



HARVARD
MEDICAL SCHOOL

Harvard Medical School - Massachusetts General Hospital
Orthopaedic Foot and Ankle Fellowship



Massachusetts General Hospital

Founding Member, Mass General Brigham



Mass General Brigham

Newton-Wellesley Hospital

Introduction and Welcome

Thank you for your interest in the Harvard Medical School/Massachusetts General Hospital Orthopaedic Foot and Ankle Fellowship program.

Our commitment is to help you develop into an accomplished orthopaedic foot and ankle surgeon – clinically insightful, technically capable across a wide range of surgical procedures, and a critical analyst of the latest research. We pride ourselves on the interdisciplinary care of each patient, working as a team with other surgical and medical specialties, as well as podiatrists, physical therapists, cast techs, medical assistants, research assistants and support staff.

Fellowship Structure

The program offers three fellowship positions of one-year duration. Eligible fellows must have successfully graduated from an orthopaedic residency program. Fellows are credentialed at Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH), the flagship teaching hospital of Harvard Medical School, as well as Newton-Wellesley Hospital (NWH), a 300-bed community hospital in a nearby suburb, as well as the broader network of Mass General Brigham clinical sites.

The current fellowship is divided into three separate four-month blocks based on a mentorship model designed to foster lifelong friendships. You will spend four full months with **Drs. John Kwon** and **Daniel Guss**, **Drs. Christopher DiGiovanni** and **Amgad Haleem**, and **Drs. Greg Waryasz** and **Lorena Bejarano-Pineda**. This structure allows exposure to all staff while preserving a one-on-one relationship. Flexibility exists and these are not isolated silos. Cross-pollination frequently occurs and fellows are enabled to adapt their schedule to attend unique cases or learning opportunities, even if outside their “block”. Furthermore, exposure to all faculty year round is achieved through various didactic sessions, conferences, journal clubs, labs and other academic teaching sessions. Our overarching goal is that this be a learning-based fellowship rather than anything remotely service-based – you have worked hard as a resident and now is the time for you to immerse yourself in the pure learning of foot and ankle!

Our fellowship is always looking for ways to maximize our fellows’ education. As part of forming the Mass General Brigham network, the orthopaedic department at the Massachusetts General Hospital is merging with its academic counterpart, the Brigham & Women’s Hospital, and has been united under a single chair. This is an exciting evolution for all of us! The fellowships will be merged in the future, but **during the 2027-2028 academic year we will formally remain the Harvard-MGH Foot & Ankle Surgery Fellowship. You are guaranteed to get the program into which you matched** (the GME Office contractually requires adherence to this, by the way). We are, however,

actively exploring ways to enable you to capitalize on all the resources that the Harvard ecosystem has to offer, and will afford you the opportunity to expand your exposure across the entire Harvard F&A ecosystem with combined conferences, cadaver labs, social events, and opportunities to scrub across town at your choosing. Rest assured that we will always be a mentorship-based fellowship and your education is our priority.

Fellows with full licenses are credentialed at all hospitals and clinical sites as full attending physicians, with the goal of progressively nurturing a high degree of independence in both the operating room and clinic settings. Through an apprenticeship model with graduated autonomy, fellows are comfortable running their own foot and ankle clinic and are technically capable of independently operating on a spectrum of complex foot and ankle pathology by the end of their fellowship year. The opportunity to operate independently with immediate attending backup readily available, as a supplement to the expansive amount of time spent operating alongside an attending, is something past fellows have relished.

Fellows also run a longitudinal clinic that parallels clinics run by the attending staff. Fellows see their own patients 1 clinic day a week in order to foster independent decision-making, management strategies, and ownership of care. These are not “fellows’ clinics” that differentially triage patients and pathologies – we all see everybody, irrespective of background or ability to pay, and this philosophy about caring for patients is part of our DNA. As always, attending staff are readily available to answer questions and facilitate the care of patients.

