

2008 NASS Spine Fellowship Directory

Spine Institute of Arizona Spine Surgery Fellowship

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Spine Institute of Arizona

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Percent of Fellowship devoted to Operative Care:	70%
Non-Operative Care:	30%
Research/Publication Obligation:	Optional

Approximate percentage of exposure to the Spine by region:

Cervical:	35%
Thoracic:	15%
Lumbar:	50%

Approximate percentage of Fellowship exposure to the Spine by diagnostic category:

Degenerative:	60%
Trauma:	15%
Deformity:	20% (includes adult and pediatric deformity)
Tumor:	<5%

Goals:

The Spine Institute of Arizona Fellowship provides a unique experience for training in a multi-disciplinary spine care setting, with providers who specialize in Orthopaedic Spine Surgery, Neurosurgical Spine Surgery, Pain Management, Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, Chiropractic Care and Physical Therapy. Our comprehensive spine clinic will allow the Fellow to gain expertise in both the surgical and non-surgical treatment of spinal disorders. The Fellow will be instructed by a faculty of six surgeons while he/she rotates through coordinated orthopaedic and neurosurgical spine services that focus on cervical, thoracic and lumbar pathology. These disorders include degenerative diseases, pediatric and adult deformity, trauma, tumors, and infection. Various surgical approaches to these conditions will be taught including anterior, posterior and direct lateral exposures utilizing both minimally invasive and open techniques for nerve decompression and spinal fusion. Additionally the Fellow will also be exposed to artificial disc technology and kyphoplasty procedures. Along with this strong surgical

experience, the Fellow will have the opportunity to learn how to perform cervical and lumbar injections through an optional rotation with our Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Specialists. The Fellow will have the ability to participate in clinical research projects as well as multiple IDE studies involving emerging technology.

Our goal is to prepare individuals for a strong, competitive community private practice. The Fellowship emphasizes not only surgical skills, but also the clinical skills necessary to have successful surgical outcomes: precise diagnosis, appropriate conservative care prior to surgery, and proper judgment regarding patient selection. Fellows will learn the “survival skills” critical to the management of a spine surgery practice, including marketing, contracting, proper medical/legal documentation, billing & collections, and second opinion & medical/legal opinion skills.

Applicants must be Board-eligible/Board Certified by the ABOS/ AOBOS or ABNS/ AOBNS, graduates of an accredited U.S. Orthopaedic or Neurosurgery residency program, and eligible for an unrestricted Arizona medical license, malpractice insurance, and hospital privileges. Associates will be provided with health insurance, malpractice insurance with tail coverage. Yearly stipend is \$65,000. The Fellowship begins August 1st and ends July 31st.