University at Buffalo Sports Medicine Fellowship
Educational and Clinical Objectives

Program Goal: To provide the didactic, clinical, and operative experiences necessary for the fellow to become expert in the diagnosis, operative and non-operative treatment, and post-operative rehabilitation of sports related injuries and ultimately, to have the knowledge, skills and ability to contribute to their profession from a clinical and scholarly perspective.

Core Educational Goals and Objectives:

Didactic Components:
1. A core lecture series (see attached) on topics in sports medicine will emphasize a scholarly approach to clinical problem solving, self-directed study, teaching, development of analytical skills and surgical judgment, and research.
2. Monthly journal club meetings will analyze, critically review, and apply the sports medicine literature to enhance patient care.
3. Participation in process of scientific inquiry, publication and presentation. The fellow will be required to complete a supervised independent research project suitable for publication in the orthopaedic literature and will serve as primary author of a sports medicine review article or textbook chapter.
4. Annual meeting attendance: The fellow will be required to attend one of the following meetings (for which expenses will be reimbursed): AAOS Annual Meeting, AOSSM Annual Meeting, or AANA Annual Meeting.

Clinical Components:
1. Develop proficiency in the evaluation (obtaining a systematic history and physical examination) of patients with sports injuries or conditions.
2. Accurately interpret the most appropriate diagnostic tests based on history and physical examination.
3. Develop and prioritize an individualized plan of care for inpatient and outpatient populations from initial observation, management, and surgical or non-surgical treatment to follow-up care.
4. Demonstrate skill and proficiency in diagnostic and operative arthroscopy, and open sports medicine procedures (examples of open procedures would include open shoulder stabilization, ulnar collateral ligament reconstruction of the elbow, distal biceps tendon repair, medial and lateral ligament reconstruction and/or repair of the knee, patellar stabilization, and Achilles tendon repair).
5. Demonstrate an understanding of the indications, risks, and limitations of commonly performed procedures to determine the most appropriate and effective methods of managing the patient’s diagnosis from a surgical and non-surgical perspective.
6. Obtain experience and proficiency in surgical interventions and rehabilitation considerations associated with the most common problems/diagnoses in Sports Medicine.
   a. differentiate between those injuries that require immediate surgical treatment and those that can be treated non-operatively.
   b. recognize those injuries for which a minor delay in treatment would not be deleterious to the athlete.
   c. learn the acute care of injuries that may occur during athletic competition and how to deal with those injuries on the athletic field.
7. Assume continuing responsibility for patients with acute and chronic injuries with demonstrated independent clinical decision making.
8. Demonstrate knowledge of sports equipment, particularly protective devices intended to allow the athlete to continue competition.
9. Provide consultation (with faculty supervision) to residents, medical students and allied health personnel. Incorporate basic medical knowledge with the clinical aspects of the patients’ diagnosis.
10. Work collaboratively and collegially with non-orthopedic physicians (primary care physicians, physiatrists, surgeons, cardiologists, radiologists, etc) and other health care professionals involved in Sports Medicine (physical therapists, athletic trainers, strength and conditioning coaches, nutritionists, nurses, sport psychologists, etc.) concerning patients entrusted to their care.

11. Obtain a working knowledge of the pathology and biomechanics of athletic injuries and the effects of the injury on the athlete, including both the physical and psychological manifestations.

12. Obtain experience and proficiency in providing on-field injury management at various levels of sport participation.

13. Communicate effectively with athletes, coaches, parents and other appropriate individuals regarding the diagnosis and management of injuries and the impact on sport activity.

14. Obtain experience in the organizational and operational requirements associated with providing for the medical and health care needs for professional, collegiate and youth athletic teams in season and off-season.

Resources
Fellows will have access to sufficient laboratory space, library access, statistical consulting (staff epidemiologist) and patient population (community, college and professional athletes) to accomplish the goals listed.

Rotation Sites
The fellows will spend clinical time at the following sites:

Millard Fillmore Ambulatory Surgery Center, Erie County Medical Center, Niagara Falls Ambulatory Center, West Seneca Ambulatory Center*
Evaluate and treat a wide variety of predominantly shoulder and knee disorders.
Fellow is the primary or first assistant (depending on the level of difficulty of the case and the skill level of the fellow) for all cases.
Observe and develop a working knowledge of ambulatory surgical practice management.
Communicate with patients, colleagues and ancillary medical staff.

*these are the surgical centers where the sports medicine attending physicians perform their surgeries

Sports Medicine Attending Office Rotation
Fellow is the first physician to observe and evaluate new patients.
Findings reviewed and treatment plan created with attending physician.
Observe and develop a working knowledge of private practice management.
Communicate with patients, colleagues and ancillary medical staff.

College and Professional Level Athletics Practice and Game Coverage
Assist with coverage of Buffalo Bills (NFL) and Buffalo Sabres (NHL).
Assist with coverage of Buffalo State College Athletics (Division III Football and Men’s Hockey) and The State University of New York at Buffalo Athletics (Division I Football, Men’s Hockey, and Men’s and Women’s Basketball)
Observe and develop a working knowledge of professional sports including differences in compensation and communication.