

# Leaders in Treating Pediatric Spinal Cord Injury



Randal R. Betz, M.D.



Craig McDonald, M.D.



Lawrence C. Vogel, M.D.

Nearly 30 years ago, Shriners Hospitals for Children established the nation's first spinal cord injury (SCI) rehabilitation programs specifically designed for children and teenagers. Patients participating in these programs receive a complete range of services needed in order to recover to the fullest extent possible and lead full, productive lives.

The Shriners Hospitals for Children offering SCI care are directed by highly credentialed surgeons who are active in academia and research, and regularly contribute to prestigious medical publications. Featured here are just a few of these experts.

## **Randal R. Betz, M.D., Shriners Hospitals for Children — Philadelphia**

Randal Betz, M.D., has served as the chief of staff at Shriners Hospitals for Children — Philadelphia since 2000, and as the medical director of the spinal cord injury program since 1983. He is board-certified in orthopaedic surgery and spinal cord injury rehabilitation.

In addition to his medical degrees and various postdoctoral fellowships, Dr. Betz is a member of several well-regarded professional medical organizations, including the Scoliosis Research Society, American Academy for Cerebral Palsy and Developmental Medicine, American Paraplegia Society and the American Spinal Injury Association.

Dr. Betz is a recipient of many

research grants and has six patents, mostly involving new methods and treatments for spinal deformities. He is co-editor of *The Child with a Spinal Cord Injury* and has served as the editor of four other textbooks. He has contributed 45 chapters to medical books and written more than 180 peer-reviewed or invited articles. He is on the editorial board of the *Journal of Pediatric Orthopaedics* and is an associate editor of *Spinal Frontiers*.

## **Craig McDonald, M.D., Shriners Hospitals for Children — Northern California**

Craig McDonald, M.D., is the medical director of the spinal cord injury program and the spina bifida program at Shriners Hospitals for Children — Northern California. He also directs the pediatric rehabilitation outpatient clinics and Muscular Dystrophy Association Neuromuscular Disease Clinic at the University of California Davis. Dr. McDonald is board-certified in physical medicine and rehabilitation, and pediatric rehabilitation medicine.

Dr. McDonald's professional affiliations include the Muscular Dystrophy Association, the American Academy of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, the American Academy of Cerebral Palsy and Developmental Medicine, and the American Association of Electrodiagnostic Medicine.

Dr. McDonald has conducted research into new approaches to managing spasticity in children

with cerebral palsy and the role of exercise in childhood progressive neuromuscular disease. Other areas of interest include energy expenditure during locomotion, qualitative measurement of physical activity, pediatric trauma and spina bifida.

## **Dr. Lawrence C. Vogel, M.D., Shriners Hospitals for Children — Chicago**

Lawrence C. Vogel, M.D., has been the chief of pediatrics of Shriners Hospitals for Children — Chicago since 1981, the medical director of the spinal cord injury program since 1983, and medical assistant chief-of-staff since 2005. He is board-certified in spinal cord injury rehabilitation.

Dr. Vogel has been a member of the board of directors of the American Paraplegia Society since 1998 and has served as its president since 2007. He became a member of the board of directors of the American Spinal Injury Association in 2003 and is the chairman of the steering committee of the Consortium for Spinal Cord Medicine.

Dr. Vogel has authored more than 80 articles in peer-reviewed journals, 12 book chapters, and 190 presentations or posters and nearly 20 instructional courses for national medical meetings. His major research interests are the long-term follow-up of children and adolescents with spinal cord injuries, the long-term use of various braces for ambulation (walking) for children with spinal cord injuries, and medical complications of children and adolescents with spinal cord injuries.



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