

# Best practices in collaborative care and the potential impact of novel therapies

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# Disclosures

- **Principal Investigator:**

- Alexion, Ascendis, Novo Nordisk, and Pfizer/OPKO

- **Adjudication Committee:**

- Aeterna Zentaris

- **Speaker Bureau:**

- Ascendis, BioMarin, and Novo Nordisk

- **Advisory Board:**

- Ascendis, BioMarin, Novo Nordisk, and Pfizer



# Objectives

- Assess the need for multidisciplinary care for people with achondroplasia
- Discuss the evolving role of the pediatric endocrinologist in the pharmacologic treatment of achondroplasia and available therapies
- Explore the need to regularly monitor the growth and development of children and adolescents with achondroplasia, utilizing disease-specific tools
- Discuss best practices for endocrinologists as part of a collaborative team



**Assess the need for multidisciplinary care for people with achondroplasia**



# Children with achondroplasia may experience complications in multiple systems<sup>1-3</sup>

## EAR, NOSE, AND THROAT

- Recurrent otitis media
- Hearing loss
- Dental malocclusion

## CARDIOVASCULAR AND RESPIRATORY SYSTEMS

- Obstructive sleep apnea
- Hypertension

## EXTREMITIES

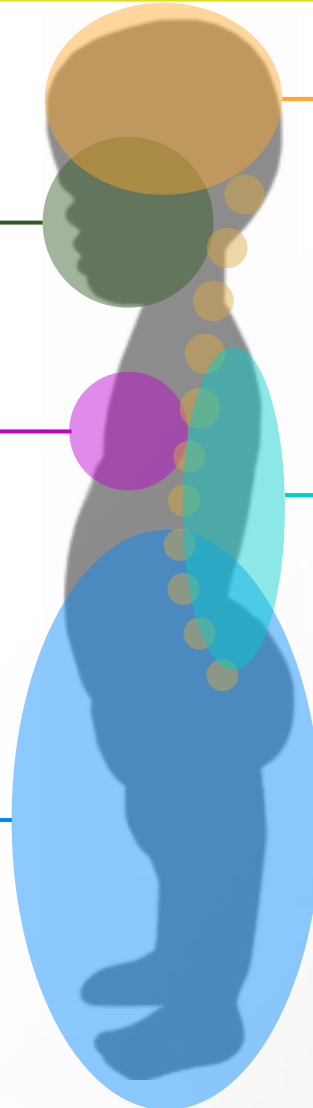
- Genu varum
- Rhizomelic shortening of upper and lower extremities

