

# AHEAD OF THE CURVE

The Official Newsletter of The Setting Scoliosis Straight Foundation

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## You'll Love Lindsay Ellingson, Our New Celebrity Spokeswoman Extraordinaire!

In mid-August we finally set the date. Then it hit us: we were going to interview Lindsay Ellingson! All of sudden, we were freaking out. C'mon, the girl is an international sensation. Lindsay has 865,000 of her closest friends following her on Instagram. That's a following the size of San Francisco! It's safe to say Lindsay is kind of a big deal.

At only 31 years old, Lindsay has already held a lot of great titles: international fashion icon and supermodel,

entrepreneur, and scoliosis patient. She's today's Renaissance woman, who has known success both personally and professionally. Despite all her incredible accomplishments, Lindsay is as humble as it gets. She's your girl next door with a twist (literally). She lights up when she talks about being a new aunt to her adorable niece, and enjoys sharing beauty tips from her newly launched Wander Beauty line. Scoliosis also gets her talking!

### What part of the SSS mission resonates most with you?

*What resonates most is your focus on advancing techniques in scoliosis treatment. For me, because my spine was fused, it's important that research continues to explore new ways to fuse the spine while leaving the most mobility possible. Before having surgery, I was worried that I wouldn't be able to maintain an active lifestyle, but after surgery I can do everything I could before, with the exception of a backbend, and I'm perfectly ok with that!*





## Why do you think a study like our long-term outcomes study is valuable, and what sort of questions do you still have?

*One of my biggest concerns is what is it going to be like to be pregnant and carry a child? How is my spine going to age 10, 20, 30 years from now, especially the areas in my spine that are not fused? I think it's really incredible what you're doing. You're not only helping those currently undergoing corrective treatment, but you're following [patients] throughout our lives.*

## In your story you say the achievement you're most proud of is the scar on your back. Is that still true?

*Yes, my scar is still my greatest achievement. Going through such a major surgery at a young age really changes who you are. I felt that if I could get through spinal-fusion surgery, I can get through anything else in life. Over the last 18 years, of course I've had ups and downs and challenging times, and what gets me through it every time...is the scar on my back.*

## How would you like to use your talents and celebrity platform to help spread scoliosis awareness?

*[My] goal is to give you hope and inspire you. Scoliosis and spinal fusion surgery gave me a depth of character, motivation, and determination to do anything. I think that's what makes scoliosis patients so special, and I think that something we all have in common is that drive to persevere and achieve anything we set our minds to. It's so important to [be] part of a community, to be able to share your story, ask questions, to feel normal, and to just relate to each other, feel inspired, and ultimately to give each other hope.*



Lindsay is excited to support our 2017 Patient Education Course: Power Over Scoliosis, in Miami, Florida!

To learn more about Power Over Scoliosis, read Lindsay's full patient story, or watch clips of Lindsay answering more scoliosis questions, visit our website today!

[www.settingscoliosisstraight.org](http://www.settingscoliosisstraight.org)

**DON'T FORGET!** As a patient volunteer for the **Harms Study Group**, your continued help is essential. Please remember to make all of your scheduled follow-up appointments with your spine surgeon.

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