The Power of Not Knowing

“I was gratified to be able to answer promptly. I said I don’t know”

Mark Twain

I am constantly seeking information from others. Although most people are all too eager to share their knowledge or opinions, experience has made me hesitant to willingly accept whatever I’m told until it has been substantiated. However, there is a rare response that always gets my attention, and merits my immediate acceptance and respect… when someone says, “I don’t know”.

We live in a world where “to not know” is perceived by many as a sign of weakness, indifference, inaptitude, or, worse yet, ignorance. Whether the enquiry emanates from patients, colleagues, students, family, or acquaintances, our willingness to openly acknowledge when we simply don’t know can be very powerful.

The need to constantly “know” is especially ubiquitous in an environment as highly revered, and competitive, as medicine. As healthcare professionals, it’s understandable that we are continually striving to appease (or possibly impress) others, while often inadvertently promoting (or perhaps protecting) ourselves. Assuming there is no intent to deceive, I can’t imagine any declaration that’s more authoritative than “I don’t know”. I can’t imagine anyone more esteemed than an individual who disregards what others may think of them in favor of what they know about themselves.

Moreover, “I don’t know” is not a static response. This simple admission spares all parties from any degree of delusion, and affirms that a quest for the actual facts must be maintained. Furthermore, for anyone who can readily state, “I don’t know”, this phrase lends considerable credence to whatever knowledge they profess to have.

So, when we really don’t know the answer, we shouldn’t be defensive, embarrassed, or conciliatory. We can just say, “I don’t know”.

2014 Texas Orthopaedic Association Quiz Bowl Winners

Congratulations to Omkar Dave, MD (PGY5) and Daniel Torres, MD (PGY5) of the UTMB Department of Orthopaedic Surgery and Rehabilitation (DOSR), for their triumph in the Regional Resident Quiz Bowl, held at the Annual Meeting of the Texas Orthopaedic Association in San Antonio, April 12, 2014. All of the 12 Orthopaedic Surgery Residency Training programs in Texas are invited to participate. UTMB has won 5 of the 12 Regional Resident Quiz Bowls since its inception in 2003.


Lindsey RW. Degenerative changes in the atlanto-dens joint and dens fractures in the elderly: close relatives or just neighbors?: a commentary on an article by Matthew S. Shinseki et al.: "Association between advanced degenerative changes of the atlanto-dens joint and presence of dens fracture." J Bone Joint Surg Am. 2014 May 7;96(9):e78.


**Presentations**


Honors and Awards

Eighteen UTMB doctors made the list of *H Magazine’s “Houston’s Top Doctors”* including Niki L. Caryannopoulos, DO from DOSR.

Fourth year medical student Maxim Danilevich won Best Poster Presentation in Orthopedics and 3rd place for Outstanding Poster Presentation at the 2014 National Student Research Forum (NSRF) for “3D Extraction and Summation of Cadaver Skeleton for Database Assembly and Future Experimentation.”

Brandon Perez, MD was this year’s DOSR nominee for the UTMB 2014 Outstanding Resident Award.

Ronald W. Lindsey, MD was named one of America’s Top Orthopedists for 2014 by the Consumer Research Council of America.

Ortho News

On Saturday, June 21, UTMB hosted its Fourth Annual Sports Screening at the Victory Lakes Specialty Care Center. This community outreach event provides school sports and athletic activity screening physical examinations for area youngsters.

On June 17-18, Grayson Moore, MD (PGY4) attended the American Orthopedic Association Resident Leadership Forum in Montreal, Canada.
2014 G.W.N. Eggers Lectureship

The Annual G.W.N. Eggers Lectureship provides an opportunity for residents, faculty, and alumni to present their original research and discuss many of the controversial or challenging issues confronting current clinical orthopedic practice. This year’s meeting was held on April 3-4 at the Galveston Island Convention Center, and chaired by Ronald W. Lindsey, MD.