## NERVOUS SYSTEM

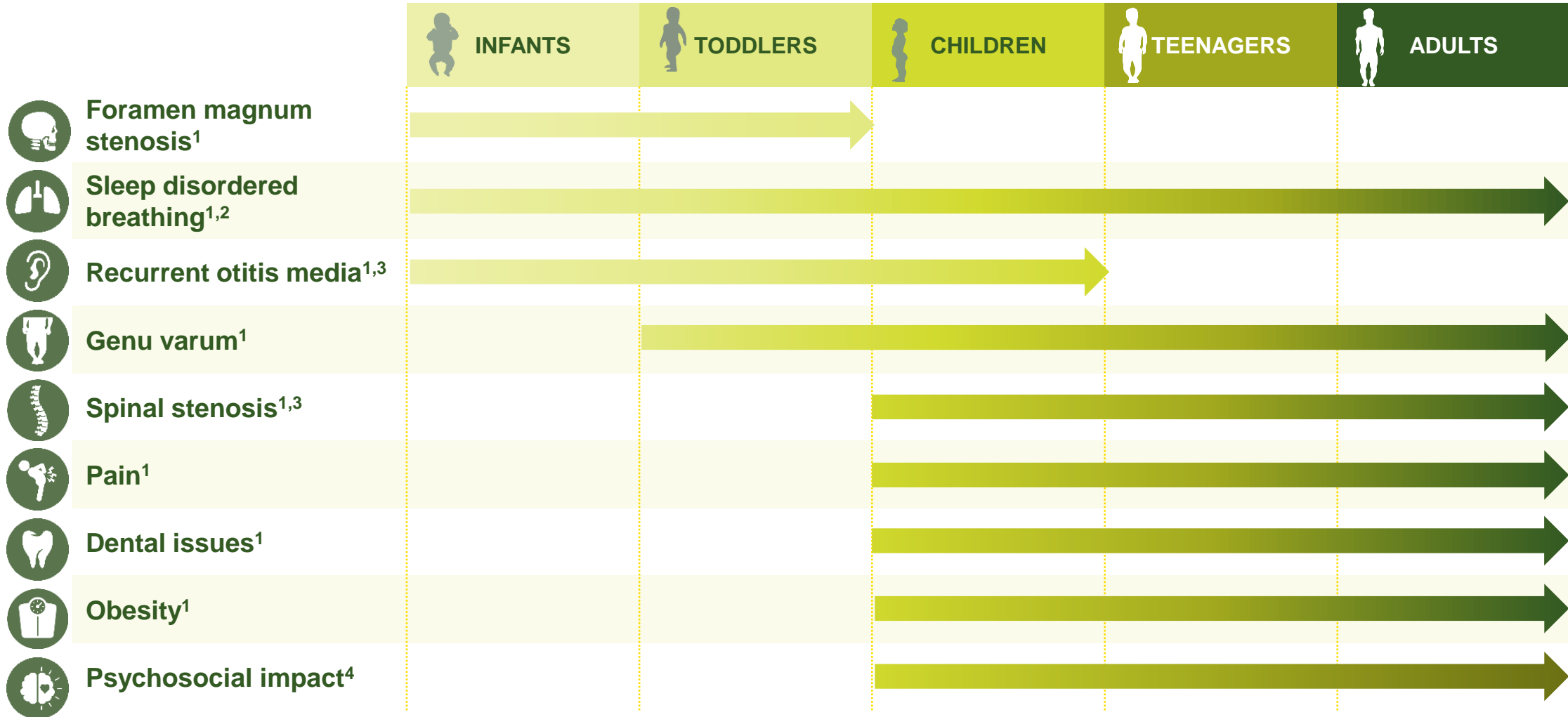
- Foramen magnum stenosis
- Central sleep apnea

