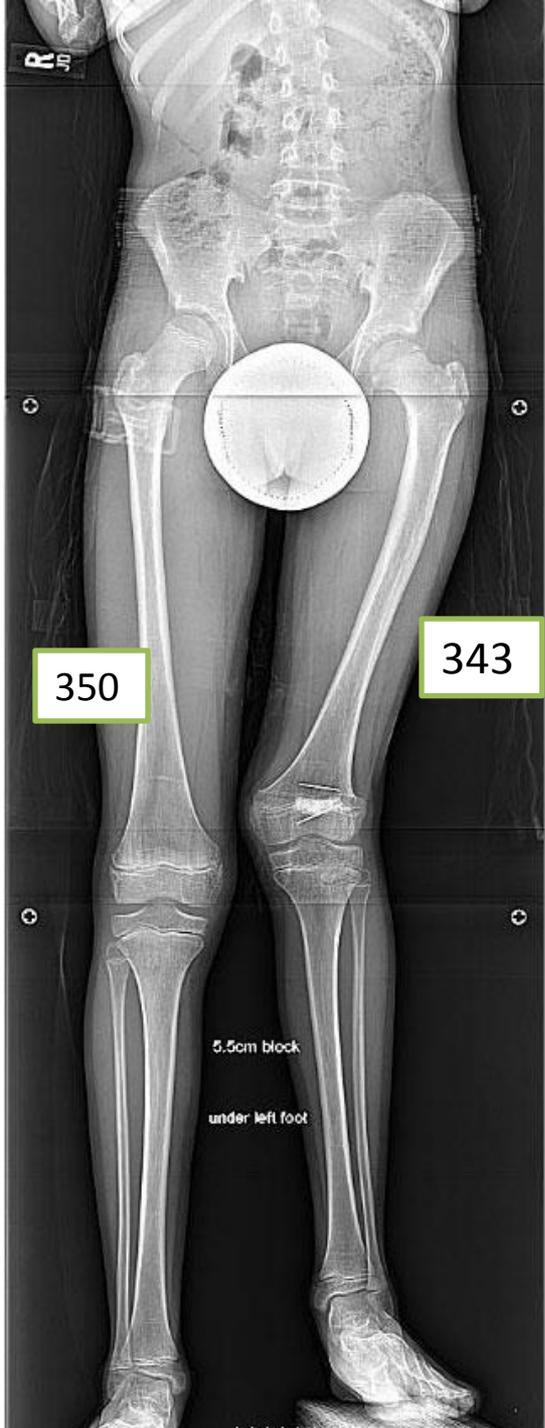


Total Lengthening on R lower extremity  
 $5+9+7=$

21 cm



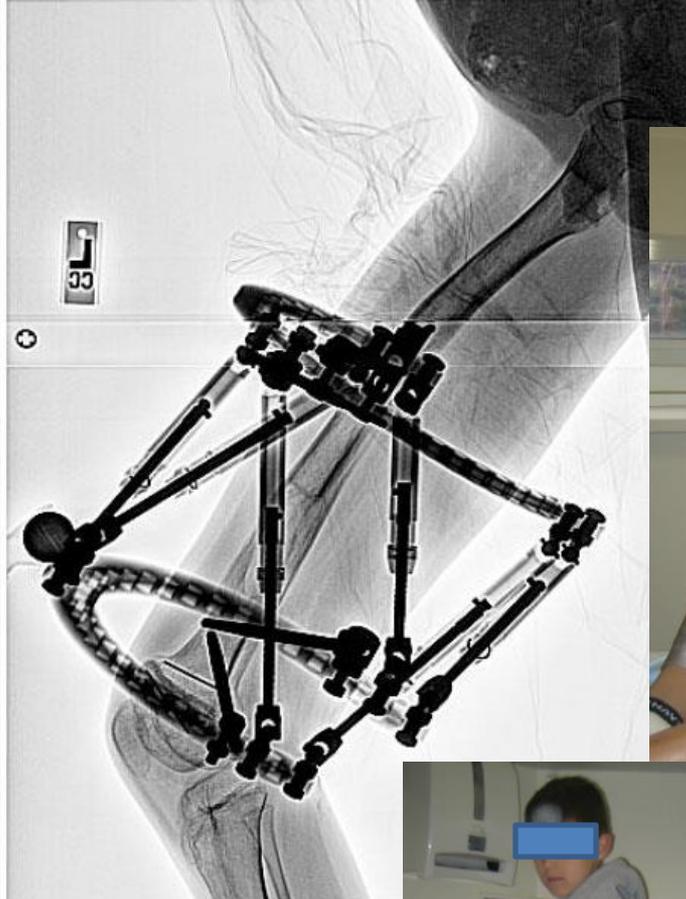




Age 8  
Distal femur growth arrest  
Proximal tibial also  
LLD 7 cm  
Valgus deformity

PLLD  
 $M = 1.47$   
R femur =  $350 \times 1.47$   
R femur will be 515  
 $515 - 350 = 165 \text{ mm}$   
 $165 \times 70\% = 11.5 \text{ cm}$

Plan: lengthen femur  
7 cm, correct valgus,  
Close growth plate.  
Second lengthening of  
about 5 cm. femur and / or  
tibia



