University of California, Davis
School of Medicine

ORTHOPAedic Residency Program

UC Davis
Health System
Welcome to the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery

Welcome to the University of California, Davis Orthopaedic Residency Program. Our goal as educators is to provide a world class educational experience for both clinical and investigative pathways in Orthopaedic Science. Our program firmly believes in exposure of residents to operative procedures at an early stage. Our case volumes are high with case numbers in the 70th percentile compared to national norms.

Our residency program provides a supportive working environment in a relaxed familial atmosphere. Via our match, we have drawn a remarkable group of talented, friendly, enthusiastic, well-balanced individuals - our nation’s finest!

On another note, Northern California is an excellent place to work and play, with access to lakes and rivers for water sports and the Sierra Nevada for skiing and snowboarding. There is no better place to work and train than UC Davis.

Thank you for your interest in the Orthopaedic Surgery Residency Program at the University of California, Davis.

Orthopaedic Surgery is one of the most exciting and dynamic specialties in medicine today. Patients rely on orthopaedic surgeons to help them maintain or restore musculoskeletal function, which is key to health and well-being. Orthopaedic surgeons are in a unique and privileged position of providing care that impacts many aspects of a person’s overall quality of life.

Our Orthopaedic Surgery Residency is an ACGME approved program that encompasses musculoskeletal medicine and surgery, providing a solid foundation for competent, well-trained orthopaedic surgeons. Our program includes ample opportunities for clinical medicine, surgery and research, as well as for personal growth and leadership.

The overall structure of our program is one of graduated responsibility with the intent that PGY5 residents can function as a colleague assisting the attending staff, rather than an orthopaedic surgeon in training. Our concept allows for rapid maturation of the senior resident, therefore positioning them well educated to enter general practice or subspecialty training.

We hope that you will consider applying to our program, and if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.
Program and Curriculum

Our faculty and staff are committed to training practicing orthopaedic surgeons with the broadest possible experience. We offer a five year program (four per year), and a six-year option (one per year) that allows for a dedicated year of research following the PGY-2 clinical year.

Residents rotate at three-month intervals on subspecialty services that function as small practice groups under the leadership of the chief resident, with close supervision of and teaching by attending staff.

Training takes place at the UC Davis Medical Center, Shriners Hospital for Children, Northern California, Kaiser Permanente Hospital South and Catholic Healthcare West Affiliates. PGY-2 and PGY-3 residents have a three month rotation at Shiners Hospital, where they participate actively in the management of difficult cases involving children. The three-month rotation at Kaiser South in the PGY-4 level provides extensive adult and general orthopaedic exposure.

Our philosophy is to give the resident first priority in the diagnostic/therapeutic decision making process and performance of surgery, but to have an attending surgeon always available to ensure a superlative level of patient care and to maximize the resident’s learning experience.

Clinical and Surgical Opportunities

**Adult Foot and Ankle Service** specializes in the care of patients with common and complex disorders of the foot and ankle. Areas of interest include the evaluation and management of post-traumatic deformity, degenerative processes and the diabetic foot.

**Adult Reconstructive Service** concentrates on the care of patients with major joint arthritis. Common surgical procedures include total hip replacement, total knee replacement, osteotomy for realignment of extremities and arthroscopy with chondroplasty. We also offer a unique program in joint preservation surgery of the knee and hip.

**Hand, Upper Extremity and Microvascular Service** provides experience in common and complex traumatic and acquired disorders of the hand and upper extremity. Special interests include congenital hand disorders, microvascular surgery, Ilizarov surgery, upper extremity arthroscopy and brachial plexus surgery.

**Orthopaedic Oncology Service** is a regional referral service for the surgical treatment of musculoskeletal neoplasms and tumor-like conditions. It provides care for primary benign and malignant tumors arising within bone or soft tissue, with a special interest in limb salvage for malignant tumors of the extremities.