## BACK

- Spinal stenosis
- Thoracolumbar kyphosis
- Lumbar hyperlordosis
- Pain



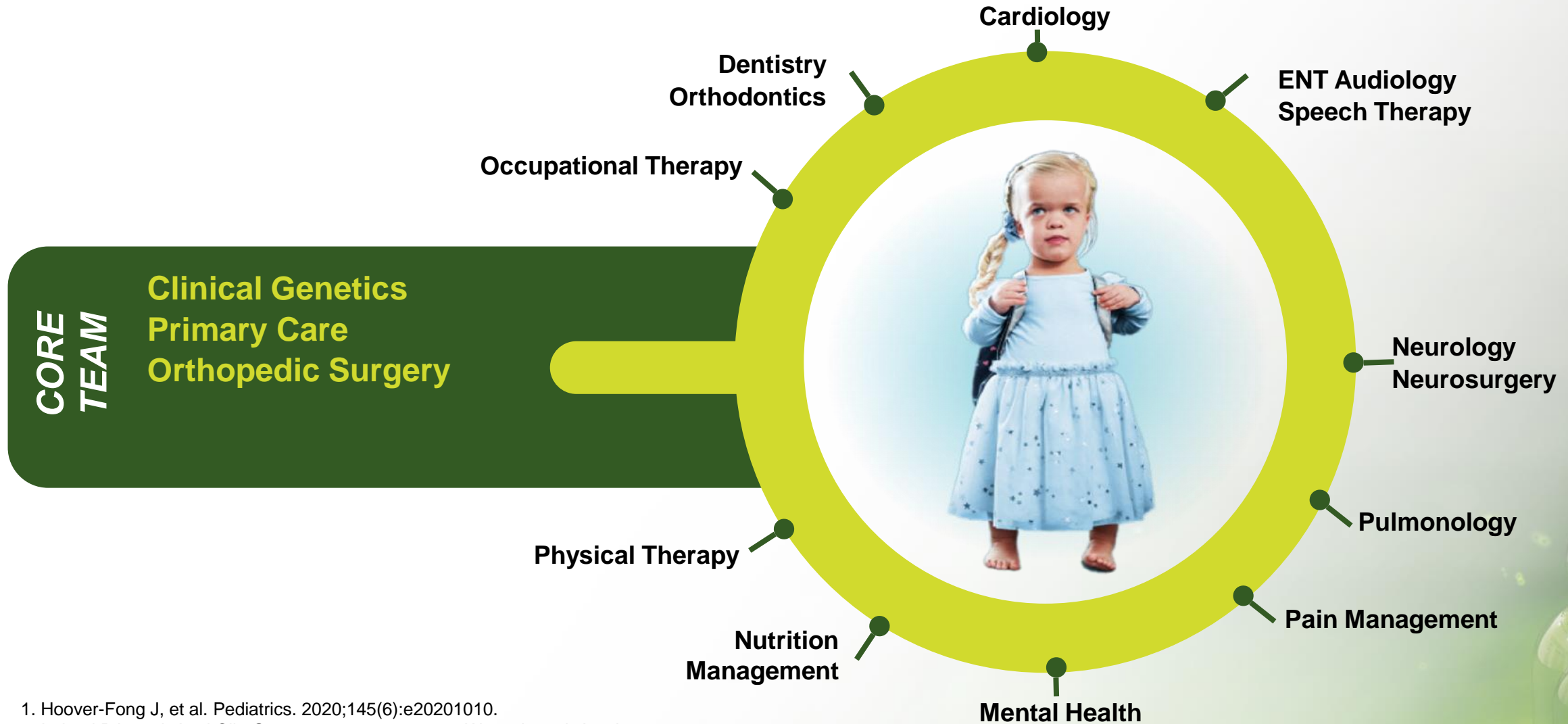
# These complications occur at during different stages of life



1. Hoover-Fong J, et al. Pediatrics. 2020;145(6):e20201010. 2. Tenconi R, et al. Am J Med Genet A. 2017;173(4):868-878. 3. Wright MJ, Irving MD. Arch Dis Child. 2012;97(2):129-134. 4. Nishimura N, Hanaki K. J Clin Nurs. 2014;23(21-22):3045-3056.



