Children with hip issues, such as Legg-Calvé-Perthes or slipped capital femoral epiphysis (SCFE), often present with groin, thigh, or knee pain. This is often because of referred pain and is anatomically related to the obturator nerve. Any time a child presents with groin, thigh, or knee pain, a complete hip examination is paramount to rule out underlying hip pathology.

Kyphosis and Lordosis

The spine, which consists of numerous segments, can acquire deformity curves of three types: kyphosis, lordosis, and scoliosis (Fig. 29-19). **Kyphosis** is the lateral convex angulation in the curvature of the thoracic spine (see Fig. 29-19, *B*). If it is increased (greater than 45 degrees), it may occur secondary to disease processes, such as tuberculosis (TB), chronic arthritis, osteodystrophy, or compression fractures of the thoracic spine. The most common form of hyperkyphosis is posture-related. Children, especially during the time when skeletal growth outpaces growth of muscle, are prone to exaggeration of a normal kyphosis. This is particularly common in self-conscious adolescent girls who assume a round-shouldered slouching posture in an attempt to hide their developing breasts and increasing height. **Scheuermann kyphosis** is a thoracic curve greater than 45 degrees with wedging of more than 5 degrees of at least three adjacent vertebral bodies and vertebral irregularity.

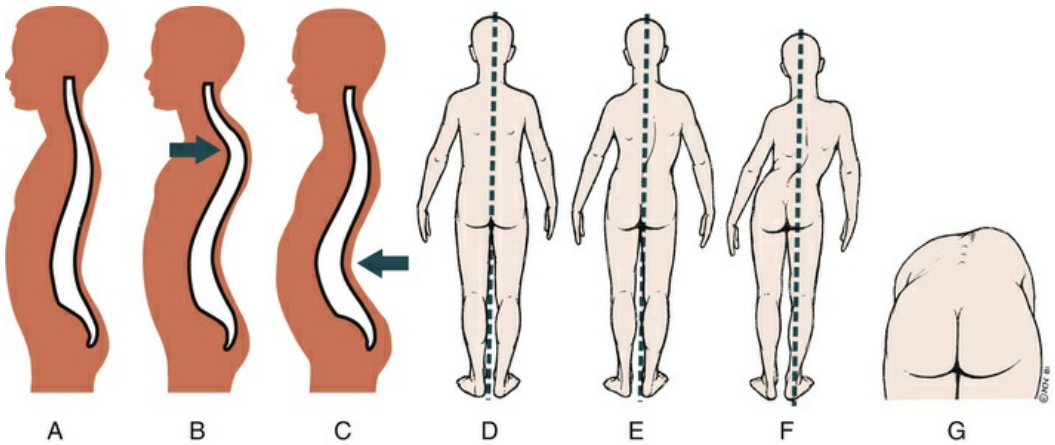

FIG 29-19 Defects of spinal column. **A,** Normal spine. **B,** Kyphosis. **C,** Lordosis. **D,** Normal spine in balance. **E,** Mild scoliosis in balance. **F,** Severe scoliosis not in