




## STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE

NAME: MINIMUM SPECIFIC DATA SET REQUIRMENTS FOR PAEDIATRIC SCOLIOSIS REFERRALS


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## Document Review History

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## Document Change History


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## 1.0 Introduction

Scoliosis is a condition involving abnormal curvature and three-dimensional rotational changes within the spinal column. If progressive and severe, it may have significant health implications and require specialized attention and timely intervention. Early identification and treatment of scoliosis are crucial for optimal management, potential early intervention, and maximal prevention of complications. This makes the condition a top priority for specialist clinical assessment and practice. It is imperative to ensure that all spinal referrals contain specific datasets to accurately assess and communicate potential significant scoliosis or spinal deformity.

## 2.0 Definition of Standard Operating Procedure

This document provides an overview of minimum data set requirements for triaging Paediatric scoliosis

## 3.0 Applicable to

General Practitioners in Ireland and all health professionals involved in scoliosis referral process.

## 4.0 Objectives of Standard Operating Procedure

Objective of this SOP is to standardize all scoliosis referrals thus improving triage efficiency.

## 5.0 Definitions / Terms

N/A


## 6.0 Procedures

Minimum specific data sets required to triage referrals suspecting scoliosis or spinal pathology include,

1. Age of diagnosis, or onset of symptoms
2. Adam's Forward bend test-positive or Negative
3. Presence or absence of kyphosis
4. Presence or absence of sagittal imbalance
5. Presence or absence of red flag symptoms;
  - a. Change in bladder and or bowel control
  - b. Night pain/Severe unremitting pain/Resting pain
  - c. Abnormal neurological symptoms or examinations
6. Height
7. Arm span
8. Weight
9. BMI
10. Radiological investigation: Whole spine X-ray

## 7.0 Implementation Plan

This SOP is intended for General Practitioners in Ireland and all health professionals engaged in the scoliosis referral process. It is to be disseminated to all through the CHI communications platform.

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## 8.0 Evaluation and Audit

Conduct an audit to assess the compliance of scoliosis referrals with SOP

## 9.0 References

AAOS (American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons)

BASS (British Association of spinal surgeons)

SRS (Scoliosis Research Society)

## 10.0 Bibliography

N/A

## 11.0 Appendices

Resource pack explaining each data set in detail and Audit template

## 12.0 Key Stakeholders

Name	Title
<i>Mr Pat Kiely</i>	<i>Consultant Orthopaedic surgeon at CHI Crumlin</i>
<i>Janet Judge</i>	<i>ANP spinal services, CHI Crumlin</i>
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