

AOSpine Advances Symposium Spinal Deformity

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**Shoulder imbalance—risk factors, how to analyze,
how to avoid**

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Session: Adolescent idiopathic scoliosis

Consequences of Scoliosis

- Medical consequence
- Aesthetic consequence
 - Truncal shift
 - Waist-line asymmetry
 - Rib hump
 - **Shoulder imbalance**



Vesalius (1514-1564)

What about the normal population?

Shoulders are not always level in the normal population
 $\pm 10\text{mm}$ is cut-off

This imbalance does not lead to an asymmetrical body perception

Akel I et al, Eur Spine J, 17:348-54, 2008

Shoulder Imbalance

Main reason is decompensation of proximal thoracic curve

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Lenke Classification

TABLE I Description of Curve Types

Curve Type	Description	Characteristic Curve Patterns*			Structural Region of Each Curve Type
		Proximal Thoracic	Main Thoracic	Thoracolumbar/Lumbar	
→ 1	Main thoracic	<u>Nonstructural</u>	Structural (major)	Nonstructural	Main thoracic
②	Double thoracic	<u>Structural</u>	Structural (major)	Nonstructural	Proximal thoracic, main thoracic
→ 3	Double major	<u>Nonstructural</u>	Structural (major)	Structural	Main thoracic, thoracolumbar/lumbar
④	Triple major	<u>Structural</u>	Structural (major†)	Structural (major†)	Proximal thoracic, main thoracic, thoracolumbar/lumbar
5	Thoracolumbar/lumbar	Nonstructural	Nonstructural	Structural (major)	Thoracolumbar/lumbar
6	Thoracolumbar/lumbar-main thoracic	Nonstructural	Structural	Structural (major)	Thoracolumbar/lumbar, main thoracic

Lenke L et al, JBJS ,83A:1169-82

Is Lenke Criteria Valid for Defining Prox. Struc. Curve?

- n=37 with Lenke 1,3,5,6 (non structural prox. thoracic curves)
- Divided into two groups
 - Group1: Instrumentation including prox. thoracic curve
 - Group2: Instrumentation stops at T4 or lower
- Results: Isolated correction of the main thoracic curve resulted in spontaneous correction of the nonstructural PTC with rate of 41%
- Conclusion: Lenke structurality criteria can effectively determine which proximal thoracic curves need fusion and which curves do not

