

13-Common Pediatric Lower Limb Disorders

Objectives:

- 1.Leg aches.
- 2.Limping.
- 3.Leg length inequality.
- 4.In-toeing & out-toeing.
- 5.Genu varus & valgus.
- 6.Proximal tibia vara.
- 7.Club foot
- 8. Deformities seen in cerebral palsy patients.

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- \Rightarrow Cramping in both legs in 15% to 30% of normal children
- \Rightarrow Benign
- \Rightarrow In 15 30 % of normal children
- \Rightarrow No functional disability
- \Rightarrow Female > Male
- \Rightarrow Resolves spontaneously, over several years
- \Rightarrow Unknown cause

Clinical features:

> Diagnosis by exclusion of other Causes of the pain (Tumor – Trauma – Infection)

	History: Pain		Examination:
≻	Site: long bones of Lower limb (calf, shin, or	≻	Long bone tenderness (nonspecific) for a large
	thigh) usually bilateral		area, or none
\triangleright	Onset: Of long duration (months) & there is	\succ	Normal joints motion
	no hx of trauma		Normal + painless
\triangleright	Characteristics: Dull aching pain, poorly or		
	not localized(suggestive of tumor)		
\triangleright	Relieving factors: Responds to analgesia		
	(NSAID)		
\triangleright	Aggravating factors: Activity (but it can be		
	without any activity)		
\triangleright	Time: At night (sometimes after intense		
	childhood activities)		
\succ	Constitutional symptoms: to exclude		
	malignancy		

Differential diagnosis:

- > Osteoid osteoma (presented with dull aching pain at night and responds toanalgesia)
- Osteosarcoma (constitutional symptoms)
- Ewing sarcoma
- Leukemia
- Sickle cell anemia (ask about family history)
- Subacute Osteomyelitis

Management:

- Reassurance.
- Symptomatic
 - \Rightarrow Analgesia
 - \Rightarrow rest
 - \Rightarrow massage

Limping

Abnormal gait due to pain, weakness or deformity

- Normal gait: gait cycle has two phases: Stance Phase, the phase during which the foot remains in contact with the ground, and the. Swing Phase, the phase during which the foot is not in contact with the ground
- Most common cause is due to hips then legs problems

Types of Limp (In one or both limbs):

• Painful gait: Antalgic gait (usually unilateral): Trauma–Tumor–Infection.

• Painless gait (usually bilateral): Syndromic – Congenital

• Weakness (general or nerve or muscle).

• Deformity (bone or joint).

Types of Limp (In one or both limbs):				
Painful gait: Antalgic gait (usually unilateral):				
\Rightarrow Trauma				
\Rightarrow Tumor				
\Rightarrow Infection.				
Painless gait (usually bilateral):				
\Rightarrow Syndromic				
\Rightarrow Congenital				
Weakness				
\Rightarrow general				
\Rightarrow nerve				
\Rightarrow muscle).				
Deformity				
\Rightarrow bone				
\Rightarrow joint				

History	Examination
Mainly age of onset.	 Gait good analysis
	Evaluate the limp by studying the child's gait while
	the child walks in the clinic hallway
	 Above pelvis: back (scoliosis).
	 Below pelvis: Hips, knees, ankles, & feet.
	Normal gait: gait cycle has two phases:
	\Rightarrow Stance Phase: the phase during which the foot
	remains in contact with the ground.
	\Rightarrow Swing Phase, the phase during which the foot is not
	in contact with the ground
	In normal gait there are stance phase and swing
	phase without any limping or shorting in stance

	 phase Trendelenburg gait: When the hip abductor muscles (gluteusmedius and minimus) are weak, the stabilizing effect of these muscles during gait is lost. (bilateral = waddling gait). antalgic gait: pain with shorting of stance phase . Trendelenburg test: ask the patient to stand using his 2 legs, notice the level of the shoulders. Then ask him to stand on one leg, if the patient bend his body/waist to the other side that's mean a positive test. If the patient complain from the knee pain ,examine the hip also (referred pain)
Concretization regarding management cannot be	Management

Generalization regarding management cannot be made Treat the underlying cause

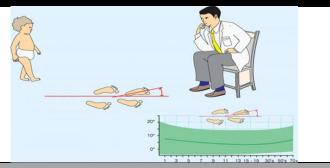
In-toeing and Out-toeing

"Main Complain is frequent fall"