# Multidisciplinary care is needed<sup>1-4</sup>



1. Hoover-Fong J, et al. Pediatrics. 2020;145(6):e20201010.

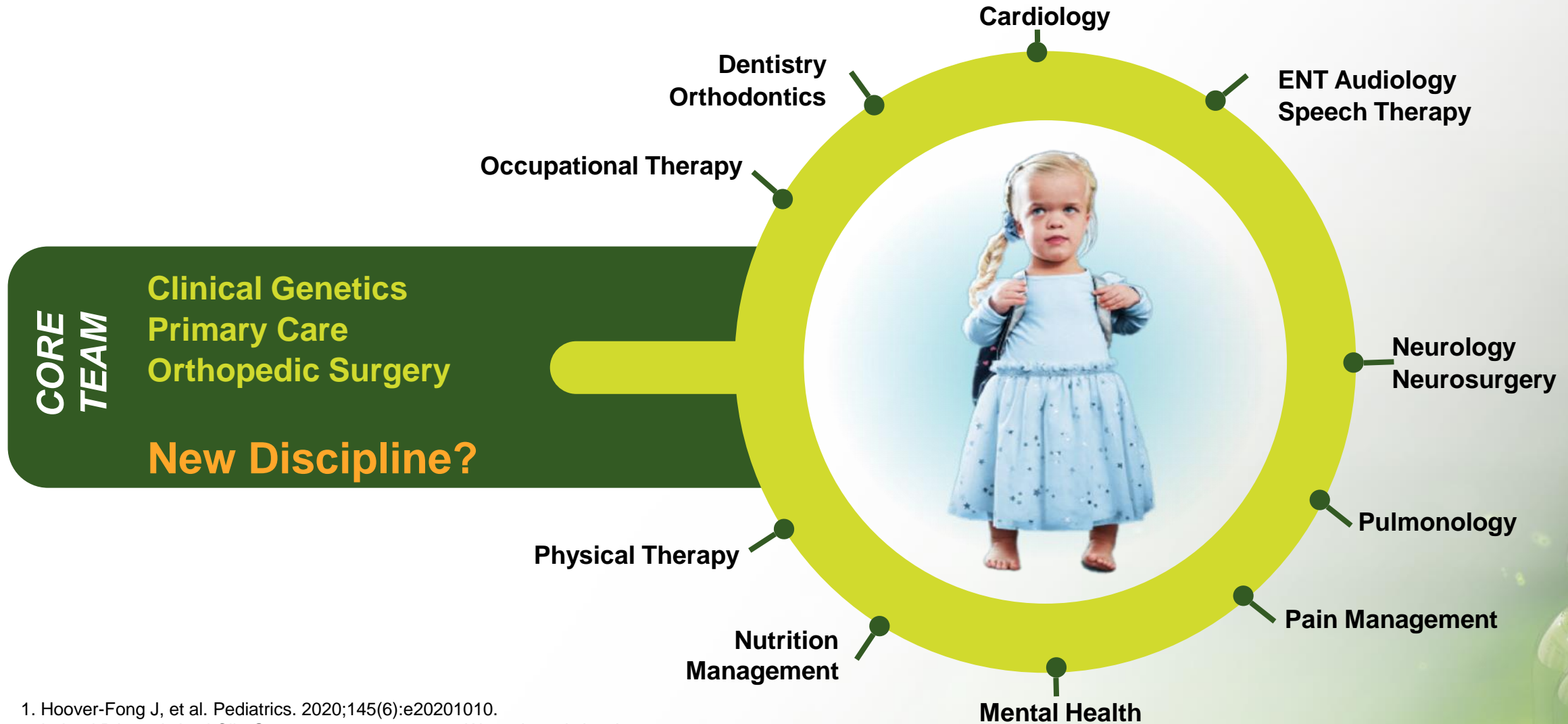
2. Ireland PJ, et al. Appl Clin Genet. 2014;7:117-125. 3, Wynn J, et al. Am J Med Genet A. 2007;143A(21):2502-2511.

