

ACFAS 2021 Virtual Fellowship Fair: Get to Know the Fellow Questionnaire



American College of
Foot and Ankle Surgeons®

Fellow Name: Alton R. Johnson DPM, CWSP

Fellowship Program: University of Pennsylvania- Penn Presbyterian Medical Center
Podiatric Medicine and Surgery Clinical Research Fellowship

City/State: Philadelphia, PA

Program Director: D. Scot Malay DPM, MSCE, FACFAS

How many Attendings do you work with regularly?

3

Describe the diversity of your cases so far in fellowship. (For example, has your experience included TAR? Is there an emphasis on: Pediatrics? Sports Medicine? Deformity correction? Complex reconstruction? What percentage of your cases are trauma? Rearfoot/ankle? Forefoot? Please be as descriptive as you'd like.

Our Fellowship is a Clinical Research and Wound Care Fellowship with an emphasis on clinical practice management and podiatric clinical research.

However, the preoperative and post operative management is handled by the Clinical Research Fellow.

Cases vary from orthoplastics, TAR, Pediatric, Limb Deformity, Diabetic Limb Salvage and Trauma.

How many days per week do you typically spend in the OR? In clinic? Do you have your own "fellow" clinic?

I typically work 5-6 shifts (~ 3.5 days) a week in the private office and Wound Care Center.

which is about 50% of the time in clinical setting and 50% of the time in protective research.

Currently, we do not have a "fellow" clinic session.



How many surgical cases do you typically scrub per month?

N/A varies at our program due to the nature of the curriculum.

What conferences have you attended/are you encouraged to attend?

I have attended the PRESENT ResEd Summit, ACFAS, and SAWC conferences.

How would you describe your director's teaching style?

Dr. Malay has a relaxed teaching style with lots of autonomy and earned trust. Great at giving feedback in all aspects.

Lots of discussion based learning occurs in all settings with Dr. Malay.

How is research incorporated into your experience? What resources are provided/available?

Research is the emphasis of our program. We have unlimited research resources.

Being at a large institution with a medical library helps research activities and having director that's a formally trained biostatistician.

Do you take any "call"? If so, how often? What type of call? (general vs. trauma, hospital vs. private practice?)

No Call requirements.

How many hospitals/surgery centers are you credentialed at?

1 hospital (Penn Presbyterian Medical Center)

What is your didactic schedule like? What academic opportunities are available to you during