



PEDIATRIC AND ADOLESCENT SPORTS MEDICINE UPDATE



Fracture Treatment for Young Athletes

by Drew E. Warnick, M.D.

The majority of injuries sustained by young athletes during sports participation are fractures (broken bones). These injuries need to be recognized and treated in timely manner.

A child's bones have special centers where growth occurs called growth plates. These areas are weaker than solid bone and are frequently injured during athletic activity. If your child is not treated correctly, your child's bone may not grow normally. Pediatric orthopaedic surgeons have the specialty training to recognize and treat fractures unique to children.

A child with a suspected fracture should see a pediatric orthopaedist as quickly as possible. Ideally, this means seeing a pediatric orthopaedic specialist within 5 to 7 days of the injury, especially if manipulation is required to align the bone.

At Children's Orthopaedic and Scoliosis Surgery Associates, we have 5 fellowship-trained, pediatric orthopaedic surgeons who understand that you want the best possible care for your children and young athletes. Our specialized team offers a comprehensive approach to fracture care at conveniently located facilities.

We see patients 5 days a week in our St. Petersburg and Tampa offices. We also see patients at our satellite locations in Sarasota and Brandon weekly.

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We not only offer casts in several different colors, but we offer casts that can get **WET!**

Gore-Tex is a waterproof, breathable, washable cast padding that is used in place of cotton and stockinet underneath fiberglass or synthetic casting tape. This accommodates moisture and wetness from perspiration, bathing, or swimming - unlike standard padding that are absorbent.

Because of the fast drying characteristics of our Gore-Tex waterproof casting, your child will have less skin breakdown from retained moisture, resulting in fewer unscheduled cast changes.

These benefits allow your child to bath and swim in the pool while healing.

Drew E. Warnick, M.D. is fellowship trained in pediatric orthopaedic surgery and pediatric sports medicine.

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