Faculty

During the year you will work closely with team members across the service, including orthopaedic foot & ankle surgeons, physician assistants and podiatrists. These include:

Foot and Ankle Service

John Y. Kwon, MD

Chief, Division of Orthopaedic Foot and Ankle Surgery

Associate Professor, Harvard Medical School

Attending Surgeon

Massachusetts General Hospital | Mass General/North Shore Outpatient Center

Lorena Bejarano-Pineda, MD

Director, Minimally Invasive Foot & Ankle Surgery

Assistant Professor in Orthopaedic Surgery, Harvard Medical School

Attending Surgeon

Massachusetts General Hospital | Newton-Wellesley Hospital

Christopher DiGiovanni, MD, FAOA

Professor, Harvard Medical School

Vice Chairman (Academic Affairs)

Chief Emeritus, Division of Orthopaedic Foot and Ankle Surgery

Massachusetts General Hospital | Newton-Wellesley Hospital

Past President, Board of Directors, American Orthopaedic Foot & Ankle Society

Daniel Guss, MD, MBA

Assistant Professor, Harvard Medical School

Director, Harvard-MGH Foot & Ankle Fellowship

Attending Surgeon

Massachusetts General Hospital | Newton-Wellesley Hospital

Amgad Haleem, MD, PHD

Director, MGH Lower Limb Lengthening and Complex Deformity Correction Program

Assistant Professor, Harvard Medical School

Attending Surgeon

Massachusetts General Hospital | Mass General/North Shore Outpatient Center

Gregory Waryasz, MD

Director of Foot & Ankle Sports Medicine

Assistant Professor in Orthopaedic Surgery, Harvard Medical School

Attending Surgeon

Massachusetts General Hospital | Mass General/North Shore Outpatient Center

Soheil Ashkani Esfahani, MD, MPH, PhD

Director, Foot & Ankle Research and Innovation Laboratory (FARIL)

Massachusetts General Hospital

Assistant Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery

Harvard Medical School

Brian Abbott, PA

Massachusetts General Hospital | Newton-Wellesley Hospital

Physician Assistant to Dr. Christopher DiGiovanni

Gabrielle (Gigi) Guenther, PA

Massachusetts General Hospital | Mass General/North Shore Outpatient Center

Physician Assistant to Dr. Amgad Haleem

Patrick Maguire, PA

Massachusetts General Hospital | Mass General/North Shore Outpatient Center

Physician Assistant to Dr. John Kwon

Robert (Rob) McKenna, PA

Massachusetts General Hospital

Physician Assistant to Dr. Lorena Bejarano - Pineda

Michael (Drew) Vrolyk, PA

Massachusetts General Hospital | Mass General/North Shore Outpatient Center
Physician Assistant to Dr. Gregory Waryasz

Yiming (Yi) Yu, PA

Massachusetts General Hospital | Newton-Wellesley Hospital
Physician Assistant to Dr. Daniel Guss

[Podiatry Service](#)

Adam Landsman, DPM, PhD

Lead Podiatrist
Massachusetts General Hospital

Jason Cho, DPM

Massachusetts General Hospital

Sarah Rose-Sauld, DPM

Massachusetts General Hospital

Jennifer Skolnik, DPM

Massachusetts General Hospital

Educational Program - Basic Curriculum

General requirements: In accordance with the general teachings defined by the American Orthopaedic Foot & Ankle Society, our fellowship program emphasizes professionalism, clinical competence and system-based practice.

Professionalism: The fellows are expected to demonstrate respect, compassion, and integrity to their patients, colleagues, and staff. They are expected to be responsive to the needs of their patients and demonstrate commitment to excellence and on-going professional development.

Clinical competence: The fellowship has been designed to develop advanced technical competence in the field of foot and ankle. Focus will be on advanced skills in the operating room, diagnostic competence in the clinic, and will foster analytic research excellence through our robust research program.

Surgical experience: The fellow is scheduled in the operating room 3-4 days/week with an attending faculty member. The fellow will operate in the Main OR at both MGH and NWH, as well as our Ambulatory Care Centers at MGH Waltham, NWH and Northshore Danvers. Any additional opportunities will be at your choosing and may span the MGB system.

Outpatient experience: The fellows are scheduled in clinic 1-2 days/week, either independently or with a faculty member. The outpatient clinics allow the fellows the chance to follow patients they have operated on, to see new patients and devise management plans. The fellows have their “own patients” and are expected to manage all patient needs with input from faculty as necessary and with assistance from our administrative staff and physician extenders.

Inpatient responsibilities: There are three fellows and one PGY-3 Harvard orthopaedic resident on service. The inpatient rounding is typically divided among service members who are on site at MGH for the day. On the days that all are offsite, there is an advanced practitioner covering the floor who can do the rounding. Rounding responsibilities are shared so that “many hands make light work” but fellows have historically rounded less than once a week and are not expected to round at one site and then travel to another forgoing extenuating circumstances. On all days of the week, including weekends, there is a physician extender or junior resident for floor coverage at both MGH and NWH hospitals who assists with daily management and serves as the responding clinician while you are clinically engaged (we know what it’s like to be scrubbed on a case when your pager goes off).