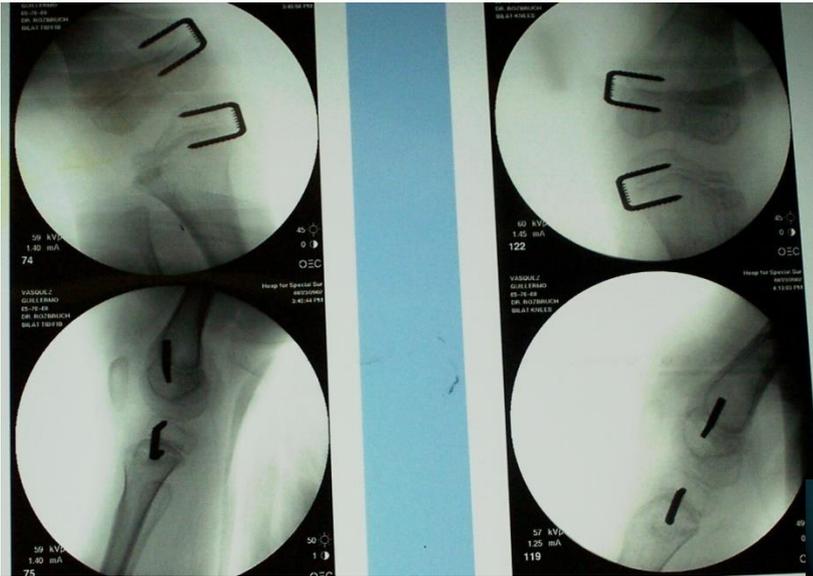




# Ellis Van Creveld Syndrome



# hemiepiphysiodesis



guided growth to  
Correct angular deformity





Age 16, short stature, residual deformity



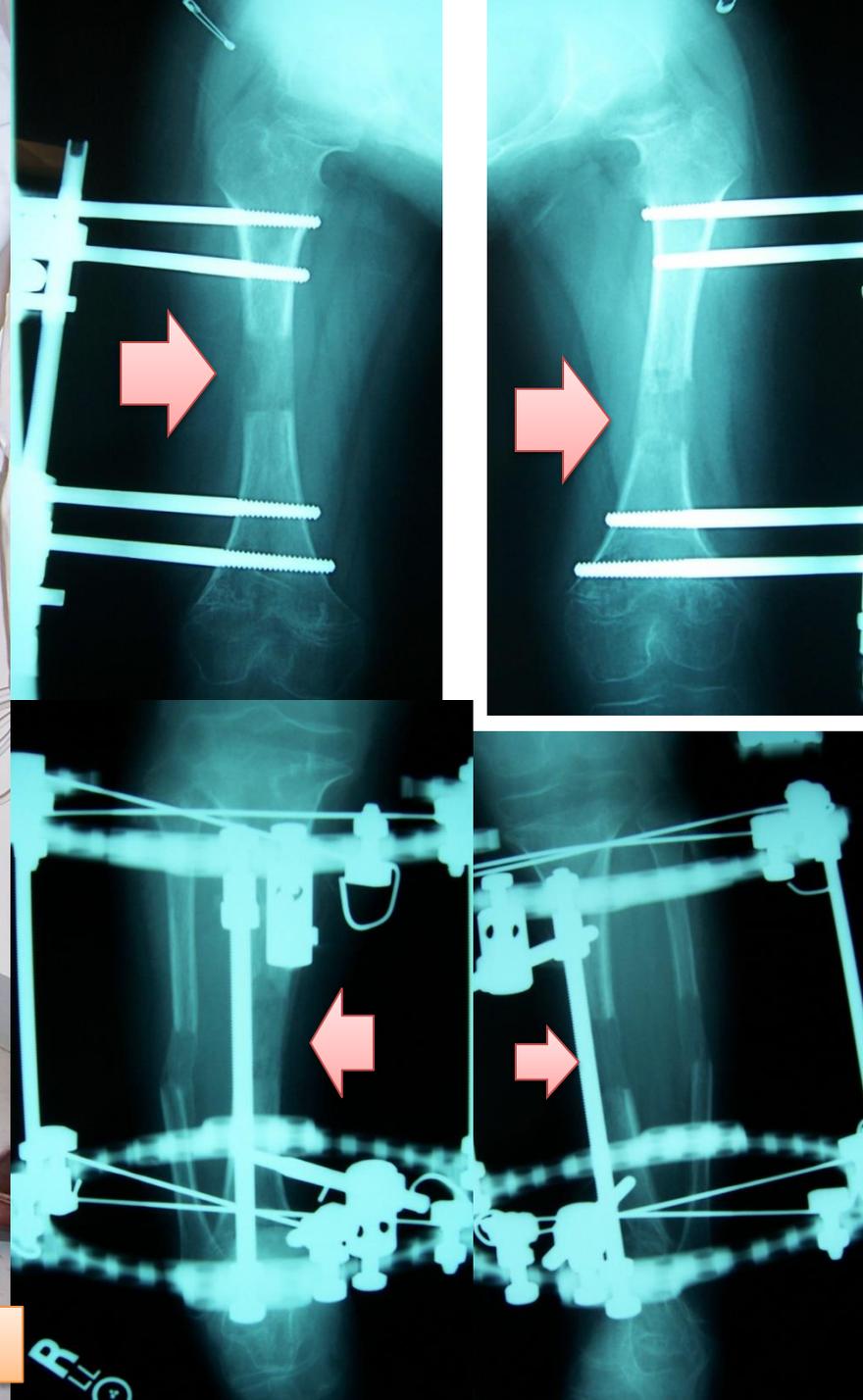




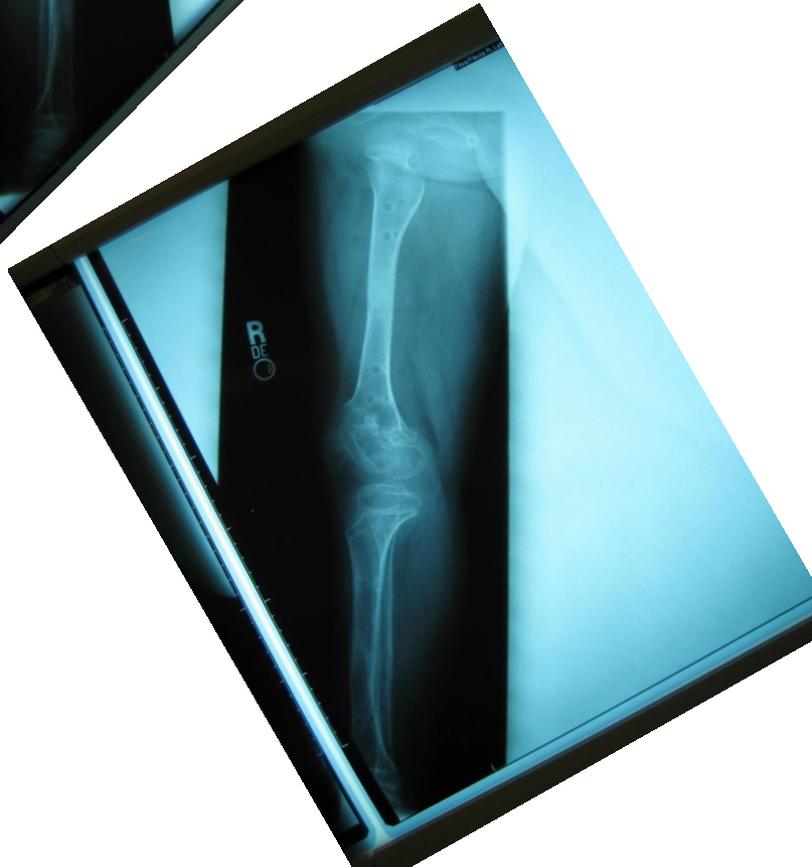


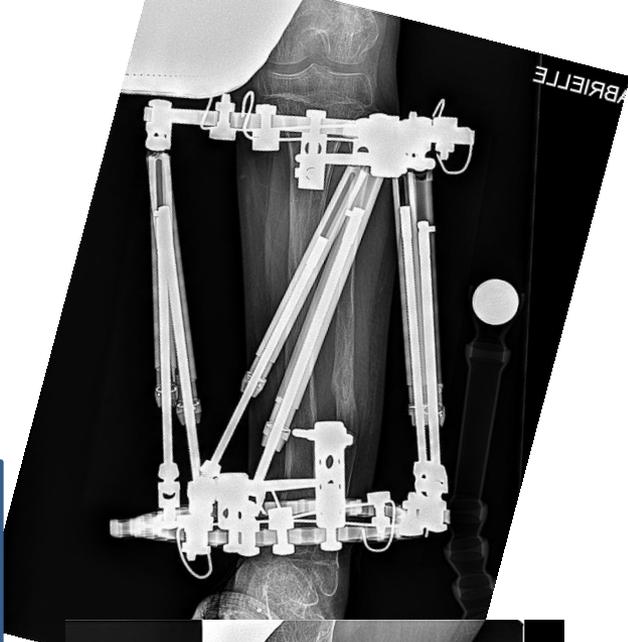
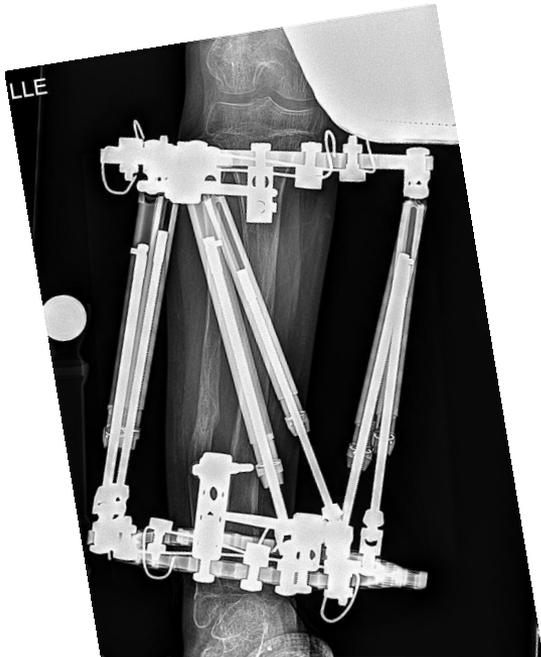
Achondroplasia  
Predicted adult height 3' 11"



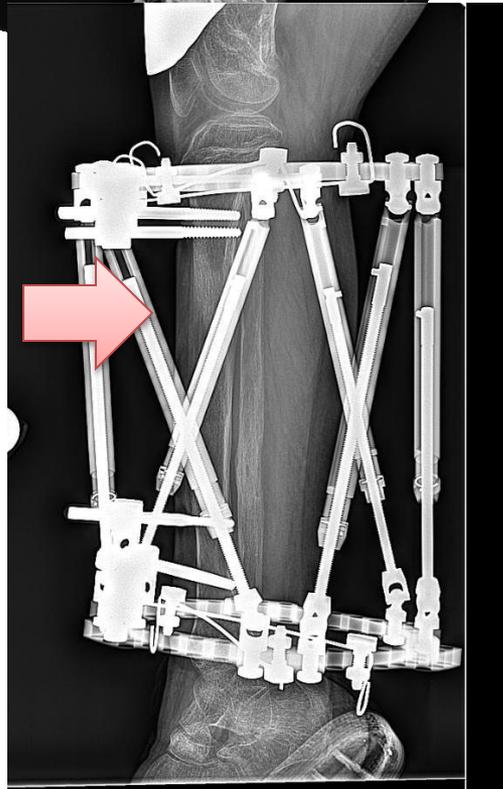
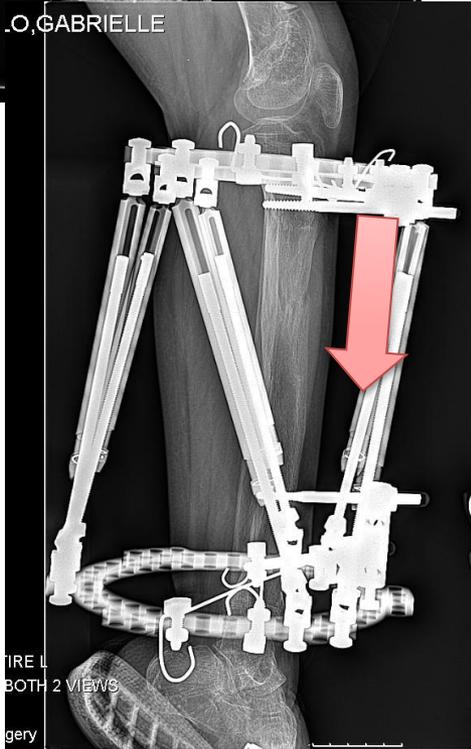


