

To Whom It May Concern:

The Children's Orthopaedic Trauma and Infection Consortium for Evidence Based Study (**CORTICES**) is a multicenter pediatric orthopaedic trauma research group consisting of nineteen participating institutions across the United States. We aim to be at the forefront of pediatric trauma research by conducting multicenter studies that improve the quality, safety, and value of care delivered to children suffering from orthopaedic trauma and infection.

CORTICES had its first meeting in Las Vegas at the AAOS in 2015. Over the last three years we have been successful in securing a POSNA directed research grant (\$50,000) to investigate the regional variation and epidemiology of musculoskeletal infection across the United States. To date we have created a working database of over 9,000 pediatric musculoskeletal infections. The results of this research project will have significant impact across the field of pediatric orthopedics. We plan to begin presenting our results from this research over the next 6 months.

In order to help supplement the costs associated with running a multi-center research consortium and maintaining our research databases, we are asking each **CORTICES** institution to contribute a one-time \$5,000 membership fee. As **CORTICES** is currently in its infancy, all of our financial resources will be stored within the Children's Orthopaedic Surgery Foundation (COSF). COSF is a 501c3 organization, whose members include the orthopedic surgeons at Boston Children's Hospital. All contributions to **CORTICES** are tax-deductible and will be directed through COSF to the **CORTICES** research fund.

The Executive Committee of the Board of Directors (5 active members of **CORTICES** from 5 different institutions) will direct the financial distribution and initiatives of **CORTICES**. The first financial initiative of the group is the creation of a website at WWW.CORTICES.ORG, where all participating institutions will be recognized with hyperlinked information to each specific orthopaedic department. This website will also promote research organization, study recruitment support, and up-to-date information on study goal and progress. In addition, we plan to use these membership funds to supplement the salary of a data manager for our musculoskeletal infection database, as well as to help monitor future multi-center studies which we plan to begin this fall. Future decisions about funding will be made by the Board of Directors.

Please contact Emily.Rademacher@childrens.harvard.edu if you would like an invoice, a copy of our W9, or have further questions.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

CORTICES Executive Committee

Scott Rosenfeld, Texas Children's Hospital
Jonathan Schoenecker, Monroe Carell Jr Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt
Benjamin Shore, Boston Children's Hospital
David Spence, Le Bonheur Children's Hospital
Salil Upasani, Rady Children's Hospital

CORTICES Institutions

Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital

Boston Children's Hospital

Children's Healthcare of Atlanta

Children's Hospital Los Angeles

Children's Hospital of Pennsylvania

Cincinnati Children's Hospital

Colorado Children's Hospital

Emory

Gillette Children's Hospital

Le Bonheur Children's Hospital

Levine Children's Hospital

Nationwide Children's Hospital

Rady Children's Hospital

Seattle Children's Hospital

Texas Children's Hospital

Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children

University of Michigan

Vanderbilt

Washington University in St. Louis

Corresponding Members

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Collin May, Benjamin Shore*

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