**Pediatric Orthopaedic Service** is a regional referral service offering broad inpatient and outpatient experience in all musculoskeletal diseases of children. Subspecialty services are available in spina bifida, muscles diseases, cerebral palsy and amputations, as well as hip dysplasia, clubfoot and Legg-Perthes disease.

**Spinal Disorders Service** encompasses evaluation and treatment of both adult and pediatric spinal deformities and operates in collaboration with the multidisciplinary UC Davis Spine Center. It is the primary source of treatment for degenerative spinal disorders, infections and tumors.

**Sports Medicine Service** evaluates and treats common soft tissue injuries of the upper and lower extremities. Surgical experience includes knee, shoulder and ankle arthroscopy and reconstructive ligament procedures. Participation as a team physician for high school athletics is available.

**Orthopaedic Trauma Service** provides Level I trauma referral center for Northern California, Eastern Nevada and Southern Oregon. This service specializes in the treatment of nonunions, malunions and leg-length discrepancies using closed intramedullary shortening, Ilizarov and osteotomy techniques.
In over 8,000 square feet, the Lawrence J. Ellison Musculoskeletal Research Center houses a machine shop, materials-testing laboratory, cell and molecular biology laboratory, histology laboratory, tissue culture facilities, microscopy laboratory and microsurgery suite. The center staff includes six basic science faculty, an administrative assistant, a junior specialist, and typically a dozen postgraduate researchers, fellows, residents, visiting scholars, medical students and graduate students.

The Department of Orthopaedic Surgery supports residents in their research efforts with outstanding research facilities, unparalleled academic and clinical resources and a tradition of collaborative, interdisciplinary research. We offer one six-year residency position annually, providing one year of extensive research investigation at the PGY-3 level.

The department encourages all residents to participate in the laboratory research program. Residents are required to provide a grand rounds presentation during their chief year, and a peer-reviewed quality presentation at the Graduation Symposium. Three written works are requisite: an abstract for the Graduation Symposium, a review of a book chapter, and a review of a research paper with a faculty mentor.

Applying to our Program

Apply to our program through ERAS (the Electronic Residency Application Service). Contact your Student Affairs or Dean’s Office and they will provide you with information and the software for ERAS. The earliest date your application may be submitted to us electronically is 1 August. Our application deadline is 31 October. Our faculty will review completed applications in early to mid-November, after which, selected applications will be invited to interview. All interviews are conducted in January.

All ERAS-completed applications must include the following:

► Three Letters of Recommendation
► USMLE Board Scores
► Medical School Transcripts
► MSPE/Dean’s Letter
► One-page Personal Statement

For any additional information, please contact:
Margaret MacNitt
Residency Coordinator
916.734.2807
margaret.macnitt@ucdmc.ucdavis.edu

Graduate Medical Education Resources

Please check the Graduate Medical Education website at www.ucdmc.ucdavis.edu/gme/ for more general information and resources. Information regarding resident benefits can be found on our Human Resources site at www.ucdmc.ucdavis.edu/hr/hrdepts/resident_program/index.html

The UC Davis Medical Center Resident Support Association (RSA) aims to ease the transition from medical school to residency by providing support to the spouse or significant other and their families through activities, affinity groups and community outreach. Please contact Ashlee Tate at 916.712.9462 for more information.
About Sacramento....

Sacramento is the cultural, educational, business and governmental center of a four - county metropolitan region. As California’s capitol city, Sacramento is center stage for governmental policy for the entire state. A dynamic business sector, an expanding public transportation system (including Light Rail), affordable housing, and growing cultural, educational and medical facilities serve the needs of 1.5 million people.

Founded in 1849, Sacramento was California’s first charter city and is at the heart of California history - the gold rush, Pony Express and first continental railroad all began in Sacramento. The confluence of two of the state’s largest rivers is just a short walk from City Hall. San Francisco, Lake Tahoe and Yosemite Valley, all offering a wide variety of recreational and cultural activities, are just a few hours away, while the Sacramento Region itself, is home to nearly 200 wineries.