Age 7: B femur and tibia lengthening 5 cm





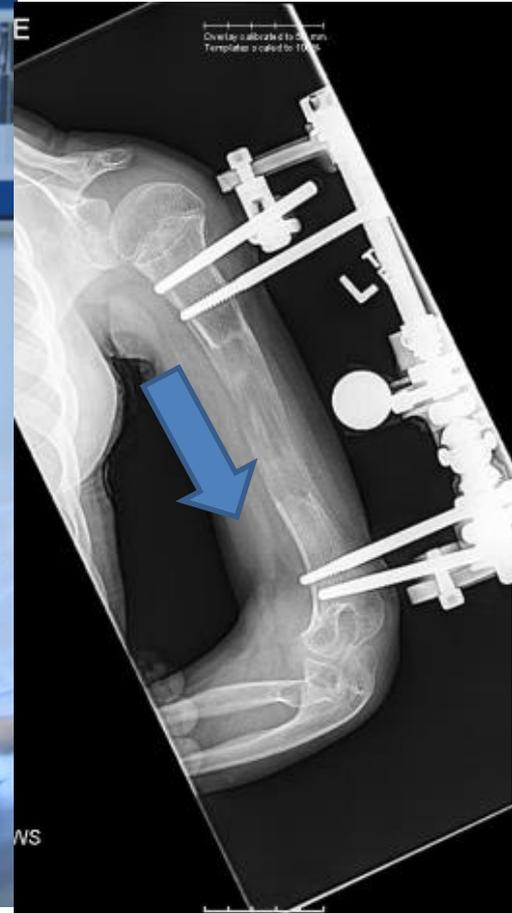
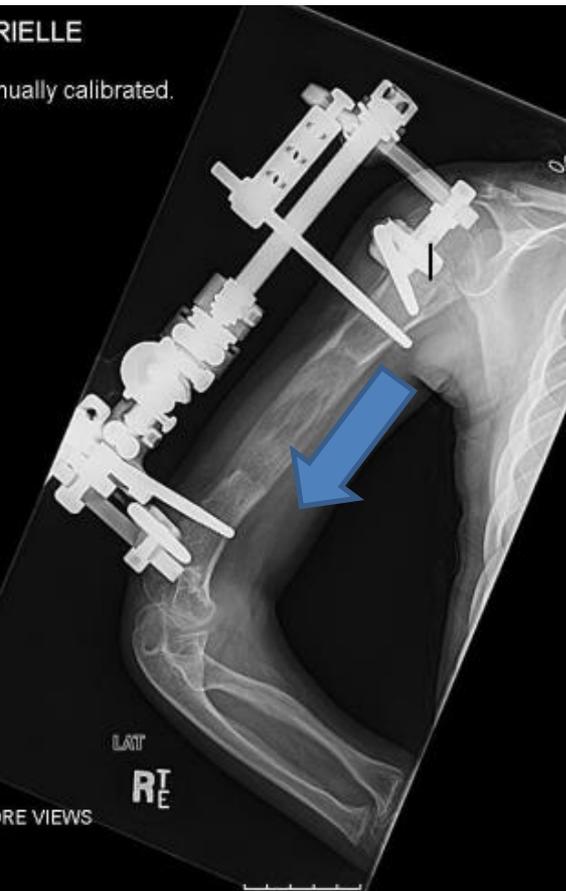
10 cm  
Bilateral tibial  
lengthening  
Age 13





+15 cm in LE's  
BUT Arms short

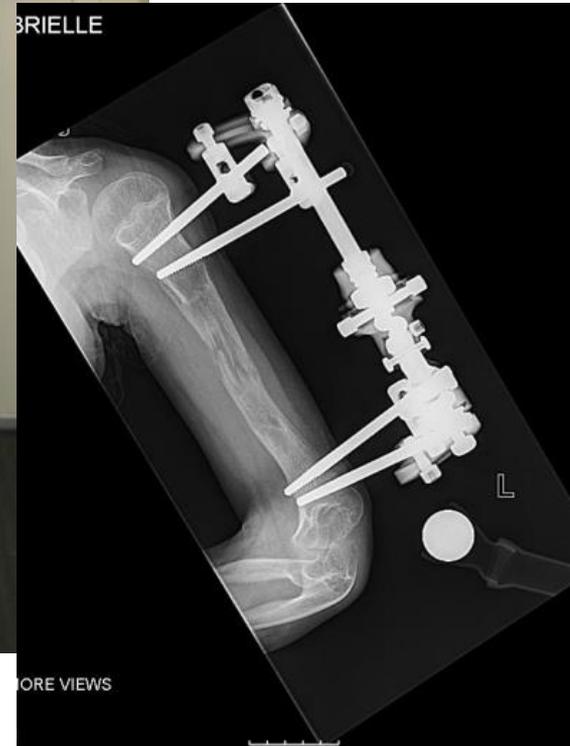




Bilateral Humerus Lengthening 7 cm



BRIELLE





Age 16

Preop for B femur lengthening

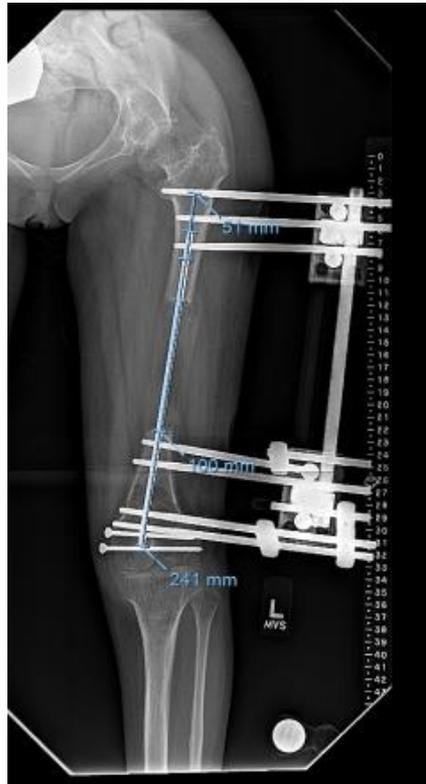
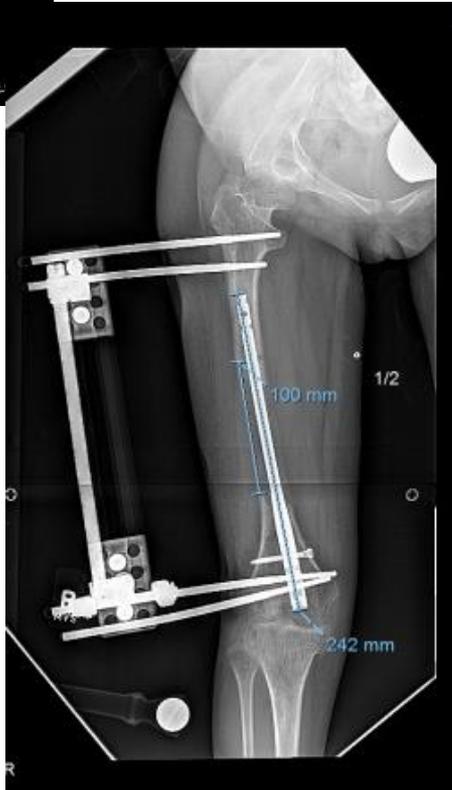
Goal 10 cm

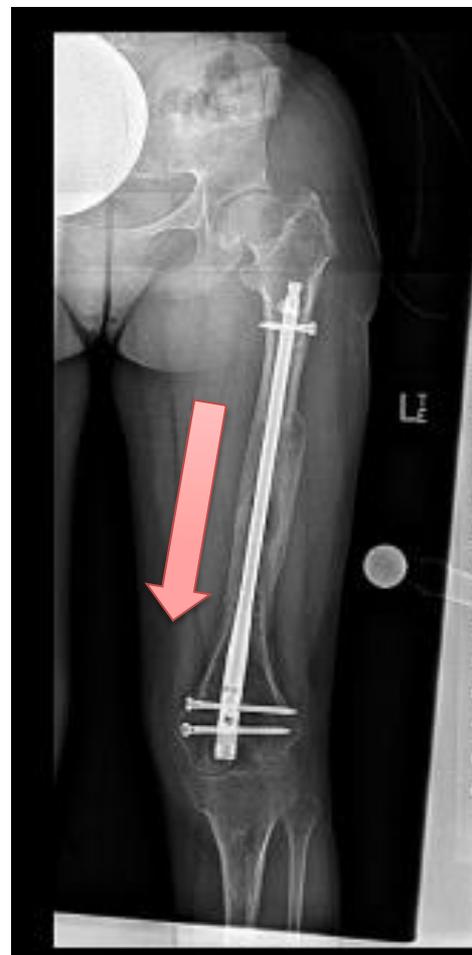
Bone too short for  
internal lengthening rod

Plan: LON



Lengthening over a nail





Retrograde tibial nails  
Plus 10 cm



Now 4' 9"

