

Chapter 6- Honors Writing Task

Leg Adjustment

Orthopedics is the branch of medicine that deals with the prevention or correction of injuries or disorders of the skeletal system and associated muscles, joints, and ligaments. You have graduated medical school and are now a resident physician at Henry Mayo Newhall Memorial Hospital. Currently, you are doing your surgical rotation in orthopedics. The attending surgeon has asked you to scrub in on a leg lengthening surgery in one week. The patient is a young boy who was in an accident in which his lower leg bones, the tibia and fibula, were ran over, broken, and have not healed properly causing his lower leg to grow at much slower rate. The discrepancy in size between his normal leg and his injured leg is approximately $3 \frac{3}{4}$ inches and is causing the boy to have difficulty walking. In order to restore proper function, his parents have opted for surgery. The attending physician has asked you to speak to the parents to calm their anxiety and reassure them that the Ilizarov method is the best surgical procedure to restore function for their son. Using facts and/or statistics, write one informative paragraph that convinces and reassures the parents that they are doing the best thing for their son.