



University of New Mexico Orthopaedics

Sports Medicine Fellowship





UNM ORTHOPAEDIC SPORTS MEDICINE FELLOWSHIP

Thank you for your interest in the Orthopaedic Sports Medicine Fellowship Program at the [University of New Mexico](#).

We have structured our program so our fellows experience not only the breadth of traditional sports medicine practice, including advanced knee and shoulder arthroscopic cases, but also the care of patient groups to provide our graduates with practice-building opportunities after their training completion. Our fellows spend the year working with our five faculty members and a physician assistant, caring for athletes of all ages and levels. They also participate in an orthopaedic teaching program that trains a total of five orthopaedic surgery fellows (two Sports, two Hand, and one Trauma), two primary care sports medicine fellows, [25 residents](#), and numerous medical students who make their way through our services each year. This environment stimulates higher level learning, cultivates teaching for all level of trainees, and creates a collegial atmosphere that builds lifelong relationships for our fellows.





UNM ORTHOPAEDIC SPORTS MEDICINE FELLOWSHIP

Building a Sports Medicine Practice

Like most sports medicine fellowships, we offer our fellows full exposure to sports cases, including ACL reconstruction, meniscus repair, cartilage procedures as well as arthroscopic rotator cuff and shoulder instability cases. We view these as standard components of any sports medicine fellowship. As a result, our sports medicine fellows are well prepared to treat those conditions at the completion of their training.

Our educational approach stresses both the technical execution of advanced surgical procedures as well as the surgical indications and strategy that precede the operation. Additionally, UNM's role as the tertiary care provider for the state provides our graduates with valuable skills in treating community patients once they embark on their own practices.



We run a weekly pediatric sports medicine clinic that treats skeletally immature patients with knee ligament injuries, complex patella instability, meniscus and cartilage pathology, as well as shoulder injuries. This provides our fellows with excellent exposure to the management of a unique group of patients. Fellows are also exposed to the treatment of a wide range of elbow pathology with both open and arthroscopic techniques. These cases include ligament reconstruction, arthroplasty, fracture care, and post-traumatic surgical intervention. As we are the only Level One Trauma Center in the state, our fellows benefit from the high number of multi-ligament knee reconstructions performed by our group. Fellows also experience complex open shoulder procedures, including soft tissue and bony reconstruction, arthroplasty, and fracture care as well as total and unicompartmental knee arthroplasty plus an introduction to hip arthroscopy.



UNM ORTHOPAEDIC SPORTS MEDICINE FELLOWSHIP

Sports Medicine Faculty

Our fellowship faculty includes four sports medicine fellowship-trained surgeons, one upper extremity fellowship-trained surgeon and a sports medicine physician assistant with whom our fellows work closely.

Name: [Daniel C. Wascher, MD](#)

Title: Professor and Fellowship Program Director

Specialty: Sports Medicine

Medical School: St. Louis University

Residency: University of Rochester

Fellowship: UCLA

Dr. Wascher specializes in orthopaedic sports medicine injuries with an emphasis on knees and shoulders. He also performs total knee and total shoulder arthroplasty.

Dr. Wascher completed his medical education at St. Louis University and went on to do an internship in internal medicine and general surgery at Loyola University in Chicago. Later, he completed an orthopaedic residency at the University of Rochester in Rochester, New York. Following his residency, he completed a fellowship in orthopaedic sports medicine at UCLA. He began practicing orthopaedic surgery in the Department of Orthopaedics Sports Medicine Division at UNM School of Medicine in 1991. The focus of his medical practice is on sports injuries, knee and shoulder injuries, and knee and shoulder replacements. He is a team physician with the UNM varsity athletic teams and director of the Sports Medicine Division fellowship.



Dr. Wascher is an active member of the AAOS, AOSSM, and ISAKOS. He participated in the AOSSM Traveling Fellowship in Australia and New Zealand and has hosted the AOSSM European and Latin American Traveling Fellows at the UNM. He serves as the Instructional Course Chair for the annual AOSSM Meeting. He is an active member of the American Board of Orthopaedic Surgeons and participates as a question writer for Part I and Sports SSC and oral examiner.