Age 7: 5cm

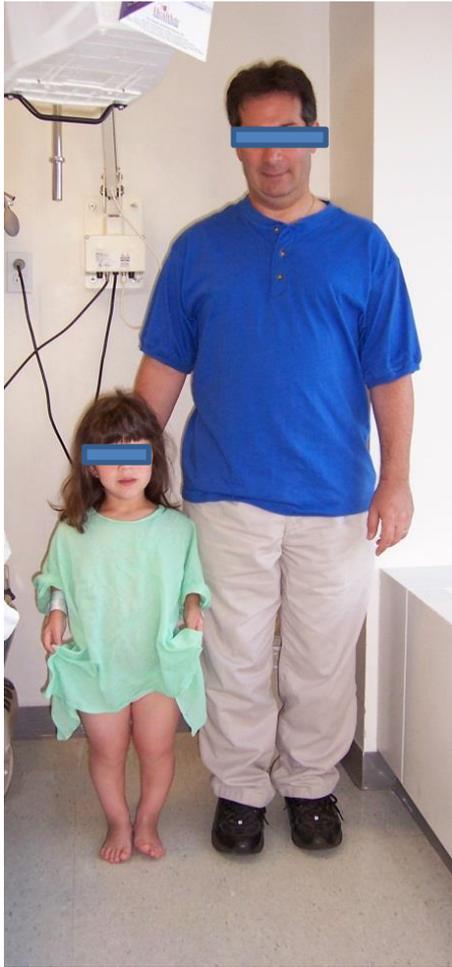
Age 13: 10 cm

Age 16: 10 cm

Total: 25 cm height

Age 14: 7 cm arms

Dressed for  
Prom



Age 7



Age 14



Age 16

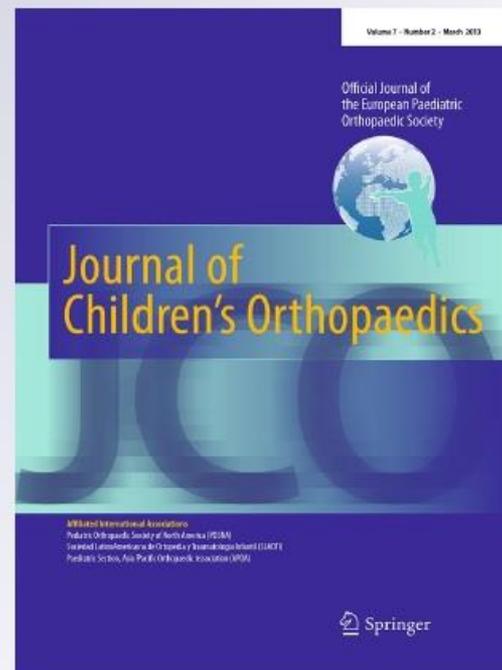
# *Limb lengthening in children with Russell–Silver syndrome: a comparison to other etiologies*

**V. Goldman, T. H. McCoy,  
M. D. Harbison, A. T. Fragomen &  
S. R. Rozbruch**

**Journal of Children's Orthopaedics**  
Official Journal of the European  
Paediatric Orthopaedic Society (EPOS)

ISSN 1863-2521  
Volume 7  
Number 2

J Child Orthop (2013) 7:151–156  
DOI 10.1007/s11832-012-0474-3



age 13

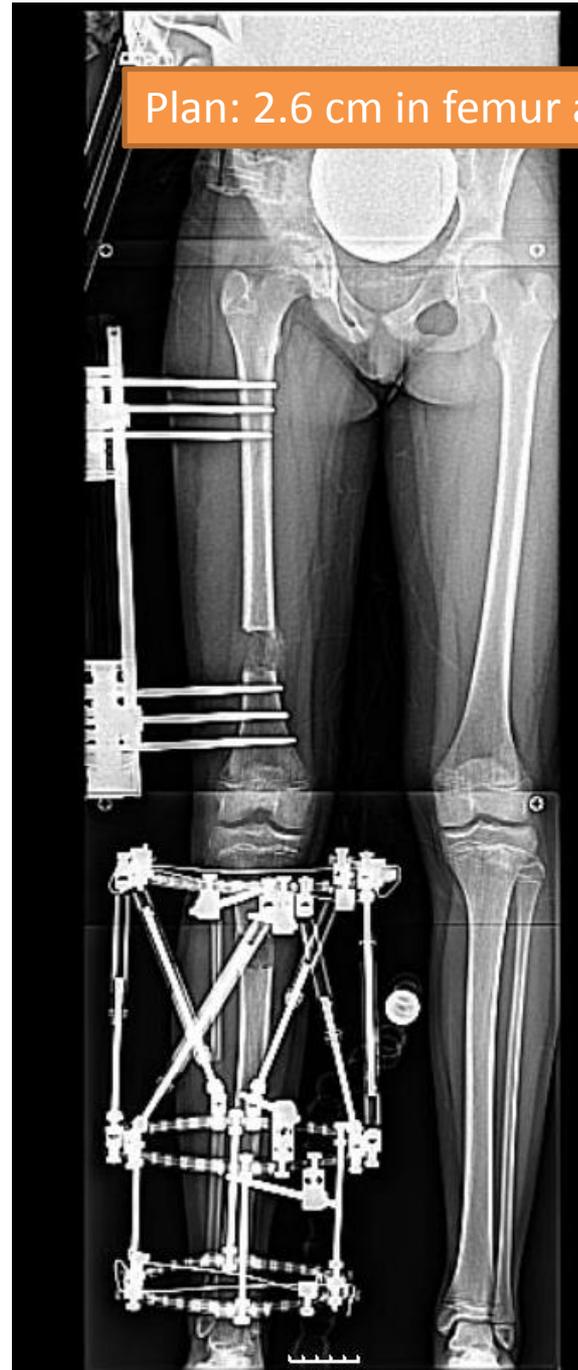
LLD 5 cm divided femur/tibia

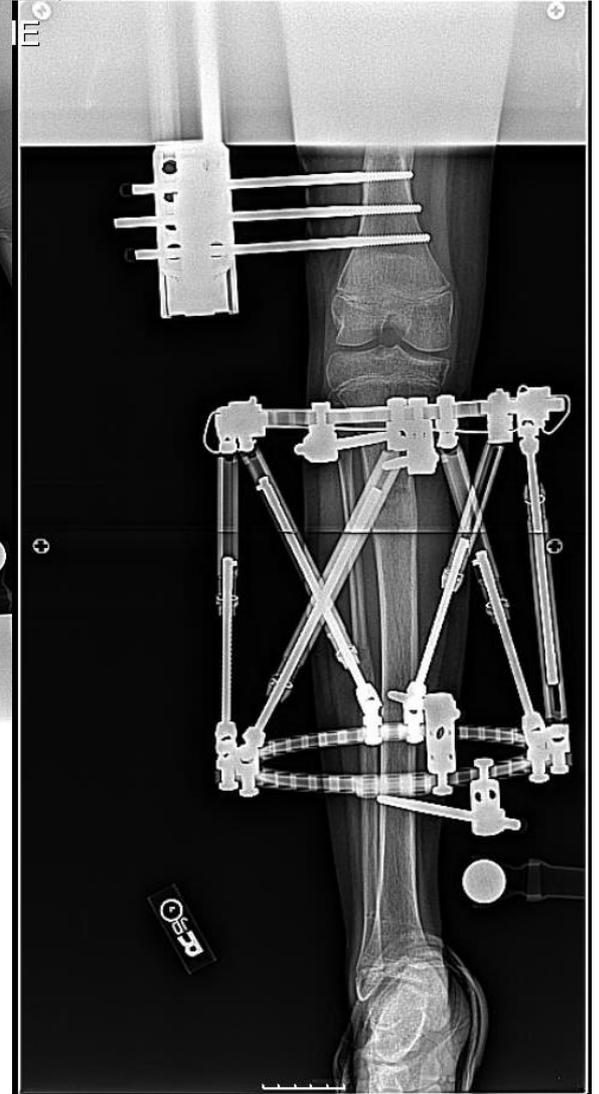
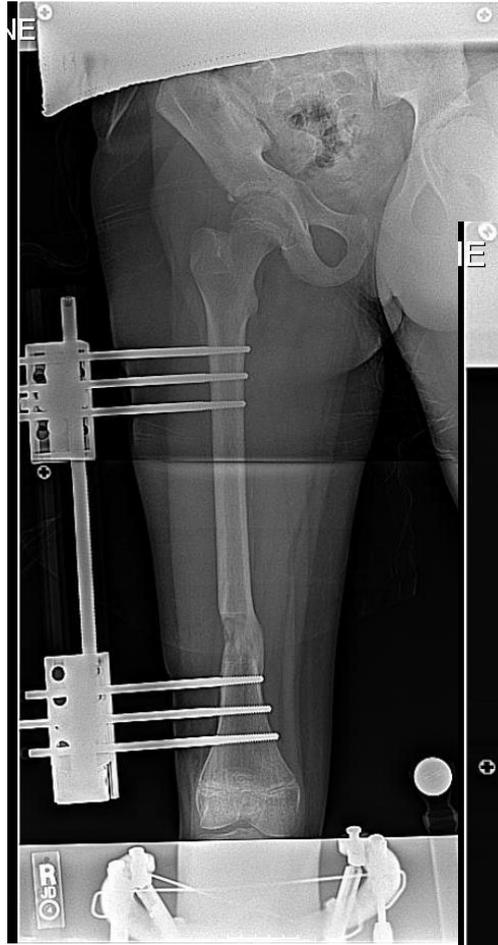
M= 1.03

