

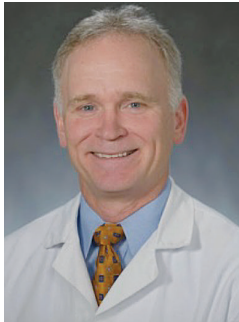


Division Updates

Hand Division

David Bozentka, MD

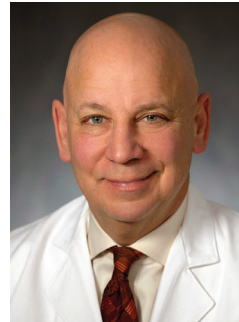
Hand Surgery Faculty



David Bozentka, MD



David Steinberg, MD



L. Scott Levin, MD, FACS



Hannah Lee, MD, PhD



Andrew Sobel, MD



Robert Carrigan, MD



Apurva Shah, MD, MBA



Stephen Liu, MD

The Hand and Upper Extremity Service within the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery has again had a remarkable year. Not only have we added more talented clinical staff to our team, but we have also provided our residents and fellows with an exceptional educational experience. Furthermore, our commitment to research has expanded, with numerous studies being undertaken by our team.

We are delighted to welcome Linda Chao, MD, to the Penn Hand Surgery family as the newest member of our team at Cape Regional Medical Center. Linda brings an impressive academic background, having completed her undergraduate studies at Harvard College and her medical training at Brown University. She then went on to complete her residency in Orthopaedic Surgery at Wake Forest University and her Hand and Upper Extremity Fellowship at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles. Her interest in microsurgery and teaching makes her an invaluable addition to our team. In addition to her impressive professional achievements, Linda is a passionate runner who competes in marathons and half marathons. We are thrilled to have her join us and look forward to the valuable contributions she will make to our practice.

Under the guidance of David Steinberg, MD, and Ines Lin, MD, our fellowship program has continued to

flourish. The two current fellows have had a successful and enriching year, making significant strides in their clinical and academic pursuits. Thanks to the Chan Family Surgery Education Fund, established by the generous contributions of Peter SH Chan MD and Karen Postick Chan MD, our fellows have had the opportunity to attend the flap dissection course as well as the annual meeting of the American Society for Surgery of the Hand held in Boston, Massachusetts. In addition, our weekly didactic fellow-run hand surgery conference has continued to thrive, with topics ranging from joint radiology conferences to pediatric conferences, journal clubs, and case reviews.

Lindsay Janes, MD, who completed her plastic surgery residency at Northwestern University, will return to Chicago after completing her fellowship to join the Division of Plastic Surgery at Northwestern University. Likewise, Kate Grunzweig, MD, who completed her residency training in the Department of Plastic Surgery at Case Western Reserve University, will join the Department of Plastic Surgery at Loyola University in Chicago after her year of hand fellowship training.

In February, we interviewed twenty candidates from over one hundred applicants for the two Hand Fellowship positions. The incoming fellows for next year include Dr. Vinay Rao, MD, MPH, who will complete his plastic

surgery residency at Brown University, and Kurt Mohty, MD, currently completing his orthopedic surgery residency at the University of Southern California.

Andrew Sobel, MD, has demonstrated exceptional leadership as the Director of Clinical Research for the Hand Surgery Section. He has been conducting bi-monthly research meetings to review over twenty active research projects, leading to presentations at the AAOS, ASSH, and AAHS annual meetings. Recently, the section was notified of its approval for NIH funding as a clinical trial site for a peripheral nerve injury repair device.

To keep you informed of our developments, Penn Hand Surgery is now on social media. Under the leadership of Mylinh Nguyen, the service has launched a social media site showcasing interesting cases, hand-section staff, presentations, and awards. We encourage group members and alums to send suggestions for the site. In addition, stay updated with the program by following us on Instagram @ Pennhandsurgery.

The hand transplant team has successfully performed bilateral upper extremity allotransplantation on four patients with quadra-membral amputations, resulting in remarkable outcomes that have transformed their lives.

Unfortunately, the listing of patients had been put on hold due to the COVID pandemic. However, the team has continued to meet regularly, rehearsing in the new Pavilion operating room and the human tissue lab with cadavers, fine-tuning the procedure checklists in preparation for the fifth bilateral upper extremity allotransplantation.

We want to acknowledge the invaluable support of our outstanding advanced practice providers, nurses, and administrative assistants who help keep the hand and upper extremity service running smoothly. We congratulate Christine (Chrissy) McAndrew, PA-C, on her new role as the Director of Advanced Practice & Nursing for the Department of Orthopedics. In this capacity, Chrissy will directly manage the Department's RN nursing staff while continuing to oversee the Advanced Practice Providers. Chrissy has been with the department for 11 years and has been the Supervisor of the Advanced Practice Providers since 2018 and the Hand Transplant Coordinator for Penn Medicine and The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia since 2012.

We are privileged to have an exceptional, collaborative, and dynamic group. With such fantastic support, the future looks bright for the Hand Surgery Section.