Terminology:

- > Version: normal variations of limb rotation (It may be exaggerated).
- > Torsion: abnormal limb rotation (Internal or external)
- > It may be complex if there is compensatory torsion

	Out toeing			
AA	Big toe directed outward It is rare we will not focus on			
	In t	oeing		
A A A	It's very common, more than you can believe and this is what we will focus on. It runs in families			
	History Onset usually after walking age (Age: year to year and half) Who noticed it? Progression? usually tend to improve from a year to the other Fallalot? They fall a lot, even when they walk, but more if they run bc they lose control of their lower limbs → more internal rotation → fall. They seen come with bruises. How he/she sits on the ground? "W" shape sitting	 ► So, it is a clinical diagnosis not radiological ► Foot Propagation Angle "this an examination not a special test" ⇒ The doctor set in front of the child and ask him to walk in a straight line drawn in the land "they may use powder or water to see the steps" ⇒ We don't walk with our feet straight forward, that's not our normal. ⇒ Thenormalisslightex-toeingwhich is upto+15. If the angle beyond 15 this is ex-toeing. less than -10 degrees is intoeing. ⇒ normal is (-10°) to (+15°). 		



Treatment

- Establish correct diagnosis
- Parents education
- ▶ Annual clinic follow up \rightarrow assess degree of deformity
- > Operative correction indicated for children:
- \Rightarrow (>8)years of age with significant cosmetic and functional deformity <1%
- Out-toeing: Usually does not improve spontaneously, Will need an operation: After the age 8y or if the foot propagation angle > 30°

In-toeing

- Big toe directed inward
- How to apportion in-toeing : easily falling and sitting in W position .
- \Rightarrow Crossed leg on the ground needs external rotation \rightarrow difficult on them بالعربي يجلس ورجلينه جنبه أو جلسة الضفدع.

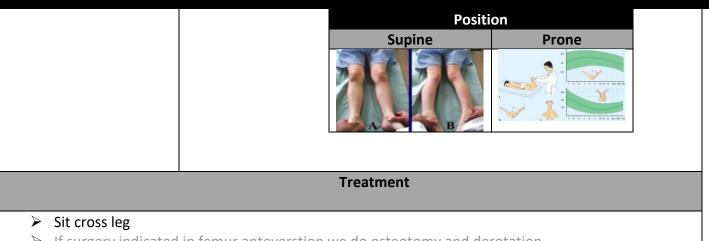
That's why they like to sit W shape position

- most common cause of in-toeing:
- \Rightarrow cerebral palsy
- \Rightarrow developmental dysplasia of the hip (DDH).

Femoral Anteversion

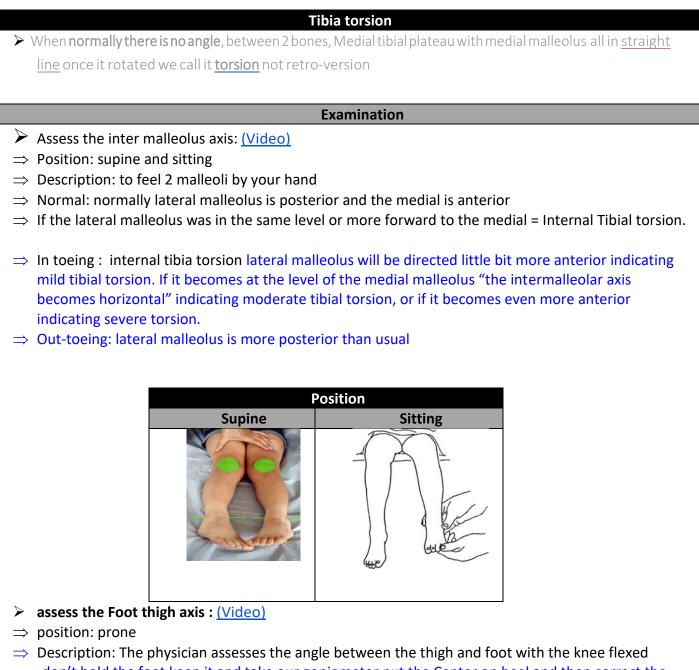
- ➤ Femoral Anteversion Normally the neck to the intercondylar is slightly more forward → normal anteversion (10-15 degrees).
- > Excessive internal rotation of the head of the femur.