The city’s rich historical heritage, commitment to quality of life, and abundance of trees and parkland contributed to Newsweek magazine naming Sacramento one of the ten best cities in the United States.

Sacramento has a Mediterranean climate that is characterized by mild winters and hot, dry summers. Rain typically falls only between November and March, and the average temperature throughout the year is 61 degrees fahrenheit.

Sacramentans enjoy professional ballet, opera, theatre, outstanding museums, one of the best small zoos in the country, and the NBA's Sacramento Kings. Each year the city hosts the world’s largest Dixieland Jazz Jubilee, and many other recreational, entertainment and cultural activities.

Sacramento is a progressive city with great pride in its ethnic and cultural diversity and was cited by Time magazine as the most racially and ethnically integrated major city in America.

For more information about Sacramento and nearby areas of interest, visit:

http://www.sacramentocvb.org/
http://www.elsurfo.com/todo/canorth.htm
http://www.10best.com/Sacramento,CA/

Location.......Location.......Location
The new UC Davis Pavilion is equipped with the most sophisticated patient care and information-technology resources, making it one of the most technologically advanced hospitals in the country. Our new ORs have been integrated with the latest in information technology, and will allow surgical cases here to be viewed from across town in Sacramento or elsewhere in California and around the world. To manage the array of information, the Pavilion’s operating rooms have been equipped with an OR integration system that can control multiple devices and systems as well as a video router which will allow video signals from a variety of sources - such as endoscopic systems, cameras, microscopes and ultrasound systems - to be displayed selectively on any display monitor in an OR. UC Davis surgeons will now have a greatly enhanced ability to educate other health-care professionals by virtue of the operating rooms’ teleconferencing capabilities.

“The integration of our operating rooms with the latest in audio and video technologies will give our surgeons better, more complete and instant access to patient information, and communication with related clinical departments without having to leave the patient’s side. Our hope is that this will allow our surgical teams to provide more comprehensive care and improve clinical outcomes, reduce case times and sharply reduce the potential to compromise the ORs’ sterile environment.”

-Philip Schneider – Director of Peri-operative Services

What some of our residents have to say about our program......

“My experience so far has been outstanding. The program here is very well rounded with representation of all orthopaedic subspecialties. The vast majority of the attendings are awesome to work with, very interested in teaching, and approachable at any time. Our didactic schedule is very thorough and well-planned, and has made a huge impact on our learning, as demonstrated by our significant improvement on the OITE. The operative experience here is top notch. We operate early and often and being involved in each case is expected. Lastly, our residents make the program complete. A solid group of people who you can trust with any problem and to help you out of any bind. Great teaching as well from the chiefs down to the juniors.”

-Jon Eastman, Graduate

“The best thing about UC Davis for me has been the people. The residents, faculty and staff are incredibly supportive, enthusiastic to teach, smart and genuinely nice people that make a work fun atmosphere.

Another great asset is the breadth and depth of our staff (every sub-specialty covered, most with more than one faculty) coupled with heavy operative experience, which is a hard combination to find.

Third, location.....Sacramento is a fun town, but all the destinations that are a short drive away (Tahoe, San Francisco, Yosemite, Napa, etc, etc) make this a great place to live.”

-Joel Williams, PGY3

What makes UC Davis a tremendous place is not only the camaraderie among all the residents, but the accessibility of all the attendings. The atmosphere is a very supportive one, and one that is geared to training us to be independent thinkers and technically skilled surgeons. We are exposed to structured and organized didactics year round by our dedicated staff, and we have the opportunity to get excellent operative exposure early on. In addition, being located in the Sacramento area exposes us to a variety of orthopaedic trauma and pathology and by having all of the orthopaedic services in one area adds to the breadth of our experience.

-Tomasz Antkowiak, PGY5