

PAEDIATRIC SPINECOR BRACE PROVIDERS TRAINING AND ACCREDITATION

The aim of the SpineCor training program is to enable Brace Providers to fit SpineCor braces on paediatric patients and to manage their patient's treatment effectively.

The Paediatric SpineCor brace accreditation training program is divided into three phases: Phase 0, Phase 1, and Phase 2.

- **Phase 0** consists of an online training that involves approximately a total of 5 hours and represents a **3%** of the full training process.
- **Phase 1** is a 2 days onsite training involving a total of 13 training hours that represents the **10%** of the whole training process.
- **Phase 2** is the post Phase 1 clinical support phase. It is a continuous assessment process over 60-120 hours representing the remaining **87%** of the whole training process.

PHASE 0 (On-line Training)

Phase 0 consists of 11 modules, **6 compulsory and 5 optional**, to be completed on-line.

Brace Providers without significant scoliosis treatment experience are strongly advised to take the 5 optional modules along with the 6 compulsory modules.

Brace Providers with a significant experience in scoliosis treatment may not need to complete the 6 optional modules.

Optional Modules

The 5 optional modules provide important basic information for scoliosis management and include:

- Basic Spinal Anatomy
- Paediatric Scoliosis Overview
- Conservative Treatment of Idiopathic Scoliosis
- SpineCor Fundamental Research and Treatment Results
- Introduction to the Paediatric SpineCor Exercise Method (SEM)

Compulsory Modules

These 6 modules are compulsory for all Brace Providers wishing to become SpineCor brace providers and include:

- What is Idiopathic Scoliosis?
- Scoliosis treatment with the SpineCor Dynamic Corrective Brace
- Paediatric Clinical Evaluation
- Paediatric Radiological Evaluation
- SpineCor Standard Treatment Protocol
- Treatment Objectives and Prognosis

Each of the modules has specific learning objectives. At the end of each compulsory training module there are simple multiple choice questions tests to help to reinforce the key learning objectives. It is necessary to complete each compulsory module by answering all of the questions correctly (even if this takes several attempts). No pass or fail mark is recorded, and instead the on-line system allows moving onto the next module when the test is satisfactorily completed.

It is necessary to complete all 6 compulsory modules before progressing onto Phase 1.

PHASE 1 (On-site Training)

Phase 1 consists of **2 days** of group training with a high practical content.

The group training course covers the SpineCor treatment principles and the practical application of the Paediatric SpineCor brace utilizing a 'Case Based' learning approach to simulate real clinical practice. The simulation of patient cases shall be completed with the support of the *SpineCor Assistant Software (SAS-WEB)*. This web-based clinical support tool will guide the delegate through the whole brace fitting process just as it would in real clinical practice with a patient.

The brace fitting process includes the following steps:

- Patient File Creation
- Anatomical Marking
- Clinical Evaluation
- Radiological Evaluation
- Classification of the Scoliosis Curve
- SpineCor Brace Fitting
- Post-brace Evaluations
- Patient Education

Delegates will gain hands-on experience practicing these steps with the use of a model and real patient x-rays. Five of the most common types of paediatric scoliosis will be covered during the 2 days training.

PHASE 2 (Clinical Support)

Phase 2 training is the clinical support phase where Brace Providers receive **one-to-one** supervision during their initial patient treatments both during facility visits and by telephone and on-line support. The training process involves a **minimum of 3 visits** to the provider facility.

Phase 2 involves a continuous assessment of the delegates and their performance in evaluating and fitting patients. Brace provider's assessments will involve a combination of onsite clinical visits, remote support via Skype and the SpineCor Assistant Software SASWEB and retrospective patient reviews.

Phase 2 Training should ideally commence within 6 weeks of completing Phase 1.

The **first clinic visit** will coincide with the delegate's first SpineCor patients so that support can be provided during the fitting of the first few cases. This clinic visit should include a minimum of **2 new patients**. With each new patient initially taking about 3 hours to fit, it is usual to only have enough time to fit 2 patients per day during this visit.

The **second visit** shall ideally be arranged within 4 to 16 weeks of completing visit number 1 coinciding with the follow-up visit of some of the SpineCor patients treated to date. Ideally this visit should include further new patient fittings.

The **third clinic visit** shall ideally be arranged at a time when the delegate **may** have enough experience with SpineCor Brace treatment and it should coincide with a **minimum 6 months** follow-up visit of some of the patients treated along the training process.

After the third visit further remote support will typically be required to achieve full accreditation. In some cases further clinic visits may be required depending on the number and accuracy of cases treated.

SPINECOR PAEDIATRIC BRACE PROVIDER ACCREDITATION

SpineCor Paediatric Brace Providers Accreditation is achieved when brace providers complete the learning and assessment process along of the Phase 2 training, demonstrating that brace providers have achieved the required standard in all areas involved in the SpineCor treatment.

There is a significant learning curve involved with SpineCor treatment which includes mastering a number of new skills. Typically it will take between 10 and 20 patients to achieve the standard required for accreditation.

The typical training period for a new provider of SpineCor treatment to be fully independent is 2 years.