

Department of Orthopedic Surgery
Division of Pediatric Orthopedics
Columbia University Irving Medical Center
NewYork-Presbyterian Morgan Stanley Children's Hospital

Pediatric Orthopedics Fellowship

Fellowship Interviews 2023



Welcome to Columbia University's Pediatric Orthopedics Fellowship Interview Day

The Department of Orthopedic Surgery at the Columbia University Vagelos College of Physicians and Surgeons has earned a reputation as one of the leading academic orthopedic departments in the nation. As one of the first orthopedic training programs in the country, our rich tradition in orthopedic surgery dates back to 1866 when the New York Orthopaedic Dispensary—later named the New York Orthopaedic Hospital—opened its doors. Since that time, the department has grown into a preeminent center for quality patient care, research, and education.

The Pediatric Orthopedic Surgery Fellowship began in 2008 and is nationally recognized by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME). Today, the Fellowship has developed into one of the finest training programs in the world. All aspects of pediatric orthopedics are covered by our service – hip dysplasia, club foot, adolescent idiopathic scoliosis, early onset scoliosis, neuromuscular scoliosis, skeletal dysplasias, trauma, and sports medicine. Our fellows participate in all aspects of clinical care – including skill development in private office hours with emphasis on physical exam proficiency, imaging interpretation, and optimal treatment plan recommendations with a goal of enhancing our fellows' competitive hiring potential.

The division offers one clinical fellow position. The one year fellowship prepares surgeons for an academic or private career and provides in-depth education, experience and mentoring in all aspects of pediatric orthopedic surgery, outpatient clinical care, inpatient care, and research.

We are committed to continuing the rich history of our program by innovating, evolving, and always searching to improve our care for patients with pediatric orthopedic conditions. While public health and safety necessitates virtual interviews this year, we invite you to learn more about our outstanding fellowship program and we encourage you to ask questions and discuss the program with our current fellows.

We look forward to meeting and interviewing you today!

Sincerely



Joshua E. Hyman, MD
Fellowship Director
St. Giles Foundation Professor of
Pediatric Orthopedic Surgery
Clinical Director, Weinberg Family
Cerebral Palsy Center



William N. Levine, MD, FAOA
Frank E. Stinchfield Professor & Chair,
Department of Orthopedic Surgery
Chief, Shoulder Service
Co-Director, Center for Shoulder,
Elbow, & Sports Medicine
Head Team Physician,
Columbia University Athletics
Editor-in-Chief, Journal of the American
Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons (JAAOS)
Past-President, American Shoulder &
Elbow Surgeons



Lauren H. Redler, MD
Associate Fellowship Director
Assistant Professor of Orthopedic Surgery
Adult & Pediatric Sports Medicine
Team Physician, Cardinal Hayes High School,
Nightingale-Bamford School
Assistant Team Physician, Columbia University

About the Division of Pediatric Orthopedics



A Tradition of Excellence

The Division of Pediatric Orthopedics traces its roots to the founding of the New York Orthopaedic Hospital in 1866, the precursor to today's Department of Orthopedic Surgery at Columbia University Medical Center. Founded over 150 years ago as a charitable institution dedicated to the treatment of children with musculoskeletal conditions, our program has been a pioneer in many of the major breakthroughs and innovations in the field of orthopedic surgery.

Since the 1950's, and the merger between the New York Orthopaedic Hospital and then Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center, our program has been based in Northern Manhattan at the world-renowned NewYork-Presbyterian/ Morgan Stanley Children's Hospital – consistently ranked as the #1 children's hospital in New York and among the top children's hospitals in the country by US News and World Report.