Scientific Program

The alumni, guest and student participants in the scientific program were:

Jeffrey E. Budoff, MD, “Carpal Instability”

Sean T. Burns, MD, “Making It as a One-Man Trauma Team - Tips and Tricks to Getting It Done with Minimal Assistance”

Danielle J. Casagrande, MD, “Musculoskeletal Considerations During Pregnancy”

Jose Cobos, MD, “Compartment Syndrome as a Complication of Routine Knee Arthroscopy”

Steven D. Eggleston, MD, “Issues and Dilemmas Related to Private General Orthopaedic Practice”

Aaron M. Gray, BA, “Association of Cruciate Ligament Injury and Oral Contraceptive Use in Young Women”

Malone V. Hill, MD, “Not Everything New is an Advancement”

Steven M. Kane, MD, “Orthopedic Surgery, from Rock and Hammer to Femtosecond Technologies and Cellular-Level Manipulation: A Peek over the Horizon of Orthopedic Cellular Research”

Stefan Kreuzer, MD, “Factors Affecting Knee Stability: Is Kinematic Alignment the Solution?”

Rita M. Patterson, PhD, “Carpal Biomechanics and Kinematics after Scapholunate Instability”

Guest Speaker Suman K. Smith, Vice President, University of Texas, Medical Branch, Department of Revenue Cycle Operations, “Renderings from Revenue Cycle”

Distinguished Guest Lecturer Edward Akelman, MD, Vice Chair and Professor of Orthopedics, Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University presented a Keynote lecture entitled “Has the Teaching Paradigm Shifted? The Future of Orthopedic Education in a Digital World.” Dr. Akelman also presented a lecture in the Scientific Program entitled “Dupuytren’s Disease: New Concepts for an Old Disease.”

Steven M. Kane, MD, “Orthopedic Surgery, from Rock and Hammer to Femtosecond Technologies and Cellular-Level Manipulation: A Peek over the Horizon of Orthopedic Cellular Research”

Stefan Kreuzer, MD, “Factors Affecting Knee Stability: Is Kinematic Alignment the Solution?”

Rita M. Patterson, PhD, “Carpal Biomechanics and Kinematics after Scapholunate Instability”

Guest Speaker Suman K. Smith, Vice President, University of Texas, Medical Branch, Department of Revenue Cycle Operations, “Renderings from Revenue Cycle”
Former Eggers Society President and local Orthopaedic surgeon (retired) George Cox, MD, was the recipient of the 2nd Annual E. Burke Evans Award. This award is given each year to the individual who has inspired in others a devotion to the spirit that characterized our beloved Dr. Evans.

UTMB Medical Student Research Session

Ronak Patel, BS, Brendan Lee, MD PhD, “Cross-Sectional Multicenter Study of Patients with Osteogenesis Imperfecta in North America”

Laurie Jansky, BS, Zbigniew Gugala, MD, PhD, “Total Knee and Hip Arthroplasty for Osteoarthritis in Patients with Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus”

Kenneth Kenneth-Nwosa, BS, William L. Buford, Jr., PhD, PE, “Three-Dimensional Strain Analysis of the Forearm Interosseous Membrane through Supination and Pronation”


Resident Presentations

Omkar H. Dave, MD, Karan A. Patel, BS, Clark R. Andersen, MS, Kelly D. Carmichael, MD, “Number of Surgical Procedures Needed for Eradication of Infection in Septic Arthritis of the Knee.”

Dorothy Y. Harris, MD, Jillian K. McAngus, BS, Ronald W. Lindsey, MD, “Postoperative Complication Grade and Early Adverse Outcomes in Primary Joint Replacement.”

Brandon Perez, MD, Brian Smith, MD, Zbigniew Gugala, MD, PhD, Ronald W. Lindsey, MD, “The Effect of Tourniquet Cuff Inflation Pressure on Tissue Oxygen Recovery.” Awarded the Lockhart Award for Best Resident Presentation.


Daniel Torres, MD, Zbigniew Gugala MD, PhD, and Ronald W. Lindsey, MD, “The Impact of a Dedicated Resident Research Program on the Quantity and Quality of Peer-Reviewed Publications Among Orthopedic Surgery Residents.”
On Friday, June 27, 2014, the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery and Rehabilitation held its resident graduation ceremonies at the Galveston Island Convention Center. Our Distinguished Guest Lecturer was Joseph D. Zuckerman, MD, Walter A. L. Thompson Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery; Professor and Chair, Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, New York University Hospital for Joint Diseases. Dr. Zuckerman presented a luncheon lecture entitled “Prosthetic Replacement for Glenohumeral Arthritis.”