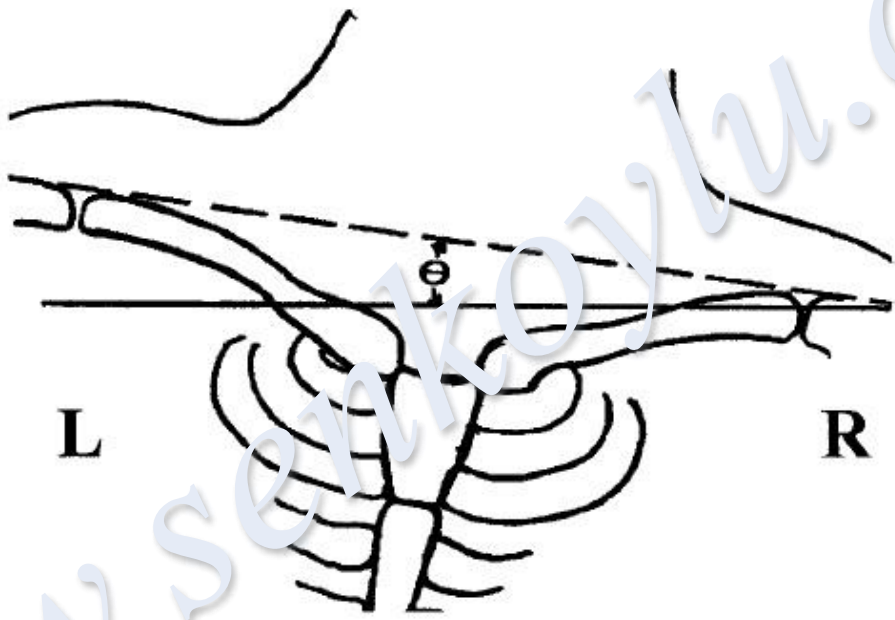
Cil A et al, Spine, 30:2550-5, 2005

Postoperative Left Shoulder Elevation in Lenke Type-1

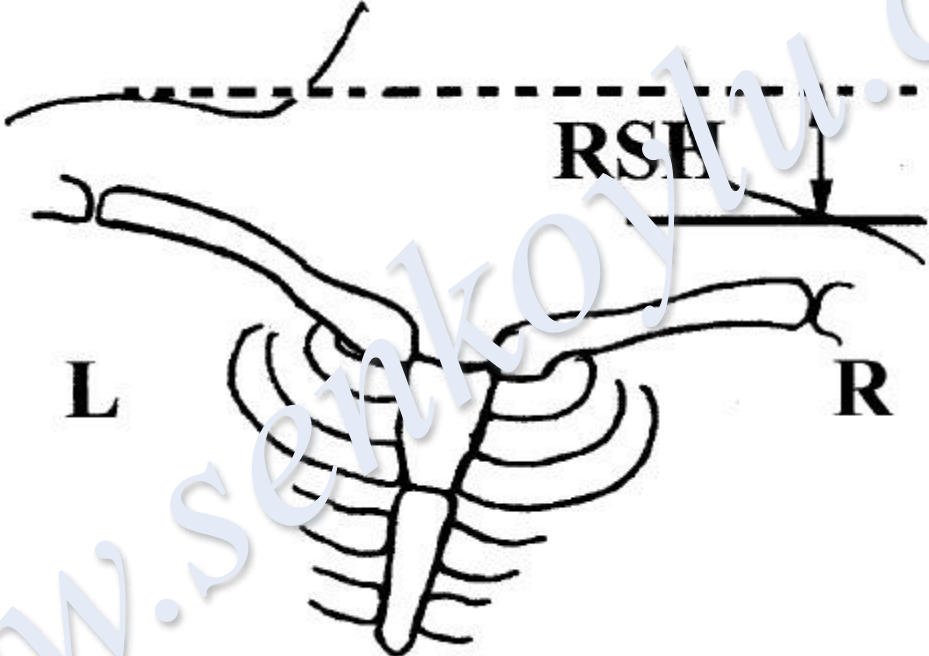
- <25 degrees is insufficient for the defining necessity of Prox Th. Curve fusion
- 39% rate of Lt shoulder elevation
- Risk factors:
 - Preop Lt shoulder elevation
 - PT Curve >25
 - Incomplete instrumentation of PT
 - Postop PT > 14
 - Correction of MT > 67%