Fellowship Core Faculty



Joshua E. Hyman, MD

Fellowship Director
St. Giles Foundation Professor of
Pediatric Orthopedic Surgery
Clinical Director,
Weinberg Family Cerebral Palsy Center

- Hip Disorders
- Cerebral Palsy
- Orthopedic Trauma
- Lower Extremity Deformity



Lauren H. Redler MD

Associate Fellowship Director
Assistant Professor of Orthopedic Surgery
Team Physician, Cardinal Hayes High School,
Nightingale School

- Sports Medicine
- Arthroscopy
- Orthopedic Trauma



Charles A. Popkin, MD

Associate Professor of Orthopedic Surgery
Team Physician, Mercy College
Team Physician, Fordham University

- Sports Medicine
- Arthroscopy
- Orthopedic Trauma



Katherine A. Rosenwasser MD

Assistant Professor of Orthopedic Surgery

- Limb Length Discrepancy
- Lower Extremity Deformity
- Orthopedic Trauma



Benjamin D. Roye, MD, MPH

Associate Professor of Orthopedic Surgery

- Advanced Spinal deformity
- Early onset scoliosis
- Orthopedic Trauma

Fellowship Core Faculty



Christen M. Russo MD

Assistant Professor of Orthopedic Surgery
NYP/Brooklyn Methodist Hospital

- Lower Extremity Deformity
- Hip Dysplasia
- Orthopedic Trauma



Samuel K. Van de Velde, MD, PhD

Assistant Professor of Orthopedic Surgery
NYP/Brooklyn Methodist Hospital

- Hip Preservation
- Lower Extremity Deformity
- Sports Injuries & Trauma



Michael G. Vitale, MD, MPH

Chief, Pediatric Orthopedics & Spine
Ana Lucia Professor of
Pediatric Orthopedic Surgery & Neurosurgery
Vice Chair, Quality & Strategy,
Department of Orthopedic Surgery
President, POSNA

- Advanced spinal deformity
- Early onset scoliosis
- Neuromuscular Scoliosis

Advanced Practice Providers

Nicole Bainton, PNP

Jen Crotty, PNP

Ameeka George, PNP

Fatima Sadeque-Iqbal, DNP

Amber Sentell Mizerik, PA-C

Kelly Fallon, PA-C

Fellowship Program Overview



The Pediatric Orthopedic Fellowship at NewYork-Presbyterian/Morgan Stanley Children's Hospital and the Columbia University Medical Center Department of Orthopedic Surgery was started by Dr. David P. Roye in 2008. Since then, the fellowship has trained numerous pediatric orthopedic surgeons through a robust clinical and academic fellowship experience. The program offers one clinical fellowship position, working closely with the six core fellowship faculty.

Operative Experience

Operative experience for the pediatric orthopedic surgery fellow includes spine, hip, and extremity problems, including many rare and complex conditions in addition to more commonly encountered pediatric orthopedic problems. We offer a flexible, individually directed surgical experience, with rotations in Pediatric Spinal Deformity and Pediatric Sports Medicine.



Our goal is to educate our fellows in all aspects of pediatric orthopedic care and to help develop a niche interest to kick-start your practice development. Additionally, for interested fellows, there is a unique opportunity to get experience in the treatment of the adult with cerebral palsy as part of the unique Weinberg Family Cerebral Palsy Center.

To allow fellows to concentrate on the primary goal of obtaining outstanding surgical and clinical education, we have a team of advanced practice nurses who handle the bulk of day-to-day inpatient care. Our residents take primary call for the Emergency Room and inpatient consults. Fellows are expected to help guide patient care by advising the residents.



Research & Academics

The pediatric orthopedic fellow will have a half day per week dedicated to academic pursuits. During this time, they will be able to participate in our very active clinical research program. We have 4 full time research coordinators including a PhD statistician and epidemiologist available to support your clinical research endeavors. Additionally, there is an opportunity to participate in translational research in the Dr. Robert E. Carroll and Jane Chace Carroll laboratories led by Stavros Thomopoulos, PhD. Many of our previous fellows have done high impact research which they carry into their practice.

Fellowship Program Overview

Conference Schedule

The current fellow's schedule emphasizes operative education, with clinical office hours when the surgical attending is away.

Thursday

7:00 am – Grand Rounds: nationally and internationally renowned guest speakers throughout the year

8:00 am – Pediatric Spine Case Conference: indications, contraindications, operative planning, and post-operative rehabilitation are discussed with all surgical faculty, rehab staff, anesthesia, and OR staff with focus on spinal deformity.

Friday

7:00 am – Pediatric Orthopedic Case Conference: additional non-spine indications, contraindications, operative planning, and surgical technique.

Sample Rotation Schedule

Block One

- General Pediatric Orthopedics
- Trauma
- Lower Extremity Deformity
- Neuromuscular Lower Extremity

Block Three

- General Pediatric Orthopedics
- Trauma
- Lower Extremity Deformity
- Neuromuscular Lower Extremity

Block Two

- Pediatric Spine:
 - » Early Onset
 - » Adolescent Idiopathic
 - » Neuromuscular
- General Pediatric Orthopedics
- Neuromuscular Lower Extremity

Block Four

- Elective:
 - » Pediatric Sports Medicine
 - » Pediatric Spine
 - » Orthopedic Oncology
 - » General Peds/Lower Extremity

Journal Club

Held once during each 2 month rotation, the journal club focuses on analyzing current literature in pediatric orthopedics.

Hear From the Fellows

This program does not have a strict curriculum and as the only fellow you can "make your own journey" through training. In doing so, you will perform the surgeries and see the patients in clinic that pertain to what expect your practice to be. At the same time, you will get a top notch general pediatric orthopedic surgery education and learn about so much more because you spend so much time with Dr. Joshua Hyman regardless. The time spent in the clinic during fellowship has impacted me the most. While in the clinic, you learn so much more about the indications for surgery than you could elsewhere. I would not have felt proficient and confident clubfoot casting without the time I spent in clinic. You also learn how to build the trust and confidence with patients and their parents that is needed for them to allow you to perform their surgery. I am going to miss the people the most. The attendings, the staff, and the residents are a pleasure to work with. I could not make it through fellowship successfully without the support of all the individuals here.



Franklin Paulino, MD
Current Fellow 2022-2023

"I had the privilege of spending this year in fellowship at Columbia University, which is a large referral center for the region and world. With all subspecialties being represented well, the close relationships that you form with each of the attendings from day one sets the stage for a productive fellowship year. As a solo fellow, you will have the unique opportunity to focus on areas of interest while also constantly building on a base of general pediatric orthopedics and trauma.

The mentoring received in both the operating room and the clinical setting will give you the skills and mindset to make conscientious decisions in future practice. This fellowship will prepare you well for both academic and community private practice; prior fellows have taken successful jobs within a variety of career models. Working with the residents and medical students is also invaluable as you are able to teach on a daily basis. This is a great city to live in and work alongside attendings, residents, and staff who care deeply about providing great care in a collegial environment."



Hyrum Judd, MD
Former Fellow 2021-2022

"In fellowship, you get one year to develop a relationship with knowledgeable mentors, and cultivate a skill-set in pediatric orthopedics that will become the foundation of your practice for years to come. At Columbia, there is an unparalleled mentorship model: a group of incredible, well trained surgeons who are not only adept at teaching but do everything in their power to ensure you become the best surgeon possible. You are immediately taken into the Columbia orthopedic family as you teach and learn alongside a great group of residents and a passionate and diverse group of attendings. The surgeons have every subspecialty of pediatric orthopedics covered, with more knowledge and resources than you can soak up in one year. As the only fellow, you operate most days and get to be a part of every interesting case in the operating room. However, you get the camaraderie of a co-fellow as the advanced spinal deformity fellow is by your side, with the advantage of being a sole fellow in case selection. Apart from the amazing surgeons and residents, the staff in the pediatric orthopedic department are incredible to work with, making every single day here an absolute blast. This fellowship is truly the best of both worlds, and your ability to learn is endless."



Adrienne Koder, MD
Fellow 2020-2021

"My primary goal when ranking pediatric orthopedics fellowships revolved around variety and volume. I sought a fellowship that would not only develop my operative skills, but more importantly my clinical skills and academic interests as well. As a fellow at Columbia Orthopedics and NewYork-Presbyterian Morgan Stanley Children's Hospital, I knew that I found the right place. The fellowship allows you to care for children along a wide spectrum of pediatric orthopedic conditions: including neuromuscular/cerebral palsy, deformity, spine, trauma, tumor and sports. Plus, you can design the fellowship to fit your academic interests. As the only fellow, the flexibility and volume is apparent.

During the fellowship I was surrounded by internationally recognized faculty known to be experts in the field who are also amazing mentors and truly care about your future success in the field. They were always approachable and constantly discussed future plans, running a busy practice/billing, and how to manage a work-life balance. Ultimately, whatever you put into the program is what you will get out. You have the opportunity to work with a phenomenal staff, dedicated residents, and participate in research with exceptional mentors. It has been an honor to be a member of the Columbia/NYP team/family and what better place to learn than in one of the greatest cities on earth - NYC!"



Stephen Plachta, MD
Fellow 2019-2020

Hear From the Fellows

"I had the honor of joining the pediatric orthopedic team in Columbia University for the fellowship year of 2018-2019. In addition to working alongside world leaders in Cerebral Palsy and spinal deformity care I've enjoyed the team work and collegial environment of the department. There is great flexibility within the program based on your interest. Research is a large part of this department and you are encouraged to participate. You can join one of the many active studies or start one of your own with abundant support. Trauma cases and trauma calls make up only a small portion of the fellowship. The location, the familial environment and the work load make it a very appealing fellowship year."



Eliezer Sidon, MD
Fellow 2018-2019

"One of the things that I've enjoyed most about the Columbia pediatric orthopedics fellowship is the flexibility to explore areas that I'm particularly interested in and which lend themselves to my career goals. Personal highlights in the OR include reconstruction of neuromuscular hip dysplasia and foot deformities, fracture and SCFE management, patellar realignment, and correction of limb deformity with various techniques. Outside of the OR, there are ample opportunities to participate in clinics and learn such skills as Ponseti management of clubfoot while interacting with patients who represent the diversity of the New York metropolitan area. I've also observed Schroth physical therapy for scoliosis, covered high school football games, and provided lectures to Columbia medical students and the orthopedic residents. This all takes place in a collegial atmosphere with passionate faculty, exceptional APPs, and the dedicated residents. You have the camaraderie of the advanced spine deformity fellow to boot. There is also a strong clinical research team to support your project planning and execution, and I've had adequate time to focus on my goals. Of course, your surgical progression is a key part of the fellowship experience and I am happy to share more in person as well as my case log. Finally, NYC is a remarkable place to explore!"



Ahmad Bayony, MD
Fellow 2017-2018

"When I was looking for a fellowship, my top priority was finding the right fit; during my interview day I was certain I had found that 'fit'. I wanted an apprenticeship type model where I would get to work with a small number of attending faculty who would become mentors – people I knew I would be able to call or text or email for the rest of my life. I was looking for a good mix of pathology in pediatric orthopedics, including spine, although ultimately I knew my practice would not be operative spine heavy in the future. But, as a woman orthopedic surgeon, I think having a strong background in the non-operative/conservative and operative care of scoliosis is so important for the female adolescent population. Luckily, not only was I able to call my mentors after I finished fellowship, but they called me – and offered me a job. Now, I get to have the greatest partners in the world."



Christen Russo, MD
Fellow 2014-2015
Attending Faculty

Past Fellows Where Are They Now?

2022 – 2023	Franklin Paulino, MD Current Fellow
2021 – 2022	Hyrum Judd, MD Interior Alaska Orthopedics and Sports Medicine
2020 – 2021	Adrienne Koder, MD Arkansas Children's, Little Rock, AR
2019 – 2020	Stephen Plachta, MD Spine Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania
2018 – 2019	Eliezer Sidon, MD Schnieder Children's Medical Center, Israel
2017 – 2018	Ahmad Bayomy, MD Shriners Hospitals for Children, Springfield, MA
2016 – 2017	Anna Katsman, MD Advocare, New Jersey
2015 – 2016	Alexandra Kondratayeva, MD Saint Peter's University Hospital New Brunswick, NJ
2014 – 2015	Christen Russo, MD Columbia University Medical Center NewYork-Presbyterian/Brooklyn Methodist Hospital Brooklyn, NY
2013 – 2014	Ramces Francisco, MD Clinch Valley Health Richlands, VA
2012 – 2013	Charles Chan, MD Lucile Packard Children's Hospital, Stanford University Palo Alto, CA
2011 – 2012	Qusai Hammouri, MD Cohen Children's Specialty Center Brooklyn, MD
2010 – 2011	Michael Horan, MD Palmetto Health USC Columbia, SC
2009 – 2010	Selina Poon, MD Shriner's Hospital for Children Los Angeles, CA
2008 – 2009	Michael Diab, MD Texas Tech Health Sciences Center

The Big Apple: Where to Live and What to Do



Columbia University Medical Center and NewYork-Presbyterian/Morgan Stanley Children’s Hospital are located on the eastern shore of the Hudson River at the foot of the George Washington Bridge in northern Manhattan. Many housing options exist in New York City and many fellows live on the upper west side. There are housing options available through the NYP GME office.

New York is the financial and cultural capital of the world. One can easily reach the Midtown Manhattan via a 20-minute subway ride that reveals a world of art, theater, and shopping. The Museum of Modern Art, the Museum of Natural History, the Metropolitan Museum, and the Hayden Planetarium are but a few of the many city museums. Radio City Music Hall, Carnegie Hall, and the four theaters of Lincoln Center are replete with music, ballet, opera, and other live entertainment. You can enjoy the latest Broadway musical, play, or revival after dining in the world’s finest restaurants.

New York never sleeps! Easily accessible from three airports by car or public transportation, the CUMC location will allow you to go to the beach for the day or to the Catskill Mountains for the weekend. If sports are in your blood, Yankee Stadium and Citi Field are a subway ride away, Madison Square Garden is a couple stops away, and the Meadowlands Sports Complex is located just across the river in New Jersey.

Fellowship Program Goals & Objectives

The goals and objectives of the service are to educate the fellows in all areas of pediatric orthopedic surgery. This will be achieved through didactic sessions, literature review, oral presentations, patient examination, and surgical treatment. In addition, cadaver based courses will further enhance the fellow's understanding and technical skills. Research and teaching will round out the fellowship training to prepare future community and professional leaders.

In addition, the goals of the rotation are to:

- Help the fellow develop interpersonal skills needed to effectively engage patients and family members to enhance communication and education.
- Develop competency in management of the orthopedic inpatients including administration, quality improvement and leadership through the use of effective verbal and written communication skills.
- Acquire medical knowledge about established and evolving biomedical, clinical, cognitive sciences and demonstrate the competent application of this knowledge to patient care.
- Demonstrate practice-based learning and improvement that involves investigation and evaluation of patient care, appraisal and assimilation of scientific evidence and improvements in patient care.
- Demonstrate interpersonal and communication skills that result in effective information exchange and teaming with patients, their families, and other health professionals.
- Demonstrate professionalism as manifested through a commitment to carrying out professional responsibilities, adherence to ethical principles, and sensitivity to a diverse patient population.
- Demonstrate system-based practice, as manifested by actions that demonstrate an awareness of and responsiveness to the larger context and system of health care and ability to effectively call on system resources to provide care that is of optimal value.

Supervision Policy

The Department of Orthopedic Surgery at Columbia University Medical Center is committed to Residency Education and to Advanced Graduate Training of Fellows in the sub-specialty of adult reconstruction.

Residents rotate on clinical rotations starting in the PGY-1 year and progress in independence and autonomy through the course of the residency. As mandated by New York State and NewYork-Presbyterian Policy, however, all resident related activity is under the supervision of the Attending Staff of the Department of Orthopedic Surgery.

In addition, the Fellows also will have increasing responsibility, autonomy and independence during their 1-year experience. However, all fellow related activity is also under the supervision of the Attending Staff on their respective services as mandated by New York State and NewYork-Presbyterian Policy.

2022 – 2023 Graduate Staff Salaries

Graduate Staff Level 1	\$75,694
Graduate Staff Level 2	\$83,783
Graduate Staff Level 3	\$90,651
Graduate Staff Level 4	\$93,199
Graduate Staff Level 5	\$96,365
Graduate Staff Level 6	\$98,095
Graduate Staff Level 7	\$101,052

NewYork-Presbyterian Office of Graduate Medical Education

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Weil Cornell Medical Center
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For more information on NYP GME policies and procedures,
please review the information provided when checking in
for your interview.



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Fellowship Interviews 2023



COLUMBIA

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF ORTHOPEDIC SURGERY

 **NewYork-Presbyterian Kids**

Morgan Stanley Children's Hospital

Division of Pediatric Orthopedics
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NewYork-Presbyterian Morgan Stanley Children's Hospital

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