**Graduating Residents:**

Omkar Dave, MD - Sports Medicine Fellowship, Mississippi Sports Medicine and Orthopaedic Center, Jackson, MS.

Dorothy Harris, MD - Pediatric Fellowship, Texas Children’s Hospital, Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, TX.

Brandon Perez, MD - Joints Fellowship, Triangle Orthopaedics Associates, P.A., Durham, NC.

Daniel Torres, MD - Hand Fellowship, UPMC Hamot, Erie, PA.

**Annual Resident Awards:**

Outstanding Resident Nominee: Brandon Perez, MD

Golden Bone Excellence in Teaching Award: Omkar Dave, MD, Cory Janney, MD, Nicholas Vance, MD

Open Growth Plate Excellence in Pediatric Orthopaedics Award: Brandon Perez, MD

Weekly Conference Attendance Award: Jason Griffin, MD, Fred Speck, MD

Orthopaedic In-Training Examination, 2013 OITE Master Award: Nicholas Vance, MD

Orthopaedic In-Training Examination, Highest Raw Score Award: Omkar Dave, MD

Weekly Reading Program Examination Excellence Award: Jamie Alexander, MD, Aaron Schrayer, MD

Operation Rainbow Mission Service Commendations: Brandon Perez, MD, Christopher Sheu, MD
2014 Resident Graduation

Graduation Reception
The Medical Student Summer Research Program (MSSRP), an 8-week elective rotation at the end of the first year, provides an opportunity for students to spend time in a research setting working on a their own project. At the completion of the MSSRP program, students present their projects at a UTMB scientific poster competition. This year, eight 1st year medical students worked with DOSR mentors on research projects that were presented at the MSSRP forum on June 27, 2014.

**David Brown, BS**, “Sex Differences in Knee Flexion Angle During a Rapid Change of Direction While Running.” Mentors: **Brian A. Smith, MD, Christopher Sheu, MD, Aaron Gray, BA.**

**Mehdi Faraji, BS**, “Cerebral Palsy Severity, SPML Re-operation and Socioeconomic Status.” Mentor: **David Yngve, MD.**


**Jack Johnson, BS**, “Incidence Of Low-lying Peroneus Brevis Muscle Belly And Shallow Retrofibular Groove In Patients With And Without Peroneal Tendinopathy.” Mentors: **Vinod Panchbhavi, MD, FACS, Glenn M. Garcia, MD.**

**Matt Mackay, BS**, “A Comparison of Three Suture Techniques for Achilles Tendon Repair Using a Knotless Barbed Suture.” Mentors: **Vinod K. Panchbhavi, MD, FACS, Randal P. Morris, BS.**

**Alberto Oseguera, BS, ATC**, “CT Density Analysis of 2nd Metatarsal to Determine Optimal Screw Trajectory for Lisfranc Ligament Injury Fixation.” Mentors: **Vinod K. Panchbhavi, MD, FACS, Randal P. Morris, BS.**

**Ramon P. Saucedo, BA**, “Mechanical Validation of CT Density Analysis-Derived Screw Placement Position in Repair of Lisfranc Injuries.” Mentors: **Vinod K. Panchbhavi, MD, FACS, Randal P. Morris, BS; Co-Author: Alberto Oseguera, BS.**

**Kurt Van Wagenen, BS**, “Minimally Invasive Method of Harvesting the Flexor Hallucis Longus Tendon: A Cadaver Study.” Mentors: **Vinod K. Panchbhavi, MD, FACS, Randal P. Morris, BS. Awarded Best Overall Clinical Sciences Poster.**
April 23, 2014, Robert Satcher, MD, PhD, NASA Astronaut and Assistant Professor, Orthopaedic Oncology, Division of Surgery, The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX. Dr Satcher’s lecture was entitled “Orthopaedics and Astronauts: An Evolving Story” and sponsored by the Emergency Room Lectureship.

