



Foot and Ankle Division Update

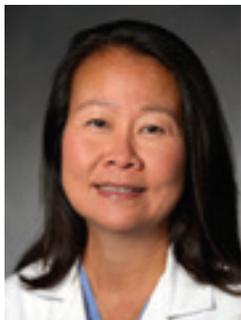
Keith Wapner, MD



Foot & Ankle Faculty



Keith Wapner, MD



Wen Chao, MD



Daniel Farber, MD



Kathryn O'Connor, MD, MSPT

The Foot and Ankle Division has had another productive year. Our current faculty includes Keith Wapner, Wen Chao, Kathryn O'Connor, and Daniel Farber. We continue to serve Center City and beyond with locations at the Farm Journal Building, PMUC, Cherry Hill, Radnor, and Exton and perform surgical procedures at Pennsylvania Hospital, Penn Presbyterian, the surgery center at PMUC, and at Chester County Hospital.

Dr. Keith Wapner has represented Penn Orthopaedics with presentations around the world and nationally. In addition to being Keynote Speaker at the Korean Foot and Ankle Society, where one of our former Penn foreign Fellows, Ho Sung Lee, MD was inducted as President, Dr. Wapner also spoke in China, Israel, and Qatar. He had an opportunity to honor his mentor, Dr. Roger Mann, and his innumerable contributions to the foot and ankle orthopaedic community in a tribute at the AOFAS Summer meeting in Boston. He will complete his six year tenure on the managerial board of the AOFAS Journal, Foot and Ankle International.

Dr. Daniel Farber leads the fellowship and research components of the division. Further, he serves on the AOFAS Education committee and is continuing work on a national accreditation pathway for foot and ankle fellowships in a cooperative venture between the AOFAS and AAOS. He also serves on the AAOS Resolutions committee and was an AAOS Leadership Fellows Program Mentor over the past year. Dr. Farber is the also Associate Editor for Review Articles for the Foot and Ankle Online Journal of the AOFAS. They have published a core group of essential review articles over the past year with two of those coming from Penn.

Dr. Wen Chao remains an Orthopaedic Consultant to the Pennsylvania Ballet. She serves on the Public Education Committee for the AOFAS. She is an active reviewer for the Foot and Ankle International and Foot and Ankle Orthopaedics.

Dr. Kathryn (Kate) O'Connor has rebuilt the foot and ankle education curriculum for the residents, runs the monthly foot and ankle resident and fellow cadaver lab and was awarded

an AOFAS grant for her Achilles Research. She serves on the AOFAS Evidence Based Medicine Committee.

The division's research endeavors continue to expand. In addition to ongoing clinical studies on opioid use in foot and ankle surgery, Achilles tendonitis treatments and Achilles rupture treatments, we are involved in several national studies. These include completion of an ongoing study of the STAR ankle replacement, an investigation of the use of bone stimulators for acute operatively treated ankle fractures, and several others in development. The division is also involved in collaborative investigations with the department and of radiology and vascular surgery, looking at the use of weight bearing CT in hallux valgus and genetic markers for Charcot Arthropathy, respectively. We are working closely with Josh Baxter, PhD of Penn's Human Motion Laboratory exploring treatment of chronic Achilles pathology as well as acute Achilles ruptures. A recently completed study looks at the role Orthopaedic surgeons play in influencing patients' choice of footwear and will be a poster at this year's AOA meeting. Another study looking at the adequacy of radiographic images in foot and ankle literature was presented at this years AAOS meeting. Finally, we are nearing completion of a collaboration with the Biedermann lab and Mike Hast, PhD to explore the compression properties of a new plate for fusions of the hindfoot.

The division is actively collaborating with the McKay Lab and Lou Soslowsky, PhD investigating early return to activity after repaired and non-repaired Achilles ruptures with several publications. An ongoing investigation is exploring treatment options for simulated chronic Achilles ruptures in the rat model. There have been multiple studies completed in the McKay Lab over the past year on the effect of smoking on Achilles physiology and healing of ruptures.

Penn's Orthopaedic Foot and Ankle Division has had a successful year and looks forward to another year of growth with the anticipation of a new division chief as well as continuing to provide excellent patient care, service to the orthopaedic community and active research.