

# Adolescent spondylolisthesis

In **adolescents** and **teens**, **spondylolisthesis** usually occurs in **athletes** subject to repetitive **hyperextension** of the **lumbar spine**. In **girls**, this is frequently encountered in **gymnasts** and **softball pitching**.

In boys, football is common.

In these youngsters, cessation of sports for several months usually produces resolution.

Surgery is sometimes performed for patients who are unwilling to discontinue athletics.

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**3D printing** patient-specific **models** provide added value for initial **clinical diagnosis**, preoperative surgical and implant **planning**, and patient and trainee **education**. **3D spine models** are usually designed using **CT data**, due to the ability to rapidly image osseous structures with high spatial resolution. Combining CT and **MRI** to derive a composite model of bony and neurological **anatomy** can potentially provide even more useful information for complex cases. Parthasarathy et al. described such a case involving an adolescent with a grade V **spondylolisthesis** in which a composite model was manufactured for preoperative and intraoperative evaluation and guidance. They provide a detailed **workflow** for creating such models and outline their potential benefit in guiding a **multidisciplinary** team approach <sup>1)</sup>.

<sup>1)</sup>

Parthasarathy J, Sribnick EA, Ho ML, Beebe A. Customised hybrid CT-MRI 3D-printed model for grade V spondylolisthesis in an adolescent. BMJ Case Rep. 2021 Mar 1;14(3):e239192. doi: 10.1136/bcr-2020-239192. PMID: 33649040.

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