History	Examination		
 The patient usually presents with frequent fall. from the history, the patient can't cross his legs and sits in "Position 	 ➢ Hip rotational profile: Position: supine or prone ⇒ Normal: Internal rotation /External rotation = 40-45/45-50 "total 90 degrees" ⇒ In-toeing: if the angle increased IR/ER = 70-90 / 0- 20 "total 90 degrees" ⇒ Out-toeing: if the angle decreased IR/ER = 0- 20 / 70-90 		



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If surgery indicated in femur anteverstion we do osteotomy and derotation



Description: The physician assesses the angle between the thigh and foot with the knee flexed 'don't hold the foot keep it and take our goniometer put the Center on heel and then correct the long axis of the foot and get the long axis of femur and check the angle in between Normal: (0°) to (-10°)

- $\Rightarrow\,$ In-toeing: if the angle decreased caused by internal tibial torsion
- \Rightarrow Out-toeing: if the angle increased caused by external tibial torsion



Treatment

- Spontaneous improvement in embryology there is something called pre-axial and post-axial limb growing: the upper limbs grow inward then rotate outward, and lower limbs grow inward then rotate outward outward due to a solution then rotate outward and lower limbs grow inward then rotate if still significant then we operate
- In the pastthey used to wear Derotation cables, but it shouldn't be used now! because it's expensive and has psychological effect on the child "feels different from others" Sononeed for it as the bone will be corrected by itself <u>click here</u>
- If physiological wasn't corrected after observation, or if it was pathological, then it will be treated by surgery "supramalleolar osteotomy and derotation" العظمة ملفوفة بديهيا أكسرها وأرجع ألفها

Forefoot adduction

When you come and examine the patient you have to look to the foot from plantar side \rightarrow kidney shaped foot \rightarrow then we see is it correctable or not, usually it's fully correctable

Heel bisector line:

Examination

- نطلع قلم من جيبنا ونحطه بالكعب و يكون مرتاح مو محركها :Description ⇒
- \Rightarrow Normal: along 2 toe Pen axis between the 2nd toe and 2nd web space
- \Rightarrow In toeing: if it pass lateral to third toe
- \Rightarrow Out toeing: if it pass medially



Treatment

Anti-version shoes, or proper shoes reversal

يا يشتري وحده مخصصه او حقته العادية بس يقلب اليمين يسار و العكس ما البسه هالشوز الالمن يكون المشكلة من الرجل نفسها نبغى جزمه جلدها قوي تدف الرجل مو تكون مرنه و القدم هل اللي تدفها و كمان نقول لهم جزمة للبيت و جزمة للخروج و نشوفهم كل سنة لنفرض انهم مروا الطبيب بعمر ٢-٣ سنوات لو عالجناهم بهالطريقة ووصلوا عمر ٨-٩ كم منهم يحتاج تدخل جراحي ١٢ بالمية بمعنى ان الطريقة هذي تعتبر فعاله بهالعمر لكن لو البداية ما راحوا

 Big toe When the big toe is adducted alone. it's rare 			
4) In-toeing: Adducted Big Toe			
Examination			
We can see it there is no special test			
Treatment			
> spontaneous improvement			

The important thing is that it could be combination of more than onelevel, which means if you examine the foot and find it abnormal you have to complete your examination may bet here is other abnormalities

Limb Length Inequality

Congenital: As DDH

Etiology

- > Developmental: As Blount's (will explain later in this lecture)
- Traumatic: As oblique fracture (short), or multifragmented (long)
- Infection: stunted growth or dissolved part of bone
- Metabolic: As rickets (Bilateral)
- Tumors: Affecting the physis

Clinical features:

- Gait disturbance (tip toe walking or Trendelenburg gait).
- Equinus deformity:ex. Shortening in Rt. Side, child will involuntarily start to plantar flexion the Rt. foot (walk on tip toes) to compensate for The affected movement. With time, PF will become Fixed > cannot do dorsal flexion. Or he will put the left foot down to equalize the legs
- > Pain: back, leg: Child with back pain think about Length Inequality
- Scoliosis (secondary)

Evaluation				
True		Apparent		
≻ wi	First, the leg length is affected you measure it: one leg will be shorter ith time this will lead to: pelvic tilt to adjust Measure from ASIS "anterior superior iliac bine" to medial malleolus		The Leg length: will appear asymmetric. but if you measure it: they are with the same length. Measure from umbilicus to medial malleolus	
≽ Sc	Screening examination (Clinical measures of discrepancy):			