O'Brien M et al, SRS 43. Annual Meeting, Salt Lake City, 2008

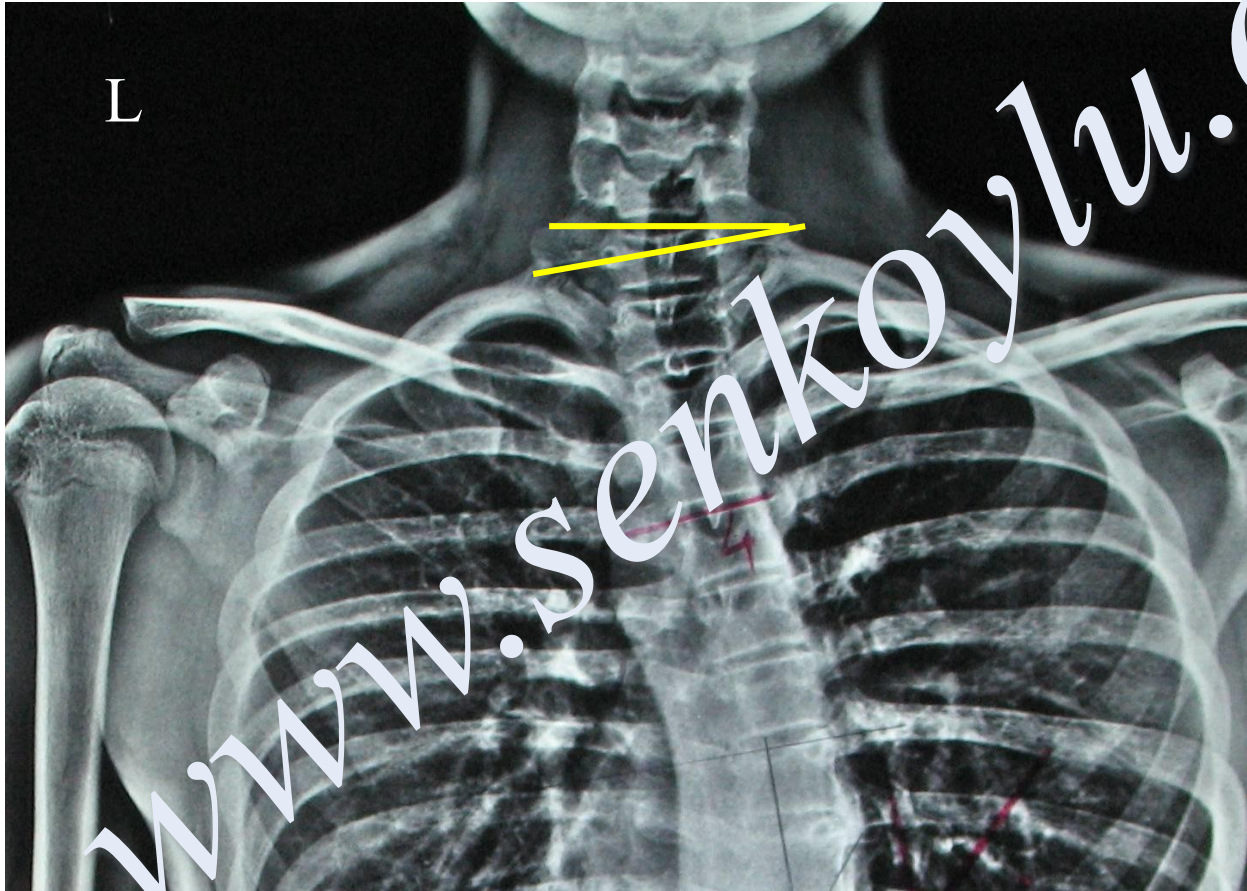
Clavicle Angle



Shoulder Height



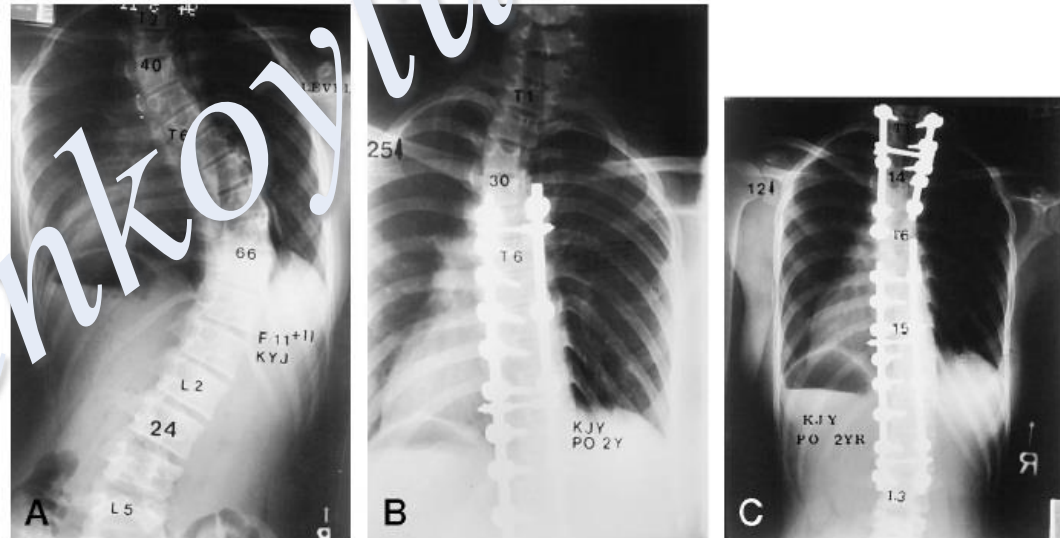
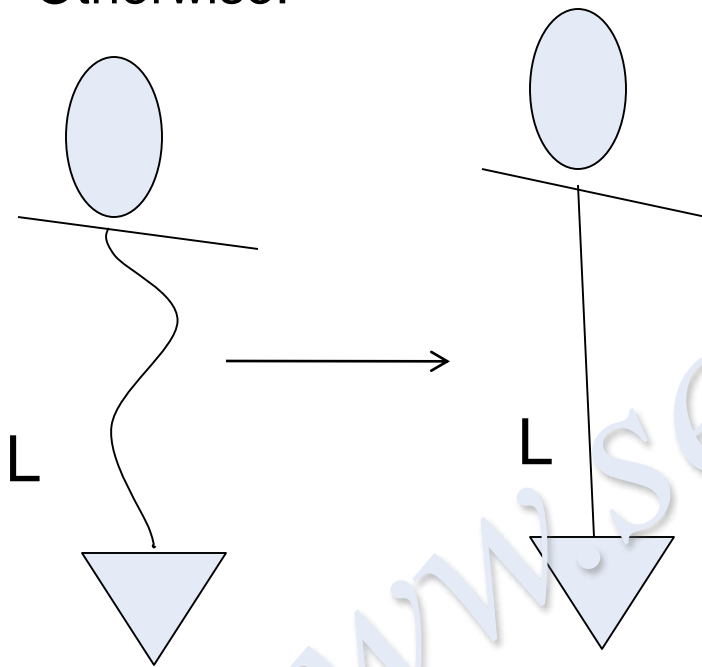
T1 Tilt



Lenke Type 1 and 3 curves (PTC is non-struct.)

Left shoulder level or elevated → Stop at T2

Otherwise:



Suk SI et al, Spine, 25: 2342-9, 2000

Lenke Type 1 and 3 curves (PTC is non-struct.)

- Right shoulder elevated

Traction xray under general anesthesia

If the (-) T1 tilt improves and position of first ribs are reversed



Extend fusion up to T2

Disadvantage: 75% overestimating of Lt shoulder elevation causing unnecessary extension of fusion

Alanay A et al, Eurospine 2010, Vienna,

How to Determine the Upper Level of Instrumentation in Lenke Types 1 and 2 Adolescent Idiopathic Scoliosis

A Prospective Study of 132 Patients

Brice Ilharreborde, MD, MS, Julien Even, MD, Yan Lefevre, MD, Franck Fitoussi, MD, Ana Presedo, MD, Philippe Souchet, MD, Georges-François Penneçot, MD, and Keyvan Mazda, MD

Level of evidence-3



PT is not necessary

Partial or total PT is necessary

PT is necessary

Conclusions

- Shoulders may not be level in the normal subjects
- Fuse all structural curves
 - Lenke 2
 - Lenke 4
- Lenke 1 and 3
 - If the Lt shoulder level or elevated → Fuse the Prox. Th. curve
 - If the Rt shoulder elevated → (consider T1 tilt)

Conclusion

- Risk factors of Lt shoulder elevation in Lenke 1
 - Preop Lt shoulder elevation
 - PT Curve >25
 - Incomplete instrumentation of PT
 - Postop PT > 14
 - Correction of MT $>67\%$

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Thank You

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