



June 30, 2015
Re: Scoliosis Screening

To Whom It May Concern,

Scoliosis affects about 2 to 3% of the population in the United States. It is most commonly diagnosed for the first time in children between the ages of 10 to 15 years. Progressive idiopathic scoliosis is more common in girls and can easily go undetected.

The treatment of these spinal deformities continues to evolve. Advances are being made with easier procedures for the patients and their families with more impressive outcomes. Scoliosis screening, whether in the physician's office, school environment, or at home provides the opportunity to detect scoliosis and provide early intervention.

Timely diagnosis of scoliosis may prevent deformity progression through bracing. Braces are more comfortable and better tolerated than in the past. Failure to recognize and treat scoliosis may result in progression of the deformity requiring surgical intervention.

The procedure for scoliosis screening remains quite simple. Most spinal curves can be identified with the Adams forward-bend test. Individuals performing the test should have information on how to detect the deformity.

As we address the ever changing political climate, it is extremely important that we keep the best interest of our children in the forefront of our decision making.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jacques D'Astous", with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Jacques D'Astous, MD,FRCS(C)
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