=	 While the patient supine: (Video) If there is pelvic tilt make sure that it's corrected then by Measuring tape measure true and apparent leg length While the patient is standing: Adding blocks under the short leg until the pelvis becomes elevated Galeazzi Test: (Video) To know where is the defect, is it in tibia or femur when patient lies supine And bothknee flexed look at the knees from front and side if one kneegoes backward=probleminthe femur If one knee goes downward = tibia Imaging methods (Centigram) accurate measure of legs length byX-ray. A long film of the 2 limbs from hip to toe sistaken, while a ruler is put in the x-ray to measure the difference b/w the 2 limbs in length & to locate where the difference is (femur/tibia). 			
	Management <u>Please_click here</u>			
	_			

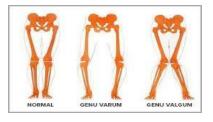
Genu Varus & Valgus

Kaplan notes

high yield osmosis notes

- Bow legs (genu varus)
- Knock knees (genu valgus)





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Types	Physiologic	Pathologic		
Etiologies	 > observe and reassure the parents (usually bilateral). > The natural history for genu (knee)development: ⇒ Born - 2 years: Genu varus ⇒ 2-5 years: Genu Valgus ⇒ after 5 years the legs will straight to be normal 	$\begin{array}{l} \Rightarrow \text{ trauma} \\ \Rightarrow \text{ infection} \\ \Rightarrow \text{ tumor} \\ \Rightarrow \text{ syndromes} \end{array}$		
Frequency	Common	Rare		
Family history	Usually negative	May occur in family		
Diet	Normal	Maybe abnormal		
Health	good	Other MS abnormalities		
Onset	Second year for bowing, third year knock knees	Out of normal sequence, often progressive		
Effect of growth	Follows normal pattern	Variable		
Height	normal	Less than 5th percentile		
Symmetry	Symmetrical	Symmetrical or asym		
Severity	Mild to moderate	Often beyond ±2		
Evaluation	 History Examination (e.g. Signs of Rickets) Laboratory (Ca level and vit.D) Imaging: Centigram 			
Complications	early osteoarthritis			
Management	 Non-operative: Physiological: Observation Pathological:must treat underlying cause, (e.g. in Rickets give vit D) Epiphysiodesis: Valgus: Insert clip on medial side of bone to stop it from growing and allowing the lateral side to continue growing Varus: Insert clip on lateral side of bone to stop it from growing and allowing the medial side to continue growing Corrective osteotomies (tibia & femur together) 			

if it Unilateral think about trauma , tumor , infection .

If bilateral think about metabolic (rickets) ,congenital .

Why we need to detect it early ?to prevent osteoarthritis

Proximal TIBIA VARA (BLOUNT DISEASE)

medscape

- > Damage of proximal medial tibial growth plate of unknown cause.
- > Blount disease: If there is no history of metabolic ,tumor, truma and there is one side
- genu varum

Risk factors						
Overweight						
\succ	Dark skin					
Туреѕ						
	Infantile:					
	\Rightarrow < 3 years of age					
\Rightarrow Usually bilateral						
	\Rightarrow Early walker					
\triangleright	Juvenile:					
	\Rightarrow 3 – 10 y					
	\Rightarrow Combination (bilateral)					
\triangleright	Adolescent:					
	\Rightarrow > 10 y					
	\Rightarrow Usually unilateral					
	Staging					
	 ⇒ Metaphyseal Diaphyseal angle < 11° observe closely ⇒ Metaphyseal Diaphyseal angle > 15° operate 					
	Treatment					
\triangleright	Mostly surgical					
\triangleright	More late more damage					
\triangleright	High stage; bad prognosis					
\geqslant	we correct it either by using gradual correction with external fixator or acute correction with high					
tibial osteotomy, Infantile bilateral $ ightarrow$ we do high tibial osteotomy.						
	tibial osteotomy, Infantile bilateral $ ightarrow$ we do high tibial osteotomy.					
	tibial osteotomy, Infantile bilateral \rightarrow we do high tibial osteotomy.					

high yield osmosis notes

Normal foot:

- \Rightarrow Stable: for supporting the body weight in standing
- \Rightarrow Resilient: for walking and running
- \Rightarrow Mobile: to accommodate variations of surface
- \Rightarrow Cosmetic

