

Orthopedics Abstracts

Title: THE EVOLUTION OF ORTHOPEDIC SURGERY IN SPINA BIFIDA

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Background: Director of Spinal Defects programs, Newington Children's Hospital (to 1995), The Connecticut Children's Medical Center.

Method: An in depth historical review of the most important breakthroughs in medical and surgical management of the Orthopaedic conditions associated with Myelomeningocele. Included are clinical examples of various techniques and the history of the important individuals who made these advances possible.

Results: Clinical improvements are related to the emergence of new surgical techniques and better understanding of the underlying pathologic processes.

Conclusion: Major gains have been made in not only the detection of neural tube defects but an advanced knowledge base now provides realistic treatment options for the child with neural tube defects.