

Footie-mad teen pitches in again after clinic help

A FOOTBALL-MAD Swansea teenager living with the threat of major spinal surgery feared she would have to give up the sport she loved.

But instead of Caroline Hardy being relegated to the touchline, she was offered revolutionary treatment which helped her back onto the pitch.

The 17-year-old, who suffers with scoliosis — an excessive sideways curvature of the spine — turned for help from the Suffolk based clinic — Scoliosis SOS.

Following four weeks of intensive treatment at the clinic, Caroline's constant pain which she has suffered because of her condition has now virtually disappeared.

"Since being at the clinic for four weeks I have benefited immensely," she said. "My pain has decreased and I know how

BY LIZ PERKINS

Health reporter

to stand with a corrected posture. I am now able to stand in the centre and I am well aware I must not slip back into my scoliotic posture."

Caroline's mum Sarah, 44, said she first noticed something wrong with her daughter's back in December 2010.

"I was horrified one day when watching Caroline bend over to pick something up, I noticed her back did not look symmetrical," she said.

She immediately took her daughter to see a spinal surgeon where it was discovered she had a 37 degree curve in her spine.

Although, they were initially told by a doctor that the curve was not likely to get any worse, a second visit, some months later, revealed Caroline's curve had in fact worsened to 44 degrees.

It meant she could be faced with the frightening prospect of

having to undergo surgery.

But the family were determined to find an alternative and watched a TV interview from the Scoliosis SOS clinic in Suffolk. It is the only clinic worldwide to offer treatment following the Scolio-Gold method — internationally renowned non-surgical treatments practiced in Europe for several decades.

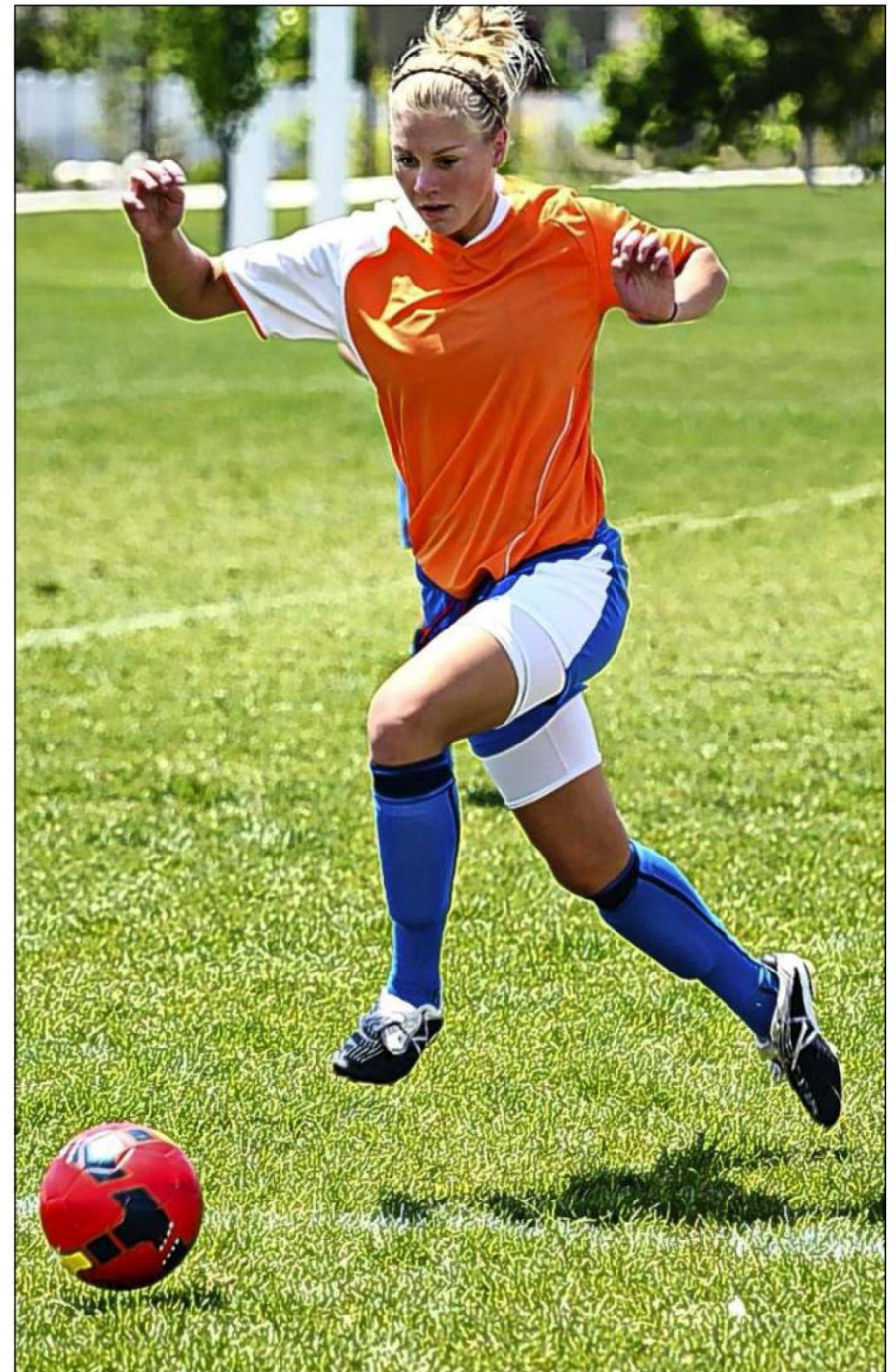
Patients are offered physiotherapy to help their condition.

Caroline was full of praise for the care and treatment she received from the staff at the Suffolk clinic, which has helped her to achieve her goals.

She added: "The therapists were really nice to me at the clinic. They were professional, caring and very understanding, as well as very patient."

The teenager is now urging others to learn from her experience by being pro-active in looking for treatment.

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PLAYING AGAIN Caroline Hardy suffers with scoliosis.