4. Ahoor MH, Amizadeh Y, Sorkhabi R. Middle East Afr J Ophthalmol. 2015;22(4):522-524.

Picture: Annika, a clinical trial participant receiving Voxzogo



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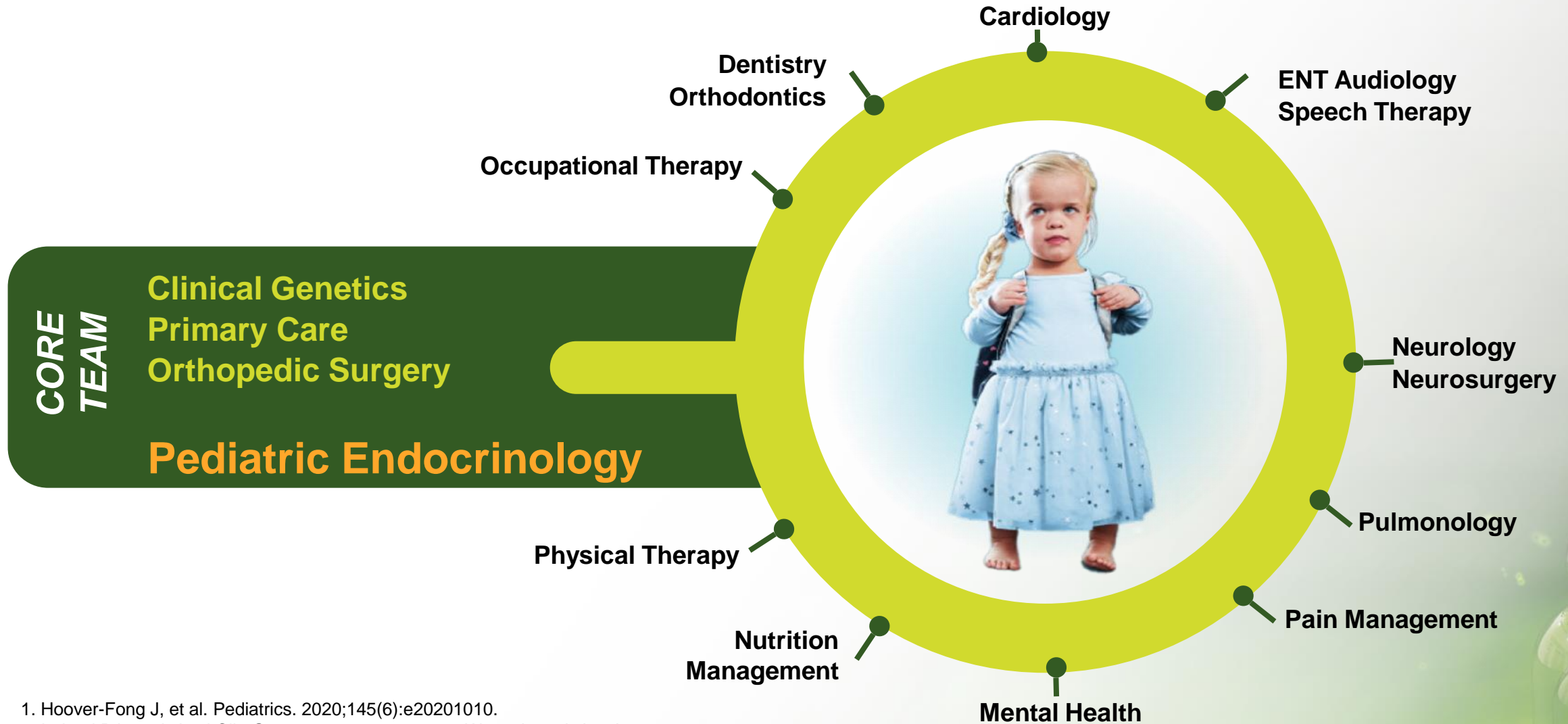
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**Discuss the evolving role of the pediatric endocrinologist in the pharmacologic treatment of achondroplasia and available therapies**



# Vosoritide (Voxzogo by BioMarin)

- First and only FDA-approved therapy for children with achondroplasia
- CNP-analog that targets overactive FGFR3 signaling
  - Positive regulator of endochondral bone growth
- Indicated for linear growth in children  $\geq 5$ yo with open epiphyses
- Daily SQ injection given at home
- Efficacy: 52-wk double-blind randomized placebo-controlled trial<sup>1</sup>
  - Improved AGV: +1.57cm/yr
  - Improved Z-score: +0.28 SD
- Safety<sup>1</sup>:
  - Common A/Es: injection site reactions (73%), transient erythema or swelling
  - Serious A/Es: transient decrease in BP (12%), with 3% being symptomatic (vomiting and/or dizziness); resolves within 30min
    - Counseling: to be given after proper hydration and meal

1. Savarirayan, et al. Once-daily, subcutaneous vosoritide therapy in children with achondroplasia: a randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled, multicentre trial. Lancet 2020; 396:684-92.



# Why Pediatric Endocrinology?

## Experience in monitoring growth



- Follow patients frequently (every 3-6mo)
- Familiar with weight-based dose adjustments

## Familiar with multi-disciplinary care models



- Turner syndrome

## Comfortable with SQ injection training



- In-house vs coordinating home training

## Experience with metabolic bone disease



- Hypophosphatasia and X-linked hypophosphatemic rickets

## Infrastructure to address insurance coverage



- Benefits investigation, prior authorization, and appeals for high-cost specialty injectables



