



Pennsylvania Hospital Update

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Pennsylvania Hospital (PAH) has a rich history in Philadelphia as the nation's first hospital. Founded in 1751 by Benjamin Franklin and Dr. Thomas Bond, the hospital was intended as a safe haven for the care of the "sick-poor and insane of Philadelphia." Located in the heart of South Philadelphia, its brand name draws thousands of patients annually to receive their care at the corner of 8th and Spruce Streets.

Residents are typically in the operating room four days per week, with dedicated clinic time in multiple sub-specialties. In addition, the foot and ankle resident and spine chief resident are at PAH hospital full time, while residents from the arthroplasty and sports medicine services spend part of their week operating and staffing clinic in the Cathcart building. In a continuing commitment to resident education, conferences are now video conferenced from PMUC. With a rigorous, structured curriculum, specialty specific conferences include spine and foot and ankle.

The administration at Pennsylvania hospital continues to be extremely supportive of the expanded presence of orthopaedic faculty and residence. The hospital system has increased the number of physician extenders present, doubled the OR block time for the department, and increased physical space for clinical work and administrative duties. Their continued support is critical as the orthopaedic volume continues to grow, allowing PAH to maintain its reputation in the region as a first-class hospital.

With the changes over the past year to the Orthopaedic department and an increase in faculty and overall volume, PAH

has undergone a series of major changes. The Department of Orthopaedic Surgery at the University of Pennsylvania now staffs sixteen attending surgeons from various sub-specialties to populate the orthopaedic clinic in the Cathcart Building and the Farm-Journal Building. Among the sub-specialties represented are adult hip and knee reconstruction, foot and ankle, hand/plastic surgery, neuro-orthopaedics, shoulder and elbow, spine/deformity, sports medicine, and trauma. Faculty from orthopaedic surgery run multiple rooms in the operating theater daily.

Notable this past year, Dr. Comron Saifi has joined Penn after completing a Spine Fellowship at Rush University. In addition, non-operative providers have been added to the complement of Penn Orthopaedics including Arsh Dhanota, Jasmine Zheng, Katherine Temme, and Christopher Fayock.

With the continued increase in operative volume, PAH continues to be staffed by a PGY-1, PGY-2, and a PGY-5 at all times, complemented by a team of nurse practitioners and physician extenders that assist with patient clinical care and floor work.

With the changes in healthcare that are being implemented, it is critical to be prepared in order to excel in this marketplace. As total knee arthroplasty has been removed from the inpatient only code, we are putting together a robust outpatient total joint arthroplasty program which started last year. The vision is to extend this service to the Tuttleman center which has experienced a significant increase in operative volume over the past two years. Pennsylvania Hospital is poised to be successful in the region as we continue to evolve.



Surgical Amphitheater at Pennsylvania Hospital (constructed in 1804).