

# Spondyloepiphyseal Dysplasia Congenita in a painting of Vicente López y Portaña (1825)

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The painting entitled “Aragonese Dwarf” is an oil on canvas realized in 1825 by the Spanish neoclassical painter Vicente López y Portaña (Valencia, 1772–Madrid, 1850).

The subject of the picture presents with disproportionate short-trunk dwarfing condition, relative macrocephaly and flat face. The limbs are short with hands and feet average-sized.

These phenotypic aspects lead to the diagnosis of Spondyloepiphyseal Dysplasia Congenita (SEDC), a rare inherited autosomal dominant disorder, with a prevalence of approximately 1 per 100,000 live births [1]. The disease, which belongs to the group of type II collagenopathy, results from mutations in type II collagen gene (COL2A1, MIM 183900) [2].

The picture, exposed at Harvard Fogg Art Museum, Cambridge, Massachusetts, can be considered an effective artistic representation of the pathology.

## Compliance with ethical standards

**Conflict of interest** The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

**Ethical approval** This paper does not contain any studies with human participants or animals performed by any of the authors.

**Informed consent** No informed consent.

## References

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