PLLD= 5.2 cm



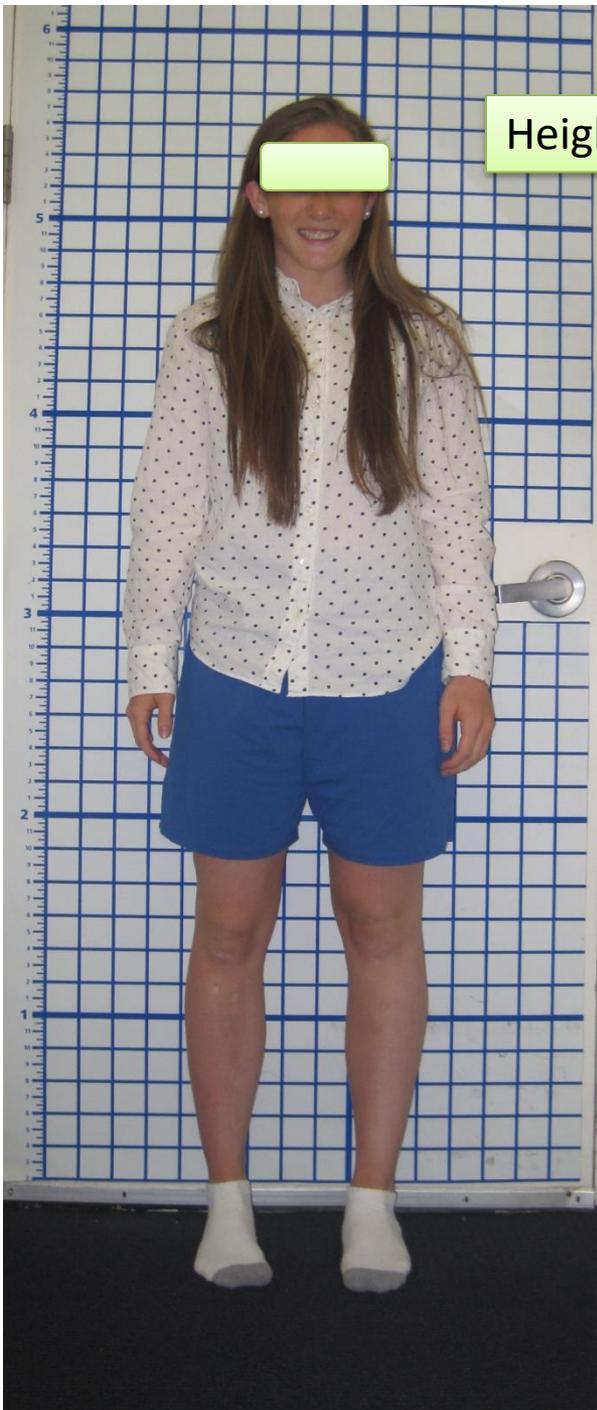
Plan: 2.6 cm in femur and tibia







Height 5' 7"



# Introduction

- Russell Silver syndrome (RSS) - rare
- IUGR, difficulty feeding, postnatal growth retardation.
- LLD - more than 90% of patients.
- Bone healing following lengthening is a concern (inadequate caloric intake)
- No specific data published about SRS lengthening
- Short Stature treated with HGH
  - Avoid epiphysiodesis



# Growth hormone (GH)

- Abnormalities of GH secretion have been reported in many RSS children
- Human GH treatment benefits - increased linear growth without concomitant increases in LLD (not limited for SRS patients)
- While hGH therapy increases total limb length it does not appear to induce limb specific catch-up growth or reduce the discrepancy between limbs.
- Given the frequency and severity of the LLD associated with RSS (reported average 3.1 cm) many patients will present for limb equalization surgery; however, epiphysiodesis is not a good option

# Research question

- We asked whether pediatric patients with RSS (treated with hGH) will have uniformly good bone healing following leg lengthening.

# Methods

- Retrospective comparison
- **Study group** - SRS patients with LLD - lengthening while on GH
- **Control group** – general pediatric lengthening patients (congenital, post-traumatic, tumor)

# Methods

- 7 limb segments in 5 patients with RSS
- 21 segments in 19 patients – Control

Posttraumatic 8/7

Congenital 9/8

Tumor 4/4

# Methods

	SRS	Control	P value
Age (years)	10.4	13	0.036
Lengthening (cm)	3.3	3.9	0.507
Follow up (months)	32 (16-38)	58 (12-130)	

# Bone Healing Index

days of bone healing per cm of lengthening

	SRS	Control	P value
Bone Healing Index (BHI), days/cm	29	43	0.028

RSS patients had significantly faster bone healing during limb lengthening

# Discussion

Function limiting LLD vs. concern about bone healing.

Scarcity of literature on SRS lengthening

hGH has known positive effect on fracture healing, not well documented for human limb lengthening

Recent animal studies also showed that GH improved muscle recovery during limb lengthening

# Discussion

- All SRS patients had good outcome, no significant problems
- No premature consolidation on hGH
- No hGH-related orthopedic complications (LCP, SCFE, scoliosis)



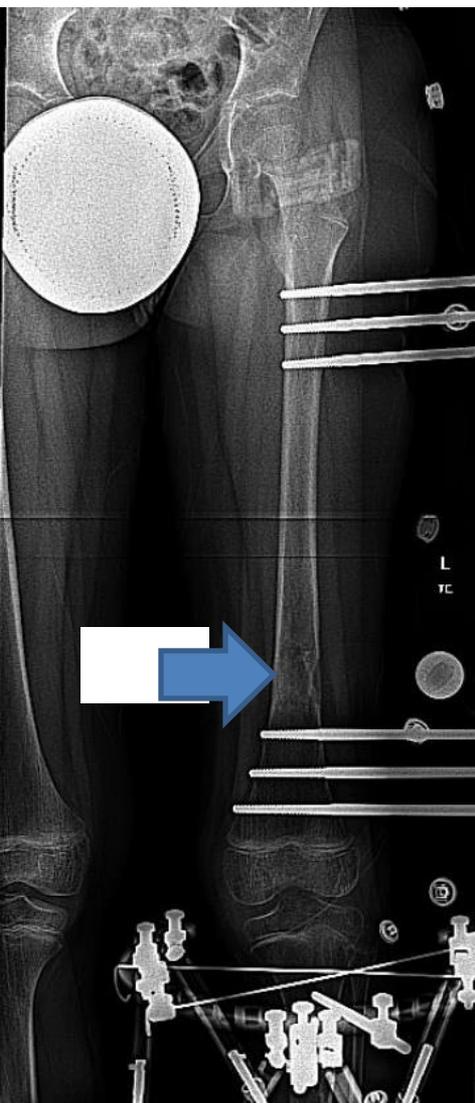
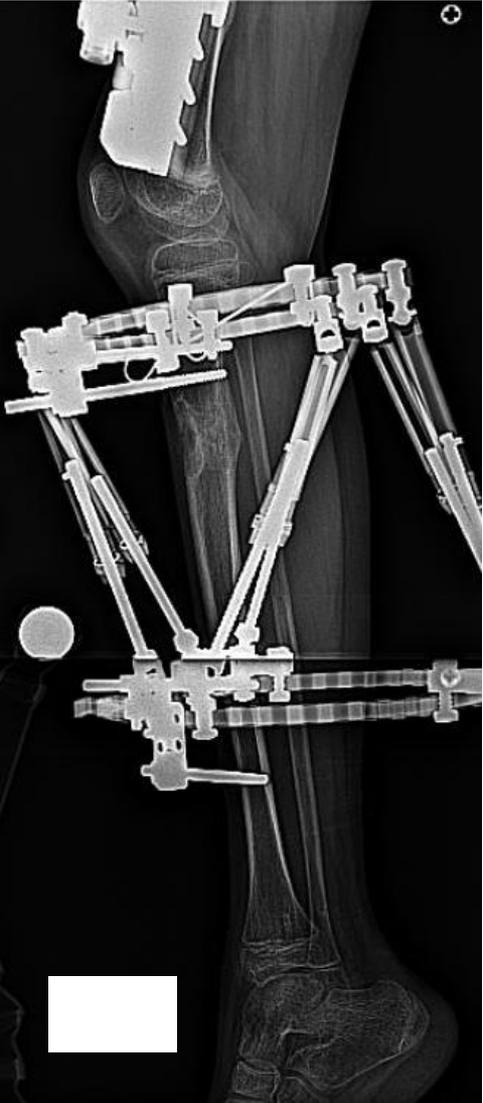
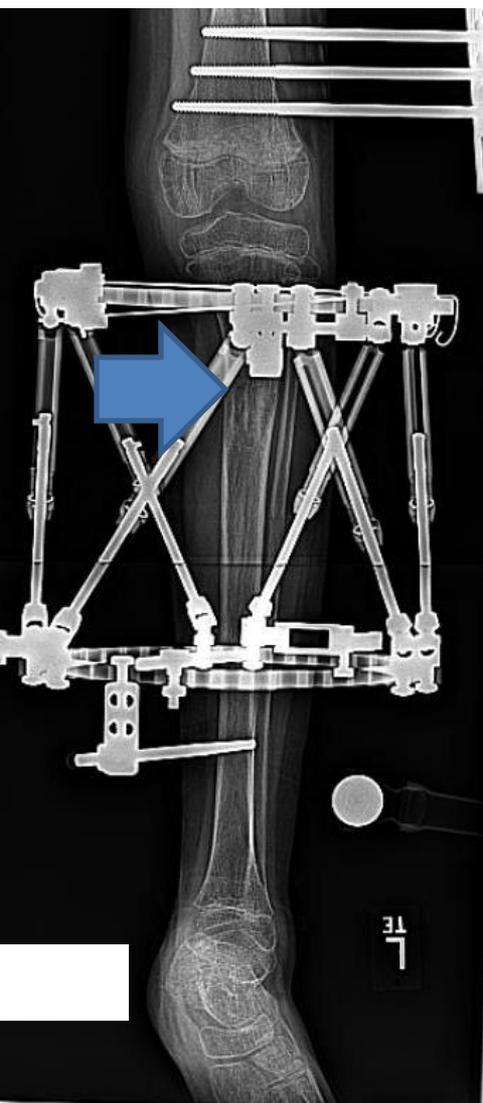
# Conclusion