Etiology:

- > Postural: Abnormal postural in the uterus. Spontaneous correction (fully correctable)
- Idiopathic (CTEV): Congenital Talipes EquinoVarus (partially correctable) The term 'talipes' is derived from talus (Latin = ankle bone) and pes (Latin =foot)
- Secondary (Spina Bifida): Neurological and muscular problems (rigid deformity), Most common cause(Spina Bifida)

Clinical examination:

(the patient usually presents with pain due to unequal distribution of the weight on the foot)

- Hind foot (posterior¹/₃ of foot) :(Calcaneus, Ankle, Tibia)
- \Rightarrow Equinus: fixed plantar flexion of ankle Joint (FPF) (Ankle joint)
- \Rightarrow Varus: inversion of subtalar joint (Subtalar joint)
- Midfoot (Mid¹/₃ of foot) :
- \Rightarrow Cavus (high-arched foot)
- > Forefoot:
- \Rightarrow Adduction
- Short Achilles tendon (due to FPF)
- High and small heel (due to FPF)
- No creases behind Heel (due to FPF)
- > Abnormal crease in middle of the foot (due to forefoot add)
- Affected foot is smaller (obvious if unilateral)
- > Callosities (dead skin) at abnormal pressure areas
- Internal torsion of the leg
- Calf muscles wasting
- Deformities don't prevent walking

Management:

The goal of treatment is to obtain a foot that is plantigrade (straight foot), functional, painless, and stable over time looks cosmetically acceptable and fits normal shoes. A cosmetically pleasing appearance is also an important goal s by surgeon and family

- Manipulation and serial casts:
- ⇒ Ponseti technique: 3 stages, change the cast every week. Age limit is upto 12 months (after 12 the soft tis will become tighter. Theyounger they are the better the result)



- \Rightarrow <u>Then maintain correction</u> by: Dennis Brown splints until 3-4 years old (To maintain external rotation of the feet)
- \Rightarrow Success rate is very high
- Follow up watch and avoid recurrence, till 9 years old (the foot at age of 9 will be fully developed, not maturing anymore after 9 it will only increase in size)
- Avoid false correction by going in sequence
- > When to stop? not improving, pressure ulcers
- Indications of surgical treatment:
- \Rightarrow Late presentation, after 12 months of age.
- \Rightarrow Complementary to conservative treatment.
- \Rightarrow Failure of conservative treatment.
- \Rightarrow Recurrence after conservative treatment.

Types of surgery:

- Soft tissue only (regain function) (before 5years):
 - \Rightarrow Lengthening soft tissues and tendons
- Bony + soft tissue (regain function) (after 5 years):
- \Rightarrow Wedge osteotomy: wedge removed of calcaneus
- Salvage (regain appearance) If sever, rigid, and in an older child:
 - \Rightarrow Triple osteotomy (talus calcaneus navicular)
 - \Rightarrow Most common salvage procedure
 - \Rightarrow Loss of inversion or eversion. (Patient will feel pain walking on uneven ground; otherwise, they will walk normally).

Lower Limb Deformities in CEREBRAL PALSY (CP)

- a group of disorders that result from non-progressive brain damage during early development and are characterized by:
- ⇒ abnormalities of movement and posture Can be associated with:
- \Rightarrow Mental retardation (various degrees),
- \Rightarrow Hydrocephalus and V.P shunt
- \Rightarrow Convulsions.

Classification:

- Physiological classifications:
- \Rightarrow Spastic: surgery to fix muscle contracture (commonest & best prognosis)
- \Rightarrow Ataxia: (Surgery contraindicated)
- ⇒ Athetosis: slow, involuntary, convoluted ,writhing movements of the fingers, hands ,toes, and feet (Surgery contraindicated)
- \Rightarrow Rigidity
- \Rightarrow Mixed



Topographic classification:

1-Monoplegia:	one limb affected	2-Diplegia:	all limbs are affected but the lower limbs are more
3-Paraplegia: only lower limbs		4-Hemiplegia:	one side of the body(arm ⋚) affected
5-Bilateral: both sides are affected but uppers morethan the lowers		6-Triplegia:	three limbs affected
7-Quadriplegia or tetraplegia:	all four limbs (+/- trunk, tongue and windpipe) affected		

Examination and assessment :