# Barriers for pediatric endocrinologists

## Unfamiliarity with achondroplasia

- Condition where historically ped endo not typically involved

## Access to patients

- Current core team: primary care, clinical genetics, and orthopedic surgery



# Solutions to overcome barriers

Resource: AAP Clinical Care Guidelines 2020

- Health Supervision for People with Achondroplasia<sup>1</sup>



Educational campaign for both caregivers and providers

- Disease-state awareness and therapeutic options

Achondroplasia Doctor Finder





**Explore the need to regularly monitor the growth and development of children and adolescents with achondroplasia, utilizing disease-specific tools**



# Growth charts

## Must use condition-specific, gender-specific charts

- Achondroplasia GC are available through EPIC
- If non-EPIC user, downloadable GCs are available
  - Neumeyer L, Merker A & Hagenäs L; Achondroplasia clinical charts; version 2020



01

## Traditional ped endo anthropometrics

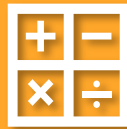
- Standing height
- Weight
- BMI



02

## Additional achondroplasia anthropometrics

- Arm span
- Sitting Height
- Head circumference (in all ages)
- Leg length (Standing height – Sitting height)



03

## Typically need two individuals for accurate measurements



04



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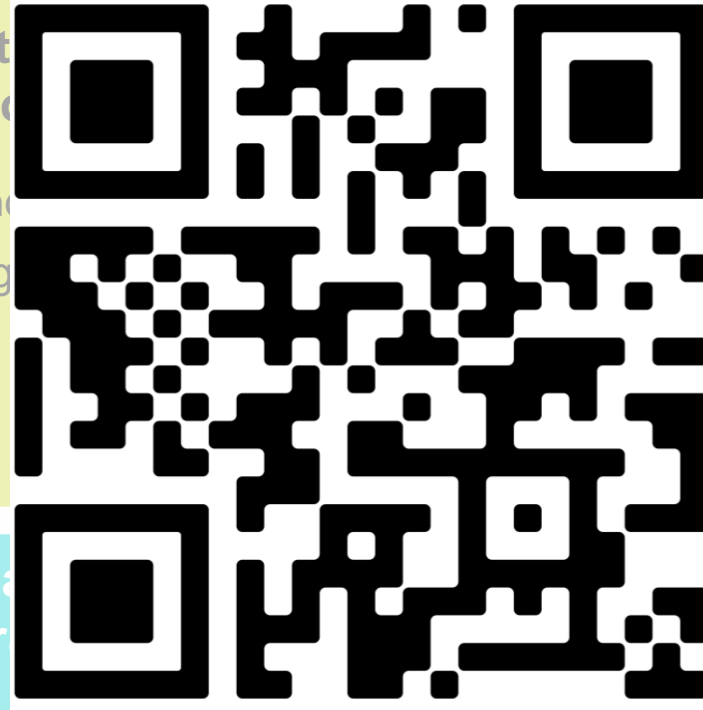
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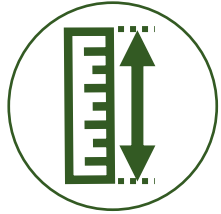
## Typical accuracy