Call responsibilities: Fellows may assist faculty who participate in call at various institutions based on clinical necessity and educational opportunity. There are no primary consult responsibilities. Fellows do carry a pager should an established patient reach out or unexpected needs arise (e.g., another service asks for help), but prior data indicates that this pager goes off only 3-4 times total in a given week. We also have an assigned attending every single day who is responsible for helping you navigate patient care. Fellows will round on inpatient consults and bill when appropriate.

Educational Conferences and Meetings

Multidisciplinary topic conference: Each Tuesday morning there is a multidisciplinary conference at the Foot & Ankle Center in Waltham. The fellow is expected to attend and be an active participant. The current structure is as follows: 1st week – Faculty talks and presentations; 2nd week – Harvard-wide topic presentation by the fellows and Faculty; 3rd week – Talks/presentations by the fellows as well as journal club lead by fellows and other disciplines; 4th week – research; 5th week – talks by other disciplines. There are also several presentations by invited speakers throughout the year as well as periodic resident presentations. We also hold a combined Monday indications conference across the Harvard F&A system as part of maximizing fellow education. Independent one on one indications conferences also occur weekly as fellows work with individual faculty members.

Indications conference: This weekly conference is held on Tuesdays. It is designed to review the indications for, and treatment options pertaining to, the surgical cases for the next 2 weeks. It is designed to be a very interactive discussion and is consistently highlighted by the Fellows as one of their best learning opportunities.

Departmental conference: Each Wednesday morning there is morbidity/mortality conference or Grand Rounds at MGH/BWH as a combined departmental conference. Fellow attendance is expected. Fellows often present service cases at M&M conferences and engage in multidisciplinary discussions with other orthopaedic surgery specialties.

Research conference: Other than the monthly research meetings on Tuesdays, there are weekly research meetings, also called “Harmonization Meetings” attended by members of the Foot & Ankle Research and Innovation Lab (FARIL), clinical faculty, national and international research fellows, residents, medical students, and other participating members of the FARIL community. These conferences occur on Fridays at FARIL and can be attended if you choose so. Fellows will often be meeting independently at their convenience to work with students and lab members on their chosen research projects.

Conferences: We believe strongly that training outside of the hospital is an important part of the fellowship experience. Each fellow is allotted a stipend to spend on educational conferences and/or other educational related expenses. Participation in local and national conferences is strongly encouraged. This includes one of the national AOFAS meetings as well as an industry conference of your choosing. Harvard rules regulate that we cannot accept industry travel grants, but we realize that many fellows enjoy these opportunities to learn from our industry partners.

Salary and Benefits: Salary is commensurate with that of a PGY-6 in our system.

- The base salary for the 2025-2026 academic year is: \$104,012
- Additional bonus stipend: \$10,500
- Employer-provided 60% long-term disability insurance, provided at no cost for both residents and clinical fellows.

Research

General

The Foot & Ankle Research and Innovation Lab (FARIL) opened on January 1, 2019. FARIL is a groundbreaking initiative by the Mass General Foot & Ankle service focused on pioneering breakthroughs in foot and ankle research and innovation that will directly impact the care of the foot and ankle patients. Perhaps the most important quality of FARIL is its ability to integrate all aspects of Foot & Ankle care by incorporating every facet of research. From top institutions in the US to internationally recognized academia, FARIL researchers bring their diverse training and experience to create new tests and treatments. FARIL also brings together various organizations (MGB research institute, AOFAS, Harvard) and industry leaders to implement new technology used to treat foot and ankle injuries. With patient care at its guiding focus, FARIL brings every component of foot and ankle research to one cutting-edge location.

Fellows are expected to complete **two research projects** throughout the academic year. By the end of the fellowship, you are expected to have two manuscripts prepared for presentation at the AOFAS meeting with the ultimate goal of publication. Multiple support staff are available to assist with the initiation and completion of projects, including several international research fellows, research students, residents, engineers, and statisticians. We know that our fellows are clinically busy, so we pair fellows with motivated teams of researchers who can help with much of the daily work to ensure the successful completion of any project.

