

# Spondylolisthesis sx improves pediatric health related-QOL

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(HealthDay)—In pediatric patients with high-grade spondylolisthesis, health-related quality of life (HRQOL) improves significantly after surgery, especially in patients with low baseline HRQOL scores, according to a study published in the July issue of *The Spine Journal*.

Étienne Bourassa-Moreau, M.D., from the University of Montreal, and colleagues conducted an observational case series study involving 28 [pediatric patients](#) with high-grade [spondylolisthesis](#) (23 managed surgically and five managed nonsurgically) for a minimum of two years to describe changes in HRQOL. Neurologic exams and radiographic

evaluations of slip grade were conducted, and self-reported Scoliosis Research Society questionnaires (SRS-22) were administered at baseline and follow-up.

The researchers found that, at baseline and last follow-up, the total SRS-22 scores were  $3.31 \pm 0.50$  and  $4.26 \pm 0.50$ , respectively, for [surgical patients](#) (P

"This article demonstrated that the HRQOL significantly improves after surgery in pediatric high-grade spondylolisthesis, especially in patients with low baseline HRQOL scores," the authors write. "Nonsurgical treatment with observation of high-grade spondylolisthesis can be considered in patients with near-normal baseline HRQOL, no evidence of progression, and no neurologic impairment."

Several authors disclosed [financial ties](#) to the medical device and technology industries.

**More information:** [Abstract](#)  
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