

**Orthopedics Abstracts**

**Title:** MOTION ANALYSIS FOR PATIENT EVALUATION AND DECISION-MAKING IN MYELOMENINGOCELE

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**Background:** Persons with myelomeningocele have significant gait deviations for which many treatments have been performed. Unfortunately, we do not have a sound basis for understanding the wide spectrum of gait pathology in persons with myelomeningocele. However, with the use of 3-dimensional gait analysis, we are now able to better analyze and understand the fundamental abnormalities and hopefully perform more appropriate and successful treatments. This is a retrospective review of the literature and the authors' experience in the use of 3-dimensional gait analysis for the evaluation of patients with myelomeningocele.

**Method:** Participants will learn the basic pathomechanics of gait in myelomeningocele, the role in surgical decision-making, the role in brace decision-making and evaluation, and finally, the role of gait analysis for monitoring ongoing function of patients.

**Results:** Participants will gain an increased appreciation and understanding of the importance of 3-dimensional gait analysis for persons with myelomeningocele.

**Conclusion:** Three-dimensional gait analysis is an extremely valuable assessment tool to aid the clinician in making proper decisions for surgery and/or bracing, as well as for the ongoing assessment of person with myelomeningocele.