Facility and Equipment at FARIL

Clinical Research Database: The Research Patient Data Registry (RPDR) gathers clinical data from several hospital systems at Mass General Brigham (MGB). Researchers can obtain various clinical data using entries such as ICD or CPT codes, diagnoses or clinical terms to search for specific patient populations for their research. RPDR will provide a database that should be screened by the researchers to ensure the accuracy of the data; however, it facilitates the process of retrospective clinical research to a great extent. With proper IRB approval, researchers may access the patient's detailed medical records for their specified cohorts of patients. Detailed medical records may include the following types of data: Contact Information, Demographics, Diagnoses, Discharge Notes, Laboratory Tests, Medications, Microbiology, Operative Notes, Pathology Reports, Procedures, Providers, Radiology Reports, and Patient-reported outcomes. Furthermore, images from hospital image repositories can be returned and viewed online.

Operation Rooms and Experiment Equipment: FARIL has two operation rooms equipped with C-arms, weight-bearing CT scans, ultrasound, arthroscopy towers, biomechanical testing devices, and OR tools that enable researchers to conduct various experiments on cadaver specimens. Fellows may ask for lab session to practice their skillsets on cadaver specimens using various methods, devices, and implants.

Novel Technologies in Orthopaedic F&A Surgery: FARIL possesses an Artificial Intelligence and computer engineering infrastructure, 3D modeling, 3D printing, device development tools, virtual reality, and a unique bioengineering engine that enables the fellows to design, develop, and test their innovative ideas and devices.

Clinical Research Initiatives: FARIL Clinical Research Initiatives give fellows the opportunity to engage in cutting-edge, focused research in key areas of foot and ankle care. These include Minimally Invasive Surgery (MIS), the Program for Research in Sustainable Medicine (PRiSM), Value-Based Healthcare (VBHC), Bioengineering and Device Development (BDD), Weightbearing CT Research (Ankle Insight 3D) and Artificial Intelligence (FIXUS) initiatives. Each initiative is designed to address specific clinical, economic, and sustainability challenges in orthopedics. By working within these specialized groups, fellows can deepen their expertise, contribute to high-impact studies and help shape the future of patient-centered, evidence-based foot and ankle care.

FARIL International

FARIL International is a global initiative of the Foot & Ankle Research and Innovation Lab (FARIL) that fosters collaboration among surgeons, researchers, scientists, and key stakeholders dedicated to advancing foot and ankle orthopedic care. Its primary goals are to promote international knowledge exchange, drive multicentric research and innovation, and strengthen global partnerships in the field. Currently, FARIL has international ambassadors in Belgium, The Netherlands, Turkey, and India. A hallmark of FARIL International is its annual meeting, which brings together leading experts from around the world to share cutting-edge research, surgical techniques, and innovative solutions. The inaugural FARIL International Conference was held in Istanbul, Turkey, in 2025, and the upcoming meeting will take place in Chandigarh, India, in 2026. For our clinical fellows, FARIL International offers a unique opportunity to learn from internationally recognized surgeons and scientists, share their own experiences, expand their professional network, and actively participate in collaborative research and innovation projects with a truly global reach.

For more information about the researchers, research projects, publications, events, and other initiatives, visit FARIL Website at <https://faril.mgh.harvard.edu/> or scan the QR code below:



Hospital and Service Information

For more information about our hospitals and service in general, please visit our websites:

www.massgeneral.org/orthopaedics

www.massgeneral.org/orthopaedics/foot-ankle

www.nwh.org/orthopaedics/orthopaedic-surgery

<https://faril.mgh.harvard.edu/>

Alumni (Clinical)

We maintain great relationships with all our former clinical fellows. Please feel free to contact any of them. Some of our more recent graduates are listed below:

Current Fellows:

Dr. Avinesh Agarwalla – aagarwalla@mgb.org

Dr. Valerie Carbajal – vcarbajal@mgb.org

Dr. Manon Pigeolet – mpigeolet@mgb.org

Past Fellows:

** = Academic position * = Private practice or private academic position

Nicole Arcand, MD*

Fellowship Year: 2008-2009

Norwich Orthopedic Group, CT

Phone: 860-889-7345

Adam Brodsky, MD*

Fellowship Year: 2005-2006

Orthopedic Surgery & Sports Medicine, CT

Phone: 203-323-7331

Lorena Bejarano-Pineda**

Fellowship Year: 2020-2021

Massachusetts General Brigham

Phone: 617-724-9338

Tonya Dixon, MD**

Fellowship Year: 2016-2017

University of Cincinnati Medical Center, OH

Chief, Division of Foot & Ankle Surgery

Phone: 513-584-1000

Dr. Rohan Bhimani**

Fellowship Year: 2023-2024

University of Texas Health Physicians

Orthopaedics at Memorial Hermann

Austin Davidson, MD**

Fellowship Year: 2019-2020

Knoxville Orthopaedic Clinic

Phone: 865-558-4400

Dr. Bernard Burgesson**

Fellowship Year: 2023-2024

Queen Elizabeth II Health Sciences Center

Phone: 613-449-4990

Mark Drakos, MD**

Fellowship Year: 2009-2010
Hospital of Special Surgery, NY
Team physician: New York Knicks & UFC
Phone: 212-606-1112