- SRS patients treated with hGH -uniformly good healing of bone regenerate
- SRS BHI is significantly shorter than in a general pediatric population.
- hGH may significantly improve regenerate formation and consolidation



Age 12 yo  
LLD 39 D/45 ID mm  
 $\Delta F$  27 mm  
 $\Delta T$  18 mm  
PLLD ~ 5.3 cm











RSS, age 8

LLD 4 cm divided femur/tibia

M= 1.33

PLLD= 5.3

Puberty will be delayed and on GHG

PLLD will be greater (6-7 cm)

Lengthen tibia 4 cm to correct LLD

Lengthen femur in future



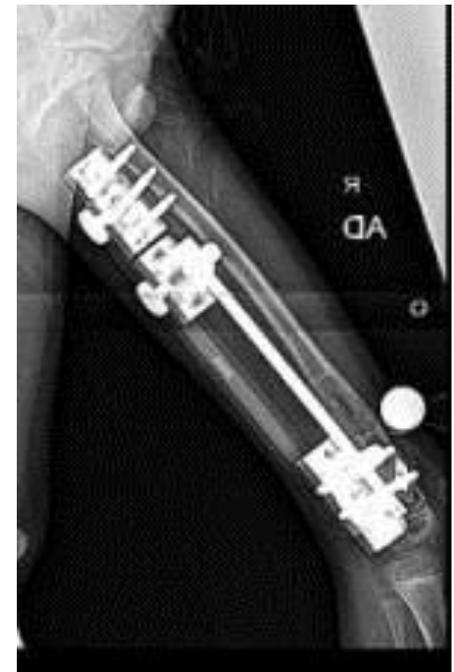
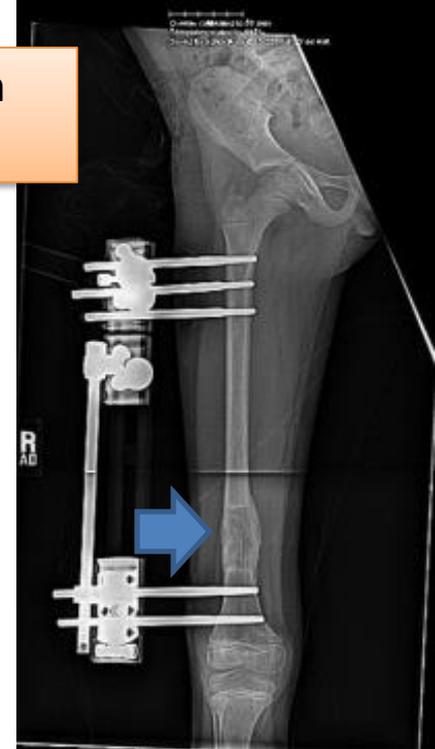




Age 6, congenital  
LLD 4.2 cm mostly femur  
M= 1.68  
PLLD= 7 cm



Plan: lengthen femur 4 cm  
Lengthen tibia in future

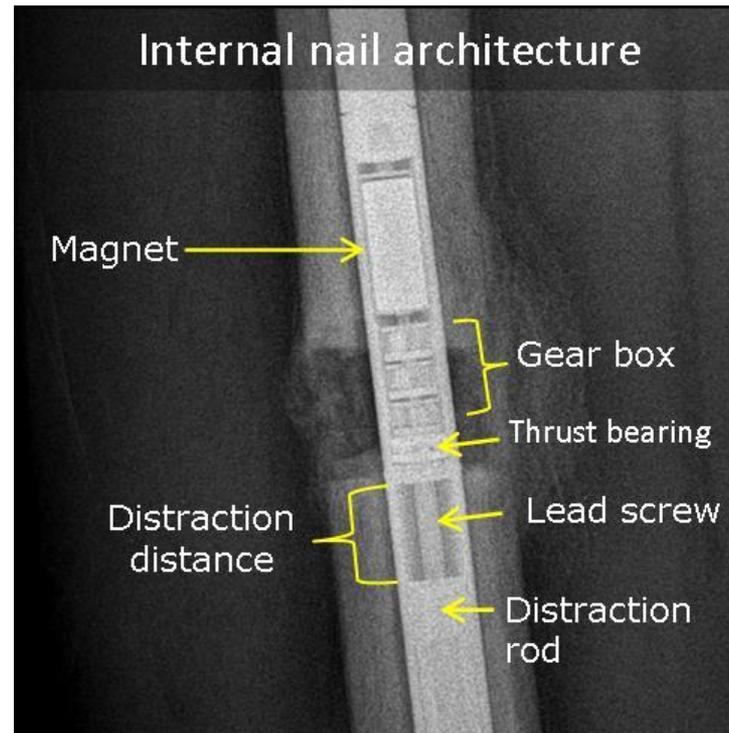
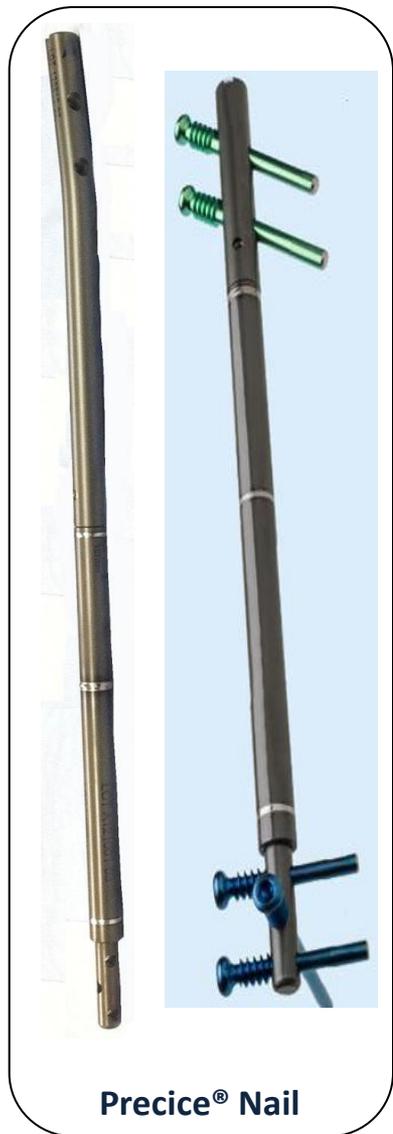




