



A Report from the Pediatric Orthopaedic Surgery Program at The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia



Lauren Tomlinson
John P. Dormans, MD



Greetings from Pediatric Orthopaedic Surgery at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. The CHOP pediatric orthopaedics faculty had an excellent year in 2009-2010. Existing subspecialty programs continue to grow, improving the quality and availability of care for our young patients.

The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia also continues to thrive. In 2009, *U.S. News and World Report* ranked CHOP as the top hospital for a number of specialties. *Parents* magazine (which was formerly done by *Child* magazine) also named CHOP the best children's hospital for 2010, a distinction the hospital has enjoyed since 2004.



Clinical Program

The Division of Orthopaedic Surgery has grown over this past year. Our orthopaedic faculty is comprised of eighteen specially trained pediatric orthopaedic surgeons (twelve operative and six non-operative), nine nurse practitioners, three registered nurses (two of which have been recently hired), two physician's assistants, and three cast technicians, who are able to evaluate, diagnose, and treat the full range of musculoskeletal disorders, as well as a staff of 42 office personnel.

We are pleased to announce that Dr. Robert Carrigan and Dr. Wudbhav Sankar have joined our team this year. Dr. Robert Carrigan is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine. His area of clinical expertise focuses on the treatment of disorders and trauma of the upper extremities. Currently, Dr. Carrigan is seeing patients at the main campus as well as the Bucks, Exton, and King of Prussia satellites. Dr. Carrigan's arrival marks a significant expansion and development of a Hand program within the department.

Dr. Wudbhav "Woody" Sankar comes to CHOP having graduated from the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine. Dr. Sankar currently specializes in hips and spines, and is seeing patients at the main campus, as well as at the Voorhees satellite campus. By utilizing state-of-the-art surgical techniques, Dr. Sankar hopes to prevent the need for total hip replacement surgery in pediatric patients with complex hip disorders.

The Division of Orthopaedic Surgery has expanded significantly this past year. In addition to two new Attendings,

the Division has also hired Dr. J. Todd Lawrence. Dr. Lawrence specializes in sports medicine, and will begin seeing patients at CHOP in August of 2010. The Voorhees campus has not only expanded to include a third operating room, but has also extended services to five days a week.

Teaching

We currently have six funded, one year fellowship positions: three clinical fellowships and three research fellowships. Currently, our clinical fellows are Christopher Hydorn, Colin Goggins, and Melinda Sharkey, and our research fellows are Sachin Kulkarni, and Patrick O'Toole. Prakash Sitoula, our third research fellow, had spent six months in our department conducting research. Currently, Shikshya Shrestha is spending the remainder of this year long position working directly with Dr. David Spiegel.



Dr. Robert Carrigan

The Division of Orthopaedic Surgery continues to reach out to the international community of specialists by participating in the Visiting International Scholars Program (VISP), a program advertised by the International Center for Orthopaedic Education (www.icoe.aoassn.org).



Dr. Wudbhav Sankar

Last year, our department initiated an annual Benjamin Fox Scholarship Award for a 3rd year medical student who is dedicating a year to do research in Orthopaedics. Matthew Garner, currently a 4th year medical student at the University of Pennsylvania, was our first Benjamin Fox Scholarship recipient last year. In June, our department named Robert Miller, a 2nd year medical student at Temple University, this year's recipient of the scholarship. Currently, Robert is working on studies relating to trauma and sports injuries, care of pediatric spine deformities, treatment of lower back pain, and resources wasted on defensive medicine.

Research Programs

The CHOP Orthopaedic Surgery program currently has over 90 ongoing, active clinical research and basic science projects. Our pediatric orthopaedic faculty continues to present research studies at numerous orthopaedic



Matthew Garner,
former Benjamin Fox
Scholar

conferences around the world, including the American Association of Orthopaedic surgery (AAOS), the Pediatric Orthopaedic Society of North America (POSNA), the European Pediatric Orthopaedic Society (EPOS), the Scoliosis Research Society (SRS), the American Orthopaedic Society for Sports Medicine (AOSSM), the Musculoskeletal Tumor Society (MSTS), and many more.

Our attendings have also assumed several leadership roles within the pediatric orthopaedic community. Dr. John P. Dormans, current chairman of CHOP orthopaedic surgery is completing his term as President of POSNA for 2009-2010. Dr. Dormans has been awarded the "Humanitarian Scientific Achievement Award" by the Multiple Hereditary Exostoses Research Foundation. This award recognizes a lifetime of service and dedication to children and pediatric conditions. Dr. Dormans has also been appointed President of SICOTUSA for the 2010-2012 term as well.

Dr. Robert Campbell has been awarded the 2009 recipient of the Scoliosis Research Society (SRS)'s



Robert Miller,
current Benjamin Fox Scholar



Sarah Ziegler; John P. Dormans;
Mayor Michael Bloomberg; Craig Eaton

Walter P. Blount Humanitarian Award. This honor is bestowed upon an individual who has shown outstanding service to organizations, the community, and/or education.

Dr. John Flynn was the chairman of this year's IPOS conference in Orlando, Florida. The event attracted more than 250 participants from around the world, and included 71 lecturers.

The American Orthopaedic Society for Sports Medicine (AOSSM) awarded Dr. Theodore Ganley the Air Cast Award for best clinical paper in 2009. The study on which this paper was based sought to determine if there was harm in delaying treatment of patients suffering from an anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) tear of the knee.

As a consultant for the World Health Organization (WHO), Dr. David Spiegel has recently traveled to Asia in order to introduce a technology that maps the capacity to deliver health services at rural health facilities throughout the country of Mongolia.