Todd Fellars, MD**

Fellowship Year: 2012-2013
Naval Medical Center San Diego, CA
Chief, Division of Foot & Ankle Surgery,
Department of Orthopaedics

Melissa Gross, MD

Fellowship Year: 2024-2025
Completing 2nd Fellowship

Nasser Heyrani, MD**

Fellowship Year: 2019-2020
Corona-Temecula Orthopaedic Associates
Phone: (951)735-6060

Julie Johnson, MD*

Fellowship Year: 2011-2012
Desert Orthopedic Center, NV
Phone: 760-568-2684

Paul Kerner, MD*

Fellowship Year: 2007-2008
Triangle Ortho, NC
Team physician for USA Men's Lacrosse
Phone: 919-846-3938

Jaeyoung Kim, MD

Fellowship Year: 2024-2025
Completing 3rd Fellowship

Lauren Lewis, MD, MPH**

Fellowship Year: 2022-2023
University of Pittsburgh Medical Center
Phone: 340-332-6030

Adel Mahjoub, MD*

Fellowship Year, 2024-2025
Albany, NY

Tony Mechrefe, MD*

Fellowship Year: 2006-2007
Kent Hospital, RI
Phone: 401-738-3777

Timothy Miller, MD*

Fellowship Year: 2013-2014
KSF Orthopedic Center, OH
Phone: 281-440-6960

Daniel Moon, MD**

Fellowship Year: 2015-2016
University of Colorado Sports Medicine
and Performance Center, CO
Foot & Ankle Service
Phone: 720-670-7506

Brandon Morris, MD*

Fellowship Year: 2018-2019
University of Kansas Medical Center, KS
Phone: 970-420-5855

Damien Richardson, MD**

Fellowship Year: 2018-2019
Newport Orthopaedic Institute, CA
Phone: 415-730-8121

Bryan Vopat, MD**

Fellowship Year: 2015-2016
University of Kansas Medical Center
Foot & Ankle Service, Department of
Orthopaedics
Team physician: Kansas City Chiefs
Phone: 785-658-5355

Scott Van Valkenburg, MD**

Fellowship Year: 2013-2014
SUNY Upstate Medical University, NY
Foot & Ankle Service
Phone: 315-464-4472

Philip Walton, MD*

Fellowship Year: 2014-2015
Resurgens Orthopedics, GA
Phone: 770-962-4300

Gregory Waryasz, MD*

Fellowship Year: 2017-2018
Massachusetts General Hospital, MA
Phone: 781-487-4338

Jonathon Wolf, MD*

Fellowship Year: 2014-2015
West Idaho Orthopedics and Sports
Medicine, ID
Phone: 208-869-3666

Katherine Xie, MD*

Fellowship Year: 2022-2023
Phoenix, AZ
Phone: 901-428-7194

Dr. Ayesha Yahya*

Fellowship Year: 2023-2024
OrthoCincy Orthopaedics & Sports, OH
613-608-1153

Mark Yakavonis, MD**

Fellowship Year: 2017-2018
Yale New Haven Health, CT
Phone: 203-869-1145

For More Information

You are welcome and encouraged to contact Marta Hyatt or Daniel Guss with any questions. Their contact information can be found below. Please note, in compliance with the SF match code of conduct, all answers to questions need to be done in a public format. Therefore, the answers to any questions will be sent to all fellows who interviewed.

Contact Information

Fellowship Director:

Daniel Guss, MD, MBA
Assistant Professor, Harvard Medical School
Department of Orthopaedic Surgery
Division of Foot & Ankle Surgery
Massachusetts General Hospital & Newton Wellesley Hospital
Email: dg910@mggh.harvard.edu
Phone: 1-617-643-5701

Fellowship Coordinators:

Mrs. Marta Hyatt
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52 Second Avenue
Blue Building , Suite 1150
Waltham, MA 02451
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Phone: 617-643-5701