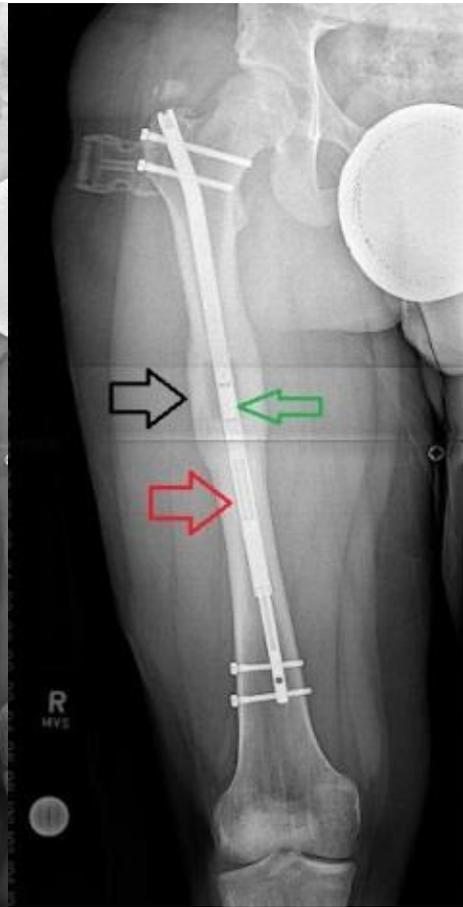


# Precice® Nail

- Telescopic, magnet-operated device



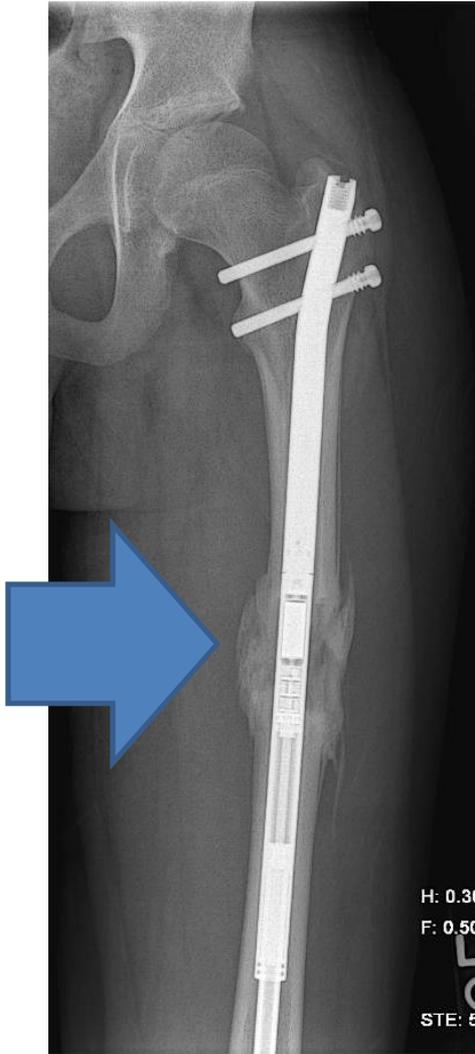




Trochanteric Entry  
Good for adolescent  
< 18 yrs.

# 12 year old male with congenital LLD







## Precision of the PRECICE<sup>®</sup> Internal Bone Lengthening Nail

Yatin M. Kirane MBBS, DOrtho, PhD,  
Austin T. Fragomen MD, S. Robert Rozbruch MD

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### Abstract

**Background** Previous designs of internal bone lengthening devices have been fraught with imprecise distraction, resulting in nerve injuries, joint contractures, nonunions, and other complications. Recently, a magnet-operated PRECICE<sup>®</sup> nail (Ellipse Technologies, Inc, Irvine, CA, USA) was approved by the FDA; however, its clinical efficacy is unknown.

**Questions/purposes** We evaluated this nail in terms of (1) accuracy and precision of distraction, (2) effects on bone alignment, (3) effects on adjacent-joint ROM, and (4) frequency of implant-related and non-implant-related complications.

Each author certifies that he or she, or a member of his or her immediate family, has no funding or commercial associations (eg, consultancies, stock ownership, equity interest, patent/licensing arrangements, etc) that might pose a conflict of interest in connection with the submitted article.

All ICME Conflict of Interest Forms for authors and *Clinical Orthopaedics and Related Research*<sup>®</sup> editors and board members are on file with the publication and can be viewed on request.

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Each author certifies that his or her institution approved the human protocol for this investigation, that all investigations were conducted in conformity with ethical principles of research, and that informed consent for participation in the study was obtained.

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e-mail: RozbruchSR@HSS.EDU

**Methods** We reviewed medical and radiographic records of 24 patients who underwent femoral and/or tibial lengthening procedures using the PRECICE<sup>®</sup> nail from August 2012 to July 2013 for conditions of varied etiology, the most common being congenital limb length discrepancy, post-traumatic growth arrest, and fracture malunion. This group represented 29% of patients (24 of 82) who underwent a limb lengthening procedure for a similar diagnosis during the review period. At each postoperative visit, the accuracy and precision of distraction, bone alignment, joint ROM, and any complications were recorded by the senior surgeon (SRR). Accuracy reflected how close the measured lengthening was to the prescribed distraction at each postoperative visit, while precision reflected how close the repeated measurements were to each other over the course of total lengthening period. No patients were lost to followup. Minimum followup from surgery was 3 weeks (mean, 14 weeks; range, 3–29 weeks).

**Results** Mean total lengthening was 35 mm (range, 14–65 mm), with an accuracy of 96% and precision of 86%. All patients achieved target lengthening with minimal unintentional effects on bone alignment. The knee and ankle ROM were minimally affected. Of the complications requiring return to the operating room for an additional surgical procedure, there was one (4%) implant failure caused by a nonfunctional distraction mechanism and six (24%) non-implant-related complications, including premature consolidation in one patient (4%), delayed bone healing in two (8%), delayed equinus contracture in two (8%), and toe clawing in one (4%).

**Conclusions** We conclude that this internal lengthening nail is a valid option to achieve accurate and precise limb lengthening to treat a variety of conditions with limb shortening or length discrepancy. Randomized, larger-sample, long-term studies are required to further confirm

- These were first 24 patients (August 2012–July 2013)
- 29% of patients who underwent limb lengthening surgery during that time period

# Primary Outcome Variables

## I. Accuracy of Lengthening

- Distraction distance & accuracy measured using a calibrated digital radiology system (PACS, OnePacs LLC, New York, NY)

$$A) \% \text{ Error} = \frac{\textit{Distraction prescribed} - \textit{Lengthening measured}}{\textit{Distraction prescribed}} \times 100$$

$$B) \textit{ Accuracy of distraction} = 100 - \% \text{ Error}$$

## II. Change in bone alignment

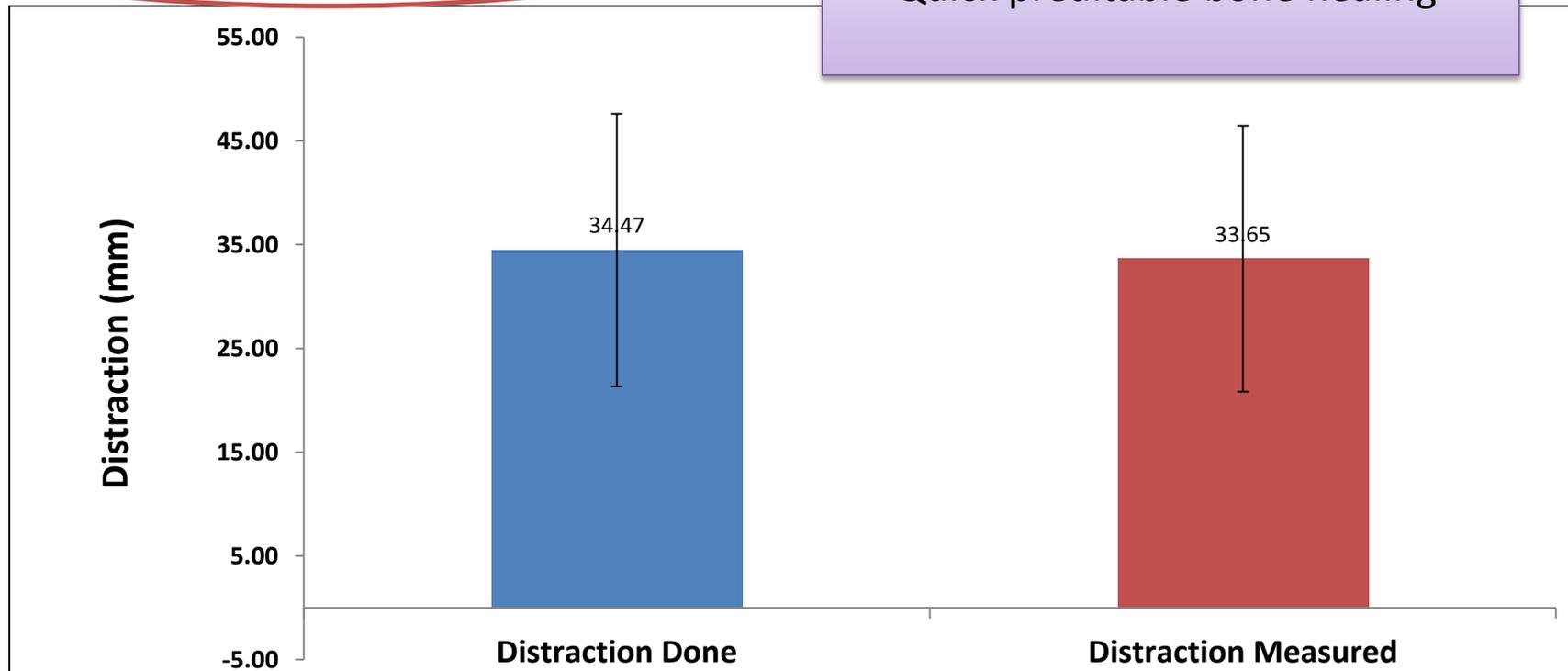
## III. Effect on adjacent joint ROM

# I. Accuracy of Lengthening

At 19 weeks follow-up (range, 1-42 weeks):