May 14, 2014, Stanley Gertzbein MD, FRCS, Aspen Orthopaedic Associates, Assistant Clinical Professor, Department of Orthopedic Surgery, University of Colorado, Clinical Professor, Department of Orthopedic Surgery and Rehabilitation, UTMB, gave a lecture sponsored by the DOSR’s Emergency Room Lectureship in Orthopaedics and was entitled “Spinal Instability.”

May 14, 2014, Sanford A. Rubin, MD, Ashbel Smith Distinguished Alumnus, Department of Radiology, The University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, TX gave a lecture entitled “Advanced Medical Resources Intraoperative Monitoring.”

May 21, 2014, C. Glen Mayhall, MD, Professor, Director, Infection Control and Hospital Epidemiology, Department of Internal Medicine, Division of Infectious Diseases, UTMB, lectured on the “Prevention of Surgical Site Infections of Total Hip and Total Knee Prostheses in Orthopedic Surgery.”

June 18, 2014, James Muntz, MD, FACP, Clinical Professor, Baylor College of Medicine and Weill Cornell Medical College, Houston, TX, Ironman Sports Medicine Institute, The Medical Center, The University of Texas Health Science Center, Houston, TX, lectured on “Deep Vein Thrombosis Prophylaxis and Treatment in the Orthopaedic Patient.”

June 26, 2014, Fred H. Olin, DVM, MD, Caldarola & Olin Mds in San Antonio, TX, gave a lecture sponsored by the DOSR’s Emergency Room Lectureship in Orthopaedics and entitled “Orthopaedics in Veterinary Medicine.”
Operation Rainbow

In April, 2014, Kelly Carmichael, MD, and Christopher Sheu, MD (PGY 4) visited Guatemala as part of a mission by the non-profit organization Operation Rainbow to provide orthopaedic care to indigent children and young adults in developing countries. The volunteer team evaluated clinic patients and performed specialized orthopaedic surgical procedures over a four-day period.

Voluntary Faculty

Oladapo A. Alade, MD
Charlotte B. Alexander, MD
Jeffrey Baker, PhD
James Bennett, MD
James Bocell, MD
Mark Brinker, MD
Taylor Brown, MD
William L. Buford, Jr., PhD
George Cox, MD
Marc DeHart, MD
Allen Deutsch, MD
Andrew Ebert, MD
Bradley Edwards, MD
David W. Edelstein, MD
Daniel Eidman, MD
Gary Gartsman, MD

Stanley Gertzbein, MD
Tyler Goldberg, MD
William Granberry, MD
Thomas Greider, MD
Joseph Gugenheim, MD
Alexander Hadjipavlou, MD
Eric Heinrich, MD
John A. Hipp, PhD
Omer Ilahi, MD
Don Johnson, MD
Robert Josey III, MD
Anand Joshi, MD
John Knecht, DPM
Marc Labbe, MD
Glenn C. Landon, MD
Loren Latta, PhD

Adrian LeBlanc, PhD
Bonnie Simpson Mason, MD
Vasilios Mathews, MD
Anita Mercado, MD
Anthony Muffoletto, MD
Haring Nauta, MD
Jose Nolla, MD
Okay Onan, MD
Daniel O’Neill, MD
Manish Patel, MD
Rita Patterson, PhD
Michael Putney, MD
J. Clark Race, MD
David Randall, MD
Eric R. Santos, MD
Walter Sassard, MD

L. Edward Seade, MD
Jack Seaquist, MD
Jean Sibonga, PhD
Sherwin Siff, MD
Todd Siff, MD
Terry Siller, MD
James Simmons III, DO
James Simmons, Jr., MD
Roy Smith, MD
Gregory Stocks, MD
Nicholas Tsourmas, MD
Gregg Vagner, MD
William Watters III, MD
Jeffrey M. Whelan, MD
Suzanne Yandow, MD

More to come in the next issue of the Newsletter...

To view previous issues of the newsletter, please visit: http://www.utmb.edu/ortho/newsletter/
Comments, suggestions, and queries on the Newsletter or Website can be addressed to: rmorris@utmb.edu