Hip	 ⇒ Flexion: Do Thomas testto assess fixed flexed deformity of hip ⇒ Adduction:Scissoring gait (Hip Range of movement(ROM)) ⇒ Internal Rotation: In toeing (Hip ROM) 	Knee	⇒ Flexion: Popliteal angle: Flex hip thenextend knee > normally angle of kneeextension is 0°. If not, we subtract themeasured angle on examination from 180°.That will give us the popliteal angle
Ankle	⇒ Equinus(Ankle ROM) ⇒ Varus/Valgus Podoscope	Gait	 ⇒ In-toeing (femoral anterversion & tibial torsion) ⇒ Scissoring

Management:

- Multidisciplinary approach:
- \Rightarrow Parents education
- \Rightarrow Pediatric neurology diagnosis, Follow-up, treat fits
- \Rightarrow Physiotherapy (home & center) joints R.O.M, gait training
- \Rightarrow >Orthotics maintain correction, aid in gait
 - ≫ Social / Government aid
- ➤ Other:
- \Rightarrow Neurosurgery (V.P shunt)
- \Rightarrow Ophthalmology (eyes sequent)
- Surgery indications:
- \Rightarrow Severe contractures preventing physiotherapy.
- \Rightarrow Physiotherapy is plateaued due to contractures
- \Rightarrow Perennial hygiene (sever hips adduction) (predispose to fungal infections and dermatitis)
- \Rightarrow In a non-walker, to sit comfortable in wheelchair

- → Neuropathic skin ulceration (as feet)
- → Joint dislocation (as hip)
- > Options of Surgery:
- \Rightarrow Neurectomy
- \Rightarrow Tenotomy
- \Rightarrow Tenoplasty
- \Rightarrow Muscle lengthening
- \Rightarrow Tendon Transfer (rarely done)
- \Rightarrow Bony surgery Osteotomy/Fusion > for longstanding deformities.

- 1- in toeing management of a 4-year-old child with W sitting position?
- A. Reassurance
- B. Night brace

Ans: A

2-Child was brought by his mother and she's complaining of leg deformity, was noted to have in toeing. What is the management?

- A. Spontaneous correction.
- B. Corrective osteotomy.

Ans: A

3-6-month-old boy presented with "picture of clubfoot" No other back problem, no treatment. what is the best management?

- A. Dennis brown cast
- B. Manipulation and casting
- C. Soft tissue release

Ans: B

4-5year old boy came with clubfoot what type of surgery would you do?

A-bone and Soft tissue only B-Soft tissue only C-bone only D-Salvage

Ans: A

5-A 1-week-old infant is brought to the office for a routine follow-up. After the birth of their newborn, the parents not their baby's "foot looks funny." Physical examination shows that the right foot is extremely plantar-flexed, but that it re to a normal, neutral position with gentle manipulation. There is also some inversion of the arch that the parents have noticed. The rest of the baby's exam is appropriate. Which of the following may be what caused this deformity?

A. Cerebral palsyB. Atypical positioning of the foot in uteroC. AneuploidyD. Toxic ingestion by the mother during pregrancy

Ans: B

6-A 5-day-old neonate has a mild congenital deformity of the talus. Soft tissues of the medial side of the foot as underdeveloped with a concomitant displacement of the talo-calcaneo-navicular joint. There is reduction in le of the gastroc-soleus and posterior tibial muscles and their tendons. The feet are adducted and supinated but otherwise normal. An image of the observed deformity is depicted below and the diagnosis of talipes equinova made. Which of the following is the best step in management?

- A. Cast and bracing
- B. Surgical correction
- C. Orthotic splint
- D. Reassurance

Ans: A



7-An 8-year-old boy comes to the clinic with his newly adoptive mother because of difficulty walking. The mot informs you that her son was adopted from a country with low resources and he has only been in the United S for 1 week. She believes he was not fed well before he was adopted. His temperature is 37.1°C (98.8°F), pulse i 90/min, respirations are 20/min, and blood pressure is 100/70 mm Hg. Physical examination shows a small appearing boy for his age with a protuberant abdomen and bleeding gums. Gait analysis shows his knees cont often and his lower legs extend laterally. A Q-angel measurement is taken. Which of the following is the most cause of his gait abnormality?

- A. Vit D deficiency
- B. Vit c deficiency
- C. Folate deficiency
- D. Protein deficiency

Ans: A