04

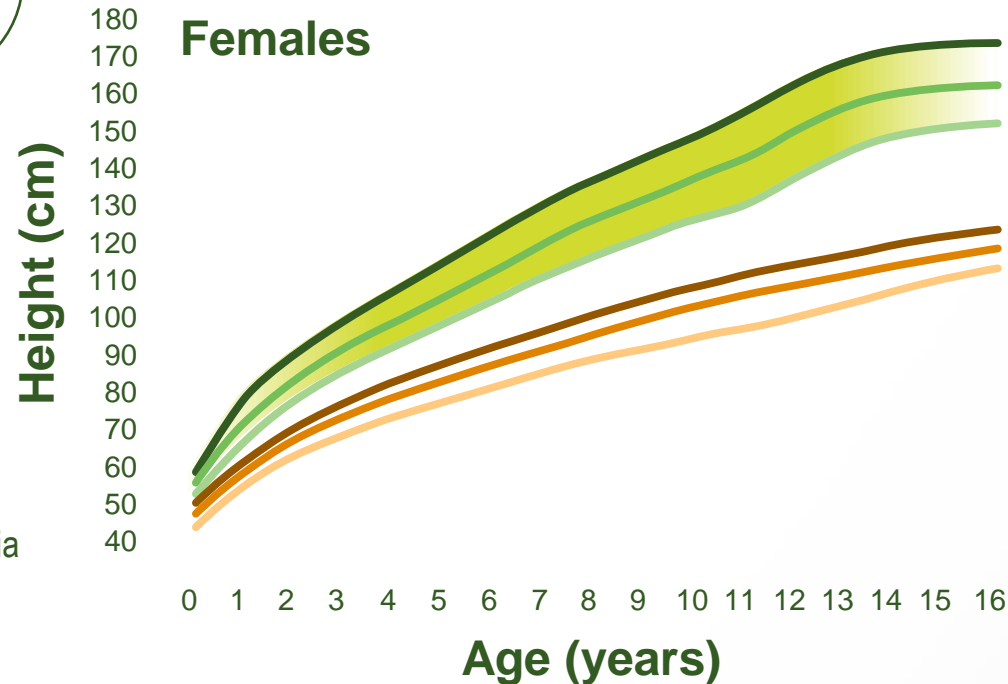


# Achondroplasia-Specific Growth Charts



## Height

### Females



### Males



For individuals with achondroplasia, adult height is roughly **-6.0 SDS** for both sexes

Hoover-Fong JE, Schulze KJ, McGready J, Barnes H, Scott CI. Age-appropriate body mass index in children with achondroplasia: interpretation in relation to indexes of height. Am J Clin Nutr. 2008;88(2):364-371. doi: 10.1093/ajcn/88.2.364. Reproduced by permission of Oxford University Press on behalf of the American Society for Nutrition.

References: 1. Hoover-Fong J, et al. Pediatrics. 2020;145(6):e20201010. 2. Hoover-Fong J, et al. Am J Clin Nutr. 2008;88(2):364-371.



**Discuss best practices for  
endocrinologists as part of a  
collaborative team**



# Sensitivity



No “achon”  
Similar to no “diabetic”



No “disease”



No “normal stature”



No “m” word or “dwarfism”



**Preferable: child with achondroplasia**  
Preferable: child with diabetes



**Preferable: condition**



**Preferable: average stature**



## Sensitivity (cont.)

### Little People of American (LPA)

- Strong patient advocacy and social group
- Vocal minority has stigmatized treatment for height alone
  - Reports of patients with leg-lengthening surgery receiving criticism
  - Similar but less emotionally charged than ISS in ped endo GH therapy



# Managing expectations with treatment

- Currently, FDA-approved indication is for linear growth *only*
  - Not proportionality
  - Not early neurosurgical complications
  - Five years of age and older
- Studies ongoing to evaluate long-term effects on proportionality and treatment <5yo for neurosurgical complications
- Improved growth velocity is marginal (compared to ped endo GH therapy)
  - Recall pivotal phase 3: +1.57cm/yr
  - Longer term data are still needed by final adult height
  - Cumulative increases over years of Rx *may* lead to significant gains that *may* affect activities of daily living
  - 2yr extension data<sup>1</sup>: maintenance of improved height velocity from baseline
  - Maximal duration of therapy (early initiation combined with continuation until growth plate fusion) is likely to provide the maximum benefit

1. Savarirayan, et al. Safe and persistent growth-promoting effects of vosoritide in children with achondroplasia: 2-year results from an open-label, phase 3 extension study. *Genetics in Medicine*. 2021; 23:2443-2447.



## Coordinating care with team

Pediatric endocrinology will be the newest addition to the core team

Essential that there is open communication between members

- Particularly true if therapy is started
- Ongoing frequent monitoring
- It takes a village



## Final Thoughts: 2 words

**Excitement**



- First and only FDA-approved therapy for achondroplasia – vosoritide
  - Start with linear growth
  - Potential other benefits TBD with more time

- Expanding knowledge into a new condition for pediatric endocrinology
- Using our existing skill sets and infrastructure

**Hope**

