



## Poised for Growth and Expansion

Neil Ravitz, MBA

Chief Operating Officer  
Chief Administrative Officer, Musculoskeletal Service Line



The Penn Medicine Health System continues to grow and expand and for many, they would hardly recognize the new landscape and locations being constructed. At the current HUP location we are building a \$1.5 billion new pavilion that will have about 500 beds and about 50 operating rooms slated to open in 2021. At the same time, we have a new patient Pavilion opening at Chester County Hospital in April of 2020 that will modernize that campus and provide needed infrastructure. Meanwhile, in Radnor there is a new ambulatory facility opening in June of 2020 that will more than double the overall footprint of the building and more than double the clinical space for the Musculoskeletal and Rheumatology Service line. It is hard to look around Penn Medicine right now and not see the signs of growth and expansion.

Fundamentally, the expansion is positive for the Department as it represents modernization for both our patients and our physicians. It also enables us opportunities to see more patients and bring the expertise of Penn Orthopaedics closer to patients in the suburbs. One of the challenges that exist is trying to find enough people and space to see those patients, so in addition to building efforts, we also are innovating new ways to provide access to patients. Several years ago we began hiring more Advanced Practice Providers (APPs) who are usually Physician Assistants and have now grown to over 40 in the Department. This past year we focused on getting each of these APPs to see independent sessions, usually while their physician counterpart is in the OR, to help expand our access. In this fiscal year, we anticipate that more than 33,000 patients will be seen by our APPs and non-operative colleagues. We are also extending hours in Cherry Hill in the evening and weekends with some of our APPs in hopes of providing additional options to working adults to get access to the finest care in the region. Of course this growth and expansion cannot be accommodated only with existing faculty. We are

also recruiting heavily across five of our division currently. We are focused on finding people who provide great clinical care and match the culture of our department.

We also announced an exciting partnership this year with the Philadelphia Flyers. The marketing component of the five-year deal began in January of 2020 and the Orthopedic care of the team will begin in September of 2020 with the start of the new season. Dr. Brian Sennett is leading this effort for the department and we think it is a tremendous opportunity to promote that growth and get our brand in front of hundreds of thousands of people in the Philadelphia region and beyond.

We had several new clinical faculty members join the Department in the past year. Dr. Amrit Khalsa joined the Spine division in September of 2019. Dr. Khalsa completed his residency at Hahnemann and a fellowship at Scripps in California. He had already been in practice in the Philadelphia area for a couple of years before joining the Department. Dr. Susan Harding also joined the faculty this past year as a partner to Dr. Kevin McHale and Dr. Stanley Michael down at Cape Regional Medical Center. She is a member of the Trauma division and is spending about 20 percent of her time at PPMC. Dr. Harding built her career at Hahnemann where she was an extremely well regarded clinician and educator. We are happy to have her join our department and she has provided a nice continuity for the residents that came from Hahnemann. Finally, Dr. Vince Moretti began seeing patients with the Department in a part time capacity. While he has been with the Department at the VA for the past two years, he was interested in setting up a new location for us in Woodbury, NJ and began practicing out there one day a week helping to expand the Adult Reconstruction division into a new market. We welcome all three of them to the Department and look forward to their continued success and contributions. They are key to our growth and expansion!