

A Message from our Program Director

Hello! We are excited about your interest in Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center Sports Medicine Biodynamics Center Orthopedic Physical Therapy Residency Program. This Program is credentialed by the American Physical Therapy Association as a clinical residency program for physical therapists in Orthopedics.

The Program is one year in duration. It begins in July and ends the following June. The Program consists of four quarterly modules, aimed at developing an Orthopedic Specialist as described in the Description of Specialty Practice (DSP) for Orthopedics. Our graduates should be adequately prepared to successfully pass the Orthopedic Specialty Exam the following year. Our third Resident just started a few weeks ago. The residency is housed at CCHMC's Liberty Campus, which is in Liberty Township, in the northern region of Cincinnati. This is our newest, largest ortho/sports PT clinic in the CCHMC system. I treat patients at this location, along with five other ortho/sports therapists. Some "highlights" of our Program include:

1) Patient population. Our primary referral sources are the orthopedic surgeons and sports medicine physicians of Cincinnati Children's. We have a unique niche of a predominantly pediatric population with orthopedic and sports-related injuries. I have been here a little over eight years and could not imagine a better population I'd rather be serving. We also treat adults, including hospital employees, which helps provide the resident with exposure to a wider age group. To give you an idea of the demographics, 26% of the patients our resident saw last year were 16 years old or older.

2) Team Culture and Organizational Culture. Children's is a teaching institution with vast resources and a high value placed on evidence-based practice, professional development, and community service. Our team members are approachable and they are enthusiastic to invest in each other's development. There are a myriad of examples, but here are a few: Our ortho/Sports PT team of 22 therapists develops evidence-based guidelines at a rate of one per year. They recently formed an "Endurance Group" journal club for those interested in improving their treatment of runners with injuries. Our team members have started two community injury screening programs, one for runners and one at a dance studio, and they are exploring another initiative for gymnasts. Also at Liberty Campus, the therapists have held to a tradition of "Manipulation Thursdays", a sort of fun approach to regularly practicing manipulations on one another to help improve our skills. I am excited about the dynamic environment the resident will find themselves in.

3) Compensation and Benefits. The Resident is paid a salary during the program year. The resident also enjoys the extensive employee benefits of all other CCHMC staff.

4) Emphasis on Leadership Development. As stated in our Residency Mission Statement, the program emphasizes the development of leadership skills, so that graduates are equipped to serve as emerging leaders in the field of orthopedic physical therapy. Our curriculum devotes specific time and training to help the resident develop their unique abilities as a leader. We are passionate not only to assist the resident in becoming one who provides the highest level of clinical care, but we are also passionate to assist them in becoming a person of influence within our profession. This element of leadership is included in our vision of an Orthopedic Physical Therapy Specialist.

Enclosed you will find an information packet to help provide an overview of our Program. Details are provided as to your next step in the application process, which involves submitting a cover letter, three letters of recommendation, and your current curriculum vitae by the application deadline of March 1st. Please do not hesitate to contact me with specific questions.

Sincerely,

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