



## Ready to Rebuild

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When I wrote my last update article for UPOJ, it was February of 2020 and I titled the article “Poised for Growth and Expansion.” Wow, clearly I missed the freight train that was coming at us the form of COVID-19 and the year that would ensue! It is hard to believe that it was 12 months ago that we stopped doing non-emergent surgeries, closed down clinics to most patients, tried to figure out what telehealth visits would look like in orthopedics, and began trying to find every closet that contained personal protective equipment. All of those things happened, but most importantly, we all are reading this article today knowing that we survived one of the most tumultuous years of our personal and professional lives. Like many of you, I have gotten through this time by looking forward to a better time in the future with more vaccines and less disease. From a business perspective in the Department, that starts with our budgeting process for next year and our plans to rebuild our volume. In order to rebuild that volume I want to share with you our large investments in both people and locations.

We had several new clinical faculty members join the Department in the past year. In the Adult Reconstruction Division, we welcomed Dr Chris Anthony in August of 2020. He recently completed his fellowship in hip preservation at Washington University and is practicing at Pennsylvania Hospital. In the Shoulder and Elbow Division, we welcomed back Dr Gabe Horneff who had previously graduated from our residency. He is practicing at Pennsylvania hospital and seeing patients at several places in the suburbs. The Hand Division added Dr Hannah Lee in September of 2020 after a fellowship at University of Pittsburgh. She has a both a Veteran’s Administration and a research component to her practice. The Spine Division added two new faculty this year with Dr Dave Casper joining us in September of 2020 after completing his fellowship at Cleveland Clinic and Dr J. Rush Fisher joining us in February of 2021 after practicing in the Delaware market for more than 25 years. Both are great additions to the department and enable us to grow the presence and access of spine care in the region. Finally, our Foot & Ankle Division has gone through tremendous change. In January of 2021, Dr Casey Humbyrd joined as

the new division chief as Dr Keith Wapner steps down and towards retirement. She has been a wonderful addition to the department and made an immediate impact by helping us to recruit Dr Anthony “Bobby” Ndu from a local competitor. He had done his fellowship in F&A with us at Penn and we are glad to have him joining us in May of 2021. All of these recruits are key as we look to rebuild. They bring the energy, enthusiasm, and the power for growth and expansion!

The department, as part of the MSKR Service Line, also had long planned an expansion of services at Radnor with the recent launch of a new space in June 2020. The goal of expansion was to bring all members of the service line under one common workspace, expanding from a smaller fragmented experience, to an 18 room suite, with embedded radiology and procedure space. Patients can now see multiple specialties that they would historically need to receive care from under one roof and with one consistent workflow. In addition, cross-collaboration between care providers enhances care and interdisciplinary treatment plans. Year to date Orthopaedics has seen over 9,000 visits in the expanded space with year over year growth between 20-30% each month since going live. Similar volume and growth in all areas of the service line has exceeded early expectations alongside a rapidly changing environment during a global pandemic. Radnor now features state of the art multi-disciplinary care in many areas in addition to MSKR including Women’s Health, Cancer, Primary Care, Neurosciences, and Heart and Vascular. With the growth in Radnor, we have now positioned ourselves to be the premier leader in musculoskeletal care in the community that needs our services most.

While we cannot control the number of pick-up basketball injuries that will happen this year in the Philadelphia area or the number of people that may delay care from their fear of the virus, we can control certain things. We are committed to building the most talented and accomplished faculty here at Penn and the people I mention above are proof of that commitment. When we combine highly talented people like that with modern and state of the art facilities like we built in Radnor, then we have a recipe for rebuilding and success that will carry us into the future.