



Spine Division Update



Harvey Smith, MD

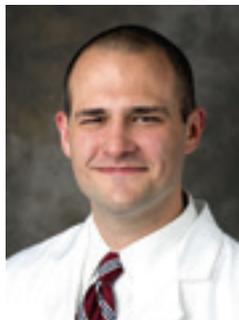
Spine Faculty



Vincent Arlet, MD



Harvey Smith, MD



Andrew Milby, MD



Comron Saifi, MD



Michael Murray, MD

The academic year has been one of continued growth for the spine division.

Clinical Growth: Last year we on-boarded three spine surgeons, Drs. Milby, Murray, and Saifi. All three have demonstrated marked clinical and academic productivity; this is a testament to the depth of opportunities within the department. Dr. Milby has grown a significant practice at Penn Presbyterian Medical Center and Radnor, Dr. Saifi has established a new practice at Yardley, and Dr. Murray has established a rapidly growing practice at Chester County. In partnership with our neurosurgical colleagues, our division is sharing in the coverage of level 1 spine trauma at Penn Presbyterian Medical Center which has advanced our residents' educational experience.

Research: Our division continues to establish itself as a leader in both basic science and clinical spine research. Our translational research is conducted in partnership with the Translational Musculoskeletal Research Center at the VA and last year we published the first in vivo large animal tissue-engineered total disc replacement. Our clinical research division is led by Dr. Comron Saifi who is working on establishing an outcomes registry for our complex deformity patients as well as all adult spine patients. This is a large undertaking and he has made significant strides with marked academic output in terms of manuscripts, abstracts, and presentations. Dr. Murray's interest in minimally invasive

(MIS) spine surgery has helped to establish a significant MIS presence at Chester County, and he is establishing a number of comparative effectiveness research projects demonstrating the value of MIS surgery which will be crucial for the academic analysis of bundled care scenarios and ensuring our ability to continue to introduce new technology. Dr. Milby this year assumed leadership as co-director of the Residency Program, a testament to the strength of his teaching and commitment to resident education and research.

Academic Productivity: Penn Ortho Spine has been represented in over 20 peer-reviewed publications, abstracts and presentations. Our faculty chair committees at North American Spine Society, have organized Instructional Course Lectures at national and international meetings. The Philadelphia Spine Summit meeting organized in partnership with Thomas Jefferson University is now entering its fifth year and is now one of the largest regional spine meetings.

Outreach Surgery: Under the leadership of Dr. Arlet Penn Spine maintains an ongoing outreach program in Trinidad managing complex spinal deformities; this program has received national and international recognition.

Spine Fellowship: Our spine fellowship is entering its third year of partnership with the Shriners Hospital of Philadelphia. Our complex spinal deformity fellowship is unique in that offers a combined adult and pediatric complex deformity experience.