A Brief History

The New York Orthopaedic Hospital (NYOH) has one of the oldest orthopaedic training programs in the country. Founded in 1866, the New York Dispensary was established to treat needy children afflicted by diseases of the musculoskeletal system. George Fayette Taylor founded the Dispensary with help from Theodore Roosevelt’s grateful father. Anna Roosevelt, the future president’s sister, was a victim of Potts Disease. Throughout its history, NYOH has played an important role in developing and refining new techniques in the diagnosis and treatment of orthopaedic disease and disorders.

The Shoulder Service at the New York Orthopaedic Hospital is the oldest and most prestigious in the world. Founded by Dr. Charles S. Neer, who has been called the “father of modern shoulder surgery”, the Shoulder Service has been responsible for developing and refining many of the major procedures in shoulder surgery today. Total shoulder replacement was introduced by Dr. Neer in the early 1970’s and has been used successfully for over 30 years. Dr. Neer also made major contributions with his classification of proximal humerus fractures, as well as his development of the acromioplasty for impingement syndrome and the capsular shift procedure for glenohumeral instability. Dr. Neer retired in 1990. In 2001, as our faculty has grown and their interests are more diverse, the “Shoulder Service” evolved into the “Center for Shoulder, Elbow and Sports Medicine”.

About The Program

Each year 2 candidates are accepted into the NYOH/Columbia Shoulder, Elbow and Sports Medicine Fellowship, under the direction of Drs. Louis Bigliani, William Levine, and Christopher Ahmad.

Fellowship training offers extensive exposure to the shoulder, elbow and knee including arthroscopy, reconstructive, and trauma surgery. Because the Medical Center is a tertiary care facility, our fellows are exposed to complex and interesting cases and benefit from working with nationally and internationally known specialists.

The Fellowship program is enhanced by the resources of the Medical Center, the interactive educational opportunities such as early morning didactic conferences, grand rounds, journal club, service rounds, indications conferences, clinic coverage and numerous prominent guest lecturers.

The Russell Hibbs Memorial Library is a dedicated orthopaedic surgery library and computer lab, housing departmental archives, current volumes and journals, rare books, and information systems.

The arthroscopy laboratory opened in 1998 and offers state of the art instruments to perform any arthroscopic or open procedures. A recent renovation in 2007 has expanded the lab from 2 to 4 work stations.

The Faculty

Dr. Louis U. Bigliani, Professor and Chairman, is the Chief of the Shoulder Service. Dr. Bigliani was a pupil of Dr. Neer and continues the tradition of innovation through the development of new and streamlined surgical techniques. Dr. Bigliani has made major advances in the treatment of rotator cuff tears, nerve injuries, and the arthroscopic treatment of shoulder problems.

Dr. William N. Levine, Professor of Clinical Orthopaedic Surgery, is the Chief of Sports Medicine. He completed a shoulder and elbow fellowship under Dr Bigliani, and also completed a Sports Medicine Fellowship at the University of Maryland. He joined the service in 1998. Dr. Levine serves as the Head Team Physician for Columbia University and consultant for City College of New York. His clinical and research interests include the shoulder, elbow and knee. Dr. Levine’s research includes the development of a simian shoulder model and the effect of estrogen in shoulder laxity. He is the Principal Investigator of an international, prospective clinical trial on Shoulder Arthroplasty.

Dr. Christopher S. Ahmad, Associate Professor of Clinical Orthopaedic Surgery, joined the Service in 2001 after completing his fellowship at Kerlan-Jobe Orthopaedic Clinic in Los Angeles, CA. He is the Chief of Adolescent and Pediatric Sports Medicine. He is the Team Physician for North Bergen High School. Dr. Ahmad has ongoing research projects including biomechanics of the elbow, ACL fixation and rotator cuff pathophysiology.
Our Past Fellows… Where are they now?

1977 – 1978
Louis U. Bigliani, MD
Professor & Chairman, Chief, Shoulder Service
Columbia University Center for Shoulder, Elbow, and Sports Medicine
New York, NY

Francis Mendoza, MD
Lenox Hill Hospital
New York, NY

1981 – 1982
Ed Craig, MD
Chief, Shoulder Service
The Hospital for Special Surgery
New York, NY

1982 – 1983
Jose Perez Sanz, MD
Chicago, IL

1983 – 1984
John Brews, MD
The Cleveland Clinic
Cleveland, OH

1983 – 1984
Thomas Fithian, MD
Newport News, VA

1984 – 1985
Dave Morrison, MD
Long Beach, CA

1985 – 1986
Peter McCann, MD
Beth Israel Medical Center
New York, NY

1986 – 1987
Anthony Brown, MD
Wightonham, England

1986 – 1987
Evan Flatow, MD
Chief, Shoulder Service
Mt. Sinai Medical Center
New York, NY

1986 – 1987
Osvandre Lech, MD
Chief, Shoulder Service
University of Alagoa
Brazil

1986 – 1987
Catherine Compito, MD
Beth Israel Medical Center
New York, NY

1992 – 1993
Mark Rodosky, MD
Chief, Shoulder Service
Assistant Team Physician
University of Pittsburgh
Pittsburgh, PA

1994 – 1995
Frank Cordasco, MD
Knee and Shoulder Service
Hospital for Special Surgery
New York, NY

1994 – 1995
Ken Yamaguchi, MD
Professor and Chief, Shoulder and Elbow
Washington University School of Medicine
St. Louis, MO

1995 – 1996
Marc Weinstein, MD
Southern Colorado Orthopaedic Team
US Olympic Team
Colorado Springs, CO

1999 – 2000
Michael Freehill, MD
Shoulder and Sports Medicine
Minneapolis, MN

1999 – 2000
Theodore Blaine, MD
Associate Professor
Brown University
Providence, RI

2000 – 2001
Gregory Bauers, MD
Chief, Shoulder Service
Goldsboro Orthopaedic
Goldsboro, North Carolina

2000 – 2001
Anand Murthi MD
Assistant Professor
Assistant Team Physician
University of Maryland

2001 – 2002
Gregory Lervick, MD
Partner, Park Nicolet Clinic
Methodist Hospital
St. Louis Park, MN

2001 – 2002
Raymond M. Carroll, MD
Center for Shoulder, Elbow, and Sports Medicine
New York, NY

2002 – 2003
Kevin Setter, MD
SUNY Upstate Medical University
Syracuse, NY

2003 – 2004
Ilya Voloshin, MD
Boston Univ Boston Med Center
Boston, MA

2003 – 2004
T. Michael Winter, MD
Beverly Hills Orthopaedics
Beverly Hills, CA

2004 – 2005
Sara Edwards, MD
Summit Alta Bates Medical Center
Oakland, CA

2005 – 2006
John Bell, MD
Assistant Professor
Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center
Lebanon, NH

2006 – 2007
Duong Nguyen, MD
OrthoCarolina
Morehead Medical Plaza
Charlotte, NC

2006 – 2007
Matthew A. Kippe, MD
Hawthorn Medical Associates
New Bedford, MA

2007 – 2008
Maher (Matt) Bahn, MD
Post-Doctoral Clinical Fellow
CSES
Columbia University Medical Center
New York, NY

2007 – 2008
Aaron S. Covey, MD
Post-Doctoral Clinical Fellow
CSES
Columbia University Medical Center
New York, NY

2007 – 2008
Katherine Vadasdi, MD
Chief Resident
Hospital for Special Surgery
New York, NY

Bold = Academic Practice