Dr. Wascher is on the editorial board of The American Journal of Sports Medicine and The Journal of Knee Surgery.



UNM ORTHOPAEDIC SPORTS MEDICINE FELLOWSHIP

Name: [Robert C. Schenck Jr., MD](#)

Title: Professor and Chair

Specialty: Sports Medicine

Medical School: Johns Hopkins University

Residency: Johns Hopkins University

Fellowship: Cincinnati Sports Medicine &
Orthopaedic Center

Fellowship: The St. Alphonsus Coughlin Clinic,
Foot and Ankle Center of Excellence

Dr. Schenck, currently Professor and Department Chair of Orthopaedics at UNM in Albuquerque, has been a full-time academic physician since starting his orthopaedic career as an instructor at the University of Texas at San Antonio. After his medical training at Johns Hopkins (MD '84, Orthopaedic Residency '89), he pursued a fellowship in sports medicine with subspecialty training in foot and ankle surgery. His practice focuses on reconstruction procedures of the knee and shoulder as well as foot and ankle trauma and ligament reconstruction. In addition to academic and clinical work, Dr. Schenck has served as an athletic team physician for most of his career.



Dr. Schenck enjoys both basic and clinical research interests and has published bench research funded with extramural sources (OREF, AANA) on cartilage healing in the goat and rabbit models, as well as cadaveric anatomic and injury models of the knee, ankle, and shoulder. He has performed multiple clinical projects, including prospective outcome trials and retrospective clinical reviews, as well as recent financial impact studies. He also lectures regularly, at the national and international levels, on complex knee and sports injuries, and he lectures locally to physical therapy, internal medicine, and rehabilitation medicine groups at UNM's Health Sciences Center.

Dr. Schenck is a member of the AOA, AOSSM, AAOS and the Association of Bone and Joint Surgeons, he is also involved with the American Board of Orthopaedic Surgeons as an Oral Examiner and a member of the Question Writing Task Force for Part I of the written ABOS examination.



UNM ORTHOPAEDIC SPORTS MEDICINE FELLOWSHIP

Name: [Andrew J. Veitch, MD](#)

Title: Associate Professor

Specialty: Sports Medicine

Head Team Physician: UNM Lobos

Medical School: University of New Mexico School of Medicine

Residency: University of New Mexico School of Medicine

Fellowship: UCLA

Dr. Veitch specializes in orthopaedic sports medicine injuries with an emphasis on knees and shoulders. Dr. Veitch also runs a pediatric sports medicine clinic and performs arthroscopic hip procedures.

Dr. Veitch completed his medical education at UNM. Following his residency, he completed a fellowship in orthopaedic sports medicine at University of California at Los Angeles. He began practicing orthopaedic surgery in the Department of Orthopaedics Sports Medicine Division at UNM School of Medicine in 2003. The focus of his medical practice is on sports injuries, knee and shoulder injuries. He is the head team physician with the UNM varsity lobo athletic teams.



Dr. Veitch is board certified in orthopaedic surgery, a fellow of the ABOS, and the Medical Director for the UNM Lobos.





UNM ORTHOPAEDIC SPORTS MEDICINE FELLOWSHIP

Name: [Eric C. Benson, MD](#)

Title: Assistant Professor and Medical Director of
Orthopaedic Outpatient Clinics

Specialty: Shoulder and Elbow Surgery

Medical School: Georgetown University

Residency: University of New Mexico

Fellowship: Hand and Upper Limb Centre,
University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario, Canada

Dr. Benson specializes in common and complex shoulder and elbow surgery. He specializes in arthroscopic treatment of elbow conditions such as tennis elbow and elbow arthritis, arthroscopic treatment of shoulder instability and rotator cuff tears, treatment of complex elbow fractures and dislocations, as well as reconstructive procedures, including total elbow and shoulder replacements and reverse total shoulder arthroplasty. He also treats patients with sports injuries of the elbow and shoulder, including medial collateral ligament reconstruction of the elbow.



Dr. Benson officially merged with the Sports Medicine Division in the Department of Orthopaedics & Rehabilitation in 2013 after working closely with the division and its fellows to treat athletic shoulder and elbow injuries. Dr. Benson is also the Midlevel Champion.

Dr. Benson earned his medical degree from Georgetown University and also holds a Master of Science in Physiology from Georgetown University. He completed his orthopaedic surgery residency at UNM and his shoulder, elbow, and hand fellowship at the Hand and Upper Limb Centre of the University of Western Ontario in London, Ontario, Canada.

Dr. Benson's research interests include glenoid fixation in total shoulder arthroplasty, fixation techniques for arthroscopic rotator cuff repair, coronoid fractures of the elbow, and surgical anatomy and physical examination of the elbow. He is a member of the AAOS and is a board certified orthopaedic surgeon with ABOS.



UNM ORTHOPAEDIC SPORTS MEDICINE FELLOWSHIP

Name: [Gehron Treme, MD](#)

Title: Assistant Professor and Residency Program Director

Specialty: Orthopaedic Sports Medicine

Medical School: Louisiana State University

Residency: University of New Mexico

Fellowship: University of Virginia

Dr. Treme specializes in Orthopaedic Sports Medicine and treats athletes of all ages and activity levels as well as patients with knee and shoulder injuries and pain. His practice focuses on arthroscopic surgery of the knee and shoulder with particular interest in reconstruction of bone, ligament, and tendon damage in those joints. He performs surgery for knee and shoulder instability, rotator cuff tears and cartilage injury. He also runs a separate clinic addressing injuries in athletes 18 years of age and under.



Dr. Treme completed his medical education at Louisiana State University, his residency at the UNM, and sports medicine fellowship at the University of Virginia. His research interests include injury prevention in sports, improvement of functional outcomes with sports injuries, prevention of peri-operative complications and pediatric sports injuries. He is a member of the AAOS, AOSSM and the AANA.

Dr. Treme was named the Graduate Medical Education Outstanding Educator at UNM in 2014 and Outstanding Faculty Educator by UNM Orthopaedic Residents in 2012. He serves as a Team Physician for the UNM Lobos varsity athletic teams, and the Head Team physician for Rio Rancho High School. Dr. Treme is director of the UNM Orthopaedic Arthroscopy Skills Lab and is a reviewer for the American Journal of Sports Medicine.





UNM ORTHOPAEDIC SPORTS MEDICINE FELLOWSHIP

Program Structure and Education

The UNM Orthopaedic Sports Medicine Fellowship is accredited by the ACGME and adheres to all rules and regulations of that organization. Graduated fellows are eligible to sit for the Sports Medicine Sub-Specialty Examination once practice criteria are met. There are no call responsibilities for our fellows.

The fellowship faculty is divided into two teams. Each fellow spends a total of six months with each team, alternating between each at three-month intervals. Weekly schedules include two days of outpatient clinics and a minimum of two days in the operating room. This structure provides balanced exposure to the entire UNM sports practice, and the three-month intervals allow for optimal continuity of care during the year. Fellows work one-on-one with attending surgeons in the operating room and clinic. Preoperative planning is stressed along with technical approaches and pearls. Operative independence is encouraged and progresses in accordance to the skill and confidence of the individual fellow.

All clinical responsibilities occur within the Albuquerque metro area. Clinical and operative sites include the University of New Mexico Hospital (UNMH), Outpatient Surgery and Imaging Services (OSIS), the Sandoval Regional Medical Center (SRMC), and the UNM athletic training facilities.





UNM ORTHOPAEDIC SPORTS MEDICINE FELLOWSHIP

We hold a weekly [teaching conference](#) on Wednesday morning prior to the Orthopaedic Department Grand Rounds. The conference is topic driven and uses classic and current literature to serve as a jump-off point for discussion. Additionally, we integrate musculoskeletal radiology faculty into the teaching schedule to discuss interpretation of advanced imaging and correlation of surgical findings. A monthly journal club that includes other sports medicine surgeons from around the city focuses on current literature, and allows for discussion of ideas and treatment approaches outside of the UNM program. Fellows are provided an opportunity to explore sports medicine research and are supported by full-time research faculty within the department. Finally, we run an arthroscopic skills lab twice yearly that is attended by UNM residents and sports medicine fellows. This lab involves three days of cadaveric training and is designed and taught by UNM Sports Medicine Faculty. This lab provides our fellows the opportunity to advance their arthroscopic skill and explore new techniques in a low-stress environment.





UNM ORTHOPAEDIC SPORTS MEDICINE FELLOWSHIP

UNM Athletics

We believe that a true sports medicine education includes learning to care for athletes, understanding the rigors of high-level sport participation, and managing injuries and expectations of the in-season and out-of-season athlete. One of the special opportunities our fellowship offers involves our commitment to collegiate athletes.



The Department of Orthopaedics & Rehabilitation at UNM is the sole provider of medical care for the [UNM Lobos](#). This involves the care of almost 500 student athletes who participate at a NCAA Division I level. Our involvement with UNM Athletics allows our fellows to work with a relatively small group of exceptional athletes in a quality environment and meaningful way. Fellows are given responsibility to care for athletes and integrate into the team during their time here.



The Lobo Training Room operates as a regular medical clinic. UNM athletes are cared for by a full-time nurse and medical assistant while an on-site pharmacy and radiology suite allow for timely, thorough and efficient care of our patients. Our fellows learn to coordinate the care of athletes with the athletic training team and physical therapists involved in post-injury rehabilitation.



UNM ORTHOPAEDIC SPORTS MEDICINE FELLOWSHIP

During the school year, we run a daily primary care clinic covered by our sports medicine-trained primary care physicians and their fellows. Additionally, we run an orthopaedic clinic twice a week at the training room. During the fall, we hold a training room clinic the day after each football game to evaluate athletes injured during the game. Our fellows cover the home football games and travel with the team to two away games. While we care for all of UNM athletic teams, the orthopaedic fellows work directly with the football, men's and women's basketball, and volleyball teams.

Each fellow will experience covering basketball games at The Pit, [one of the premier sporting venues in the country.](#) Coverage of other events is available based on each fellow's individual interests.





UNM ORTHOPAEDIC SPORTS MEDICINE FELLOWSHIP

New Mexico and Albuquerque Living

To live in [Albuquerque](#) is to experience high desert living at its best. At over 5,000 feet of elevation, the city enjoys cool nights in the summer and mild winter days with more than 320 days of sunshine annually. Positioned at the base of the Sandia Mountains and with close proximity to multiple outdoor playgrounds, activities such as [hiking](#), [running](#), [golf](#), rock climbing, [mountain and road biking](#) are easily accessible throughout the year.



Additionally, with ski resorts such as [Taos](#), [Santa Fe](#), [Wolf Creek](#), and [Durango](#) (to name a few) in close proximity, day trips or weekend excursions for snow sports are easy during the winter.

During the summer and fall, multiple farmers markets sell local produce in [Albuquerque](#) and [Corrales](#), while the [International Balloon Fiesta](#) brings thousands of visitors to the city every October. Residents of the Duke City also enjoy spending time at the numerous museums and Albuquerque [Biopark](#).



The history of the Southwest is seen throughout New Mexico with the melding of [Native American](#) and [Hispanic](#) cultures. Day trips to [National Parks](#) and Pueblos plus visits to [Santa Fe](#) and [Taos](#) paint the picture of the diverse and complex story that New Mexico tells. It doesn't take long to see where the state nickname "The Land of Enchantment" comes from.



UNM ORTHOPAEDIC SPORTS MEDICINE FELLOWSHIP



Thank you for taking the time to apply to our fellowship.

We believe that we can prepare fellows for a rewarding practice with a diverse and nuanced exposure to all levels of sports medicine practice. Our fellows receive exceptional training and gain access to complex cases in a collegial environment that cultivates relationships that last throughout a career. Visit [UNM GME](#) for further information regarding employment and benefits.

Please [contact](#) us with any questions regarding our program, and we look forward to meeting you soon.

