Spine Center Fellowship

Duration: 1 year

The interview date for the 2021-2022 fellowship program is TBD

Dates: August 1, 2021 to July 31, 2022

Stipend: $73,102 plus benefits. $12,825.96 Housing Allowance

Currently accepting applications for the 2020/2021 academic year. Deadline for applications: November 1, 2019.

UCSF Fellowship in Spine
Bobby Tay, M.D. (Fellowship Director)
Sigurd Berven, M.D.
Shane Burch, M.D.
Alan Dang, M.D.
Vedat Deviren, M.D.
Lionel Metz, M.D.
Alekos Theologis, M.D.
Christopher Ames, M.D.*
Dean Chou, M.D.*
Aaron Clark, M.D., PhD*

*Dept. of Neurological Surgery

Department of Orthopaedic Surgery
University of California, San Francisco
500 Parnassus Ave- MU320W
San Francisco, Ca-94143-0728
(415) 502-5183; Fax: (415)476-1304
Location: UCSF Medical Center (Parnassus)

Fellowship Goals
The UCSF Spine Surgery Fellowship is designed to provide fellows with a comprehensive and rigorous training in the evaluation and operative management of a wide variety of spinal disorders. Our mission is to train surgeons to be compassionate and capable care providers, with the knowledge and skills to care for patients presenting along a broad spectrum of complexity. Unique aspects of this fellowship include significant exposure to deformity, degenerative and complex reconstruction spine surgery cases and a strong educational program with teaching and research conferences 3 days per week. In addition to traditional instrumentation procedures, the fellowship also offers exposure to new technologies including minimally invasive approaches and investigational studies involving new devices and clinical trials. The faculty of the UCSF Spine Service performs over 1000 operative procedures per year, encompassing a balance of simple and complex spinal pathologies.
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Research components

Extensive research opportunities exist in the fellowship, and all fellows are required to prepare one manuscript based upon original research for publication. Opportunities exist for clinical research through the UCSF Orthopaedic Surgery Health Outcomes Center, a multi-disciplinary research center that includes orthopaedic surgeons, epidemiologists, and other health services researchers. Basic science facilities are also available, including bioengineering, biomechanics, and molecular biology laboratories. Specific research responsibilities include:

- To work with the UCSF Orthopaedic Outcomes Institute Research Coordinator to improve the quality and consistency of data collection.
- To assist residents and medical students in designing and carrying out research projects.
- To submit at least one research manuscript for publication in a peer-reviewed journal, based on research done during the fellowship year.

Didactic components

Monday: Spine Lecture Series – every other week 5:00 pm
Spine Conference – Inman Resident’s Room 7 am, didactic, interactive, topic directed conferences.
Case conference: 8 am: review of pre and postoperative cases for the week.

Wednesday: UCSF Grand Rounds- Grand Rounds is held weekly September through June and covers general orthopaedic topics. Grand Rounds are organized by the UCSF Department of Orthopaedic Surgery

Thursday: Research conference. 7 am. MU605

Other conferences

Journal Club: Every month

City-wide Grand Rounds: Occurs quarterly, and is attended by bay area orthopaedic surgeons. The topics are of interest to the general orthopaedic surgeon.
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Current Fellows

Kevork Hindoyan, MD.
Residency: University of South California

Andrew Lee, MD.
Residency: Rush Medical College

Michael Venezia, DO.
Residency: Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine
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Recent Graduates

Patrick Demarkarian, MD.
Residency: University of South Florida

Kevin Taliaferro, MD.
Residency: Henry Ford Hospital

Roman Trimba, MD.
Residency: Wright State of University, Boonshoft School of Medicine
Spine Fellowship

Recent Graduates

Neil Bham, MD.
Residency: Cedars Sinai Medical Center

“The time I spent at UCSF provided an unparalleled experience in spine and deformity surgery. I am grateful for the high volume of complex cases that challenge fellows and help prepare graduates to understand the most complex spine pathology.

A big thank you to everyone at UCSF who helped provide a stellar foundation for a career in Spine Surgery!”

Paul Eichenseer, DO.
Residency: Affinity Medical Center

“The UCSF spine fellowship provides an unparalleled breadth and depth of spine pathology with comprehensive exposure to the essential surgical techniques necessary to treat even the most complex spine conditions.”

Paramjit Singh, MD.
Residency: University of Southern California

“I ranked UCSF as my top choice for spine fellowship and would do it again. The three of us fellows worked with very skilled faculty, each of whom contributed something significant and different to our learning. Our surgical experience was broad and comprehensive. In addition to “bread and butter” spine surgery, we were routinely exposed to complex and rare spinal pathologies. My fellowship year was one of the toughest of my training but also the most worthwhile. At no point did I feel unsupported during the process. I’ve forged lasting relationships with the staff, my co-fellows, and mentors, and I truly felt as though I was part of a family.”
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To apply

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The interview dates for the 2021-2022 fellowship program is TBD. Please submit your application materials through SFMatch (https://www.sfmatch.org/)

For any additional questions, please contact Brad Stark @ Brad.Stark@ucsf.edu
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