Program Overview

Our Orthopaedic Surgery Residency is a five-year program, beginning with the PGY-1 level, with three positions at each level. Our program is fast-paced and provides comprehensive training in adult and pediatric orthopaedic surgery. Orthopaedic Surgery Residents are an integral part of the Level I Adult and Pediatric Trauma Centers of Erlanger Health System – the 6th largest public health system in the U.S.. Erlanger is our major affiliated partner and the primary clinical training site for all GME programs in Chattanooga. A one-year Orthopaedic Trauma Surgery Fellowship is available with emphasis on pelvic and periarticular fractures.

Clinical Training

Rotations at the PGY-1 level include four months of General Surgery (including General Trauma Surgery), six months of Orthopaedic Surgery, and two months of other rotations consistent with directives set by the Residency Review Committee.

The remaining four years provide clinical orthopaedic training in subspecialty areas:

- Arthroplasty
- Shoulder Surgery
- Foot and Ankle Surgery
- Spine Surgery
- Hand Surgery
- Sports Medicine
- Pediatric Orthopaedics
- Trauma Surgery

The institution has a surgical skills lab where basic surgical skills are taught and practiced during the PGY-1 level. Cadaver anatomy sessions are held in the lab. The Skills Lab has been expanded to include a state-of-the-art simulation lab.

The Department has its own library as well as a four-station arthroscopic technical skills/research lab, including an MTS Mini Bionix biomechanical testing system.

Didactic and basic science elements of the program include:

- Five hours of conferences per week
- Monthly journal club
- Attendance at courses in trauma, musculoskeletal pathology, and basics in arthroplasty & arthroscopy
- Chief Residents attend the annual AAOS meeting and an orthopaedic review course.
- An Institutional Core Curriculum has been developed for education in issues that affect all residents.

Program Leadership

Chair: Scott Steinmann, MD
Residency Director: Jeremy Bruce, MD
Program Coordinator: Ms. Donna Gibson

Contact Information

Phone: (423) 778-9008
Toll-free: (800) 947-7823, ext. 9008
Email: UTOorthoSurg@erlanger.org
Web: www.uthsc.edu/comc/ortho
Address: 979 East Third Street, Suite B202
         Chattanooga, TN 37403
Mailing: 975 East Third Street, Hospital Box 260
         Chattanooga, TN 37403

We invite you to consider our residency and contact us regarding our interview schedule. We accept applications only through the Electronic Residency Application (ERAS) of the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC).
Orthopaedic Trauma Surgery Fellowship

Department of Orthopaedic Surgery

Program Leadership

Chair: Scott Steinmann, MD
Residency Director: Peter Nowotarski, MD
Program Coordinator: Ms. Donna Gibson

Contact Information

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The Department of Orthopaedic Surgery sponsors a one-year, OTA-accredited Orthopaedic Trauma Surgery Fellowship for residents who have graduated from an accredited Orthopaedic Surgery Residency Program.

The Fellowship is funded at the PGY-6 level. The Fellow is a University of Tennessee College of Medicine Chattanooga employee with University GME resident benefits.

The primary training site is the Erlanger Health System, including both the adult and pediatric components, Erlanger Medical Center and Children’s at Erlanger. Both Erlanger and Children’s have been designated as Level I Trauma Centers, serving a catchment area between Nashville and Knoxville to the north and Birmingham and Atlanta to the South.

The program emphasizes pelvic and periarticular fractures, and the Fellow is an integral part of the health care team.

The institution has a multidisciplinary Surgical Skills and Simulation Lab. Cadaver anatomy sessions are also held in the lab for our Orthopaedic Surgery Residents. The Skills Lab has been expanded to include a state-of-the-art simulation center. In addition to the UT Medical Library at Erlanger, the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery has its own library as well as a four-station arthroscopic/technical skills lab which includes a MTS Mini Bionix testing system.

Applications for the Fellowship may be submitted via the San Francisco Match.