- Average lengthening was **35 mm** (range, 14mm-65mm)
- Accuracy was **96%**

- Minimal Pain
- Minimal temporary joint stiffness
- Quick predictable bone healing





Age 8, congenital  
LLD 5.5 cm , femur /tibia  
PLLD= 9.5 cm

Plan: 4.5 cm lengthening  
Of femur  
Second future lengthening  
tibia



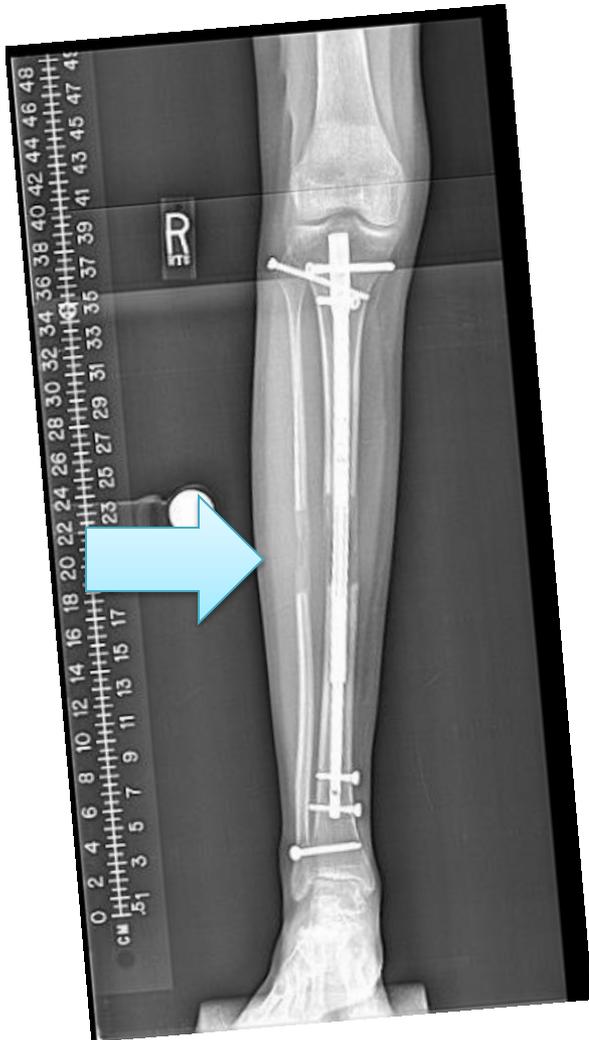
# Age 15, LLD now 5 cm

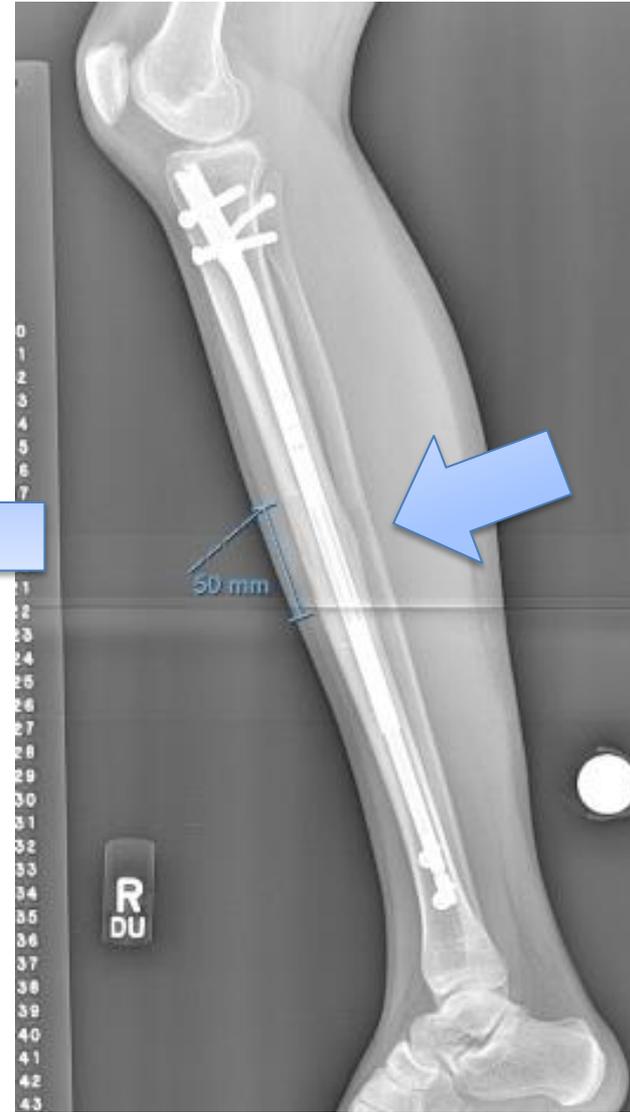


Growth plate is  
Now closed.

Use of an IM nail  
Is safe

# 5 cm lengthening with Precice









Age 16  
LLD = 36 mm  
LLD = 1.5 inches



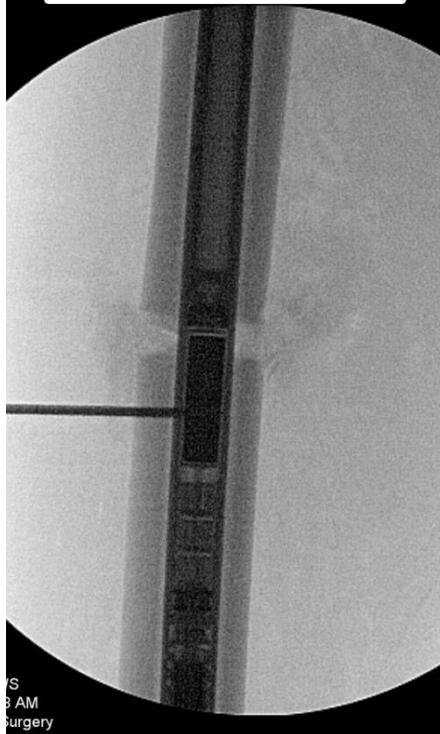
# MAGNETIC INTERNAL LENGTHENING NAIL



Equal leg lengths  
2 months  
Minimal pain  
No frame



Surgery  
Cut bone  
Identify magnet



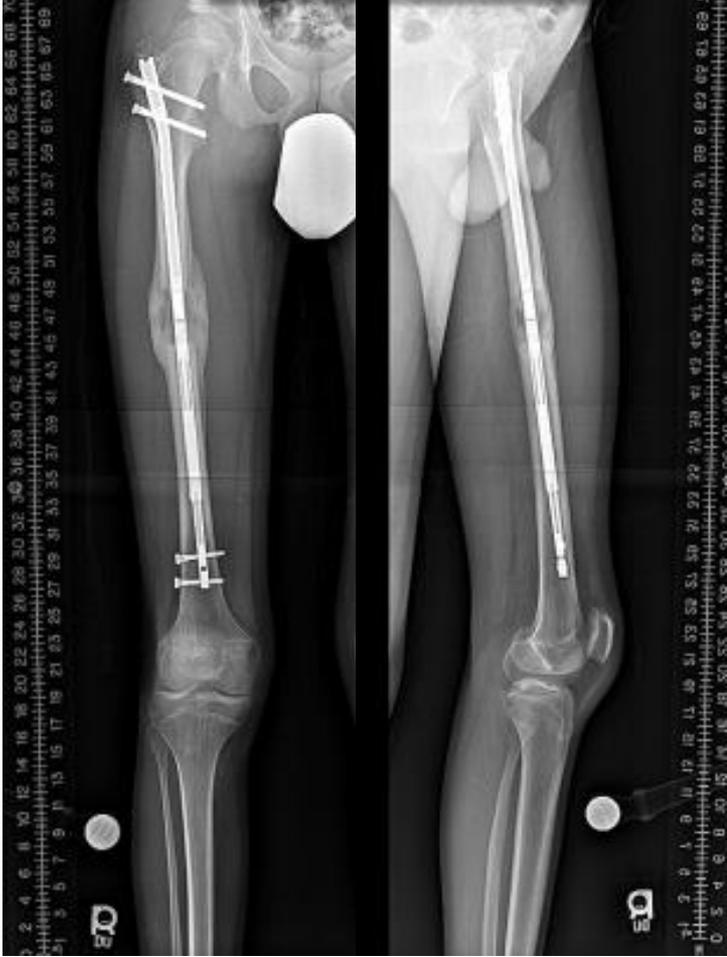
5 weeks  
Out to length



2 months  
Bone consolidation  
progressing



3 months  
All healed  
Full weight bearing



# RSS Limb Lengthening

- LLD divided between femur and tibia
- Presenting as teenager
  - One lengthening femur and tibia
- Presenting as child
  - 2 lengthenings
- Use Internal lengthening nail
  - After age 10 in femur
  - After growth plate closure in tibia
- HGH enhances bone healing
- LLD prediction needs modification for longer growth period



LIMB LENGTHENING.COM

[www.hss.edu/limblengthening](http://www.hss.edu/limblengthening)

# Thank You



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