



Penn Presbyterian Medical Center



David J. Bozentka, MD

Chief of Orthopaedic Surgery, Penn Presbyterian Medical Center



It has been another exciting year of growth for the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery at Penn Presbyterian Medical Center (PPMC). Dr. Charles Nelson has been welcomed back to PPMC and named Chief of the Penn Joint Replacement Service. In addition to his new clinical responsibilities, Dr. Nelson was chosen as a 2012 Austria-Swiss-German Traveling Fellow under the auspices of the American

Orthopaedic Association. He will be attending various conferences, observing surgery, visiting basic science research facilities, and presenting his current research in orthopaedic centers throughout Austria, Switzerland, and Germany. Dr. Nelson will be visiting historic sites such as the Orthopaedic Museum in Frankfurt, the Castle in Heidelberg, and the site in Wurzburg where Professor Roentgen invented radiographs.

With the new leadership for the joint replacement program, the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery at PPMC has continued to provide excellent patient care. The group has been named a Blue Distinction Center for Knee and Hip Replacement. Dr. Eric Hume was integral in the process due to his tireless support in addressing the extensive administrative requirements for the certification. Dr. Laura Kossiem leads the Orthopaedic and Medical Co-Management Team. She has worked closely with the total joint service in developing pathways which have provided documented improvement in patient outcomes.

The Orthopaedic Surgery Unit Based Clinical Leadership team at PPMC meets weekly to provide another mechanism in improving patient care. Drs. Craig Israelite and Eric Hume from the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery and 5th floor nursing representation by Staci Pietrafesa and Sandra Feeney are the central components of the leadership team. The meetings provide a consistent venue for the discussion of topics related to improving in-patient orthopaedic care. The issues that have been tackled by the group this past year have included the Orthopaedic Risk Assessment program, implementation of the MP3 pain protocol for total joint replacement patients, and standardization of the DVT prophylaxis protocol. Future challenges include integration of the Sunrise and EPIC systems, as well as monitoring the patient safety and satisfaction programs.

The integration of the Musculoskeletal Radiology group within the PPMC Department of Orthopaedic Surgery office space continues to allow for advanced collaboration in education, research, and patient care. Dr. Woojin Kim has been named the interim Chief of the Division of Musculoskeletal Imaging. Dr. Kim trained at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania and the University of Maryland Medical Center/VA Maryland Healthcare System. He leads the coordination

of orthopaedic and radiology conferences and research collaboration. With the addition of Dr. Viviane Khoury as Director of Musculoskeletal Ultrasound, state-of-the-art diagnostic ultrasound imaging is also provided.

Dr. Nabil Elkassabany has continued to develop the Orthopaedic Anesthesia program at PPMC. He also serves an integral role as a member of the PPMC Department of Orthopaedic Surgery Steering Committee. Dr. Elkassabany has developed a regional anesthesia team including Drs. Jiabin Liu and Kenneth Richman. The team provides regional anesthesia service to the orthopaedic surgery service; they have collaborated with our group in developing peri-operative pain protocols.

Mr. Fabian Marechal has been named the practice coordinator of the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery at Penn Presbyterian Medical Center this past year. Mr. Marechal was trained at the University of Paris IV – La Sorbonne. He has worked in the hotel industry including the Ritz Carlton Hotel, Starwood, as well as Sheraton Rittenhouse. Just prior to his current position, Mr. Marechal worked as business manager and office manager in the healthcare industry. He has been a valuable addition to the group, having made remarkable changes to the practice, improving efficiencies and developing standards throughout the practice. Mr. Marechal leads the biweekly PPMC Department of Orthopaedic Surgery operations meetings for the physicians providing a venue for constant reassessment of the program.



Currently, the PPMC department of Orthopaedic Surgery office encompasses 12,000 square feet of clinical and academic space with plans for future expansion. Approval has been provided and planning meetings continue in the development of a new building at PPMC for musculoskeletal medicine. The clinical space will include operating suites and areas for patient care by multi-disciplinary specialties involved in musculoskeletal care.

The Department of Orthopaedic Surgery continues to develop its role as a vital component of PPMC. With continued hard work and collaboration, we look forward to another year of growth and success.