Mayo Clinic Minute

What parents should know about kids and golf

Video	Audio
Sanjeev Kakar, M.D.	"Erin, here, is our 16-year-old golfer."
Vivien Williams	Erin got into golf because she likes it. As she chooses to become competitive
Sanjeev Kakar, M.D.	" it's important to have lessons so she has proper physical form."
Vivien Williams	Dr. Sanj Kakar says proper equipment, form and grip will help prevent common, overuse injuries such as wrist tendonitis.
Vivien Williams	Don't use an adult's hand-me-down set of clubs for kids.
Sanjeev Kakar, M.D. Orthopedics Mayo Clinic	"Having good golf equipment which is fitted for them is probably the way to go."
Vivien Williams	Next are form and grip.
Sanjeev Kakar, M.D.	"She's got good, athletic posture and she's got a good grip."
Vivien Williams	How kids grip and swing the club are key to preventing injuries. At the top of the swing, don't let the club drop down.
Sanjeev Kakar, M.D.	"That is stressing the tendons on this side, and can give you tendonitis."
Sanjeev Kakar, M.D.	"And in the follow-through, as she comes down, the dominant wrist, the left wrist, is firm at impact."
Vivien Williams	Hinging the wrists at the end of the swing, or letting them collapse can also cause tendonitis. What's another big

issue that puts kids at risk? Pushing them too hard too fast.
For the Mayo Clinic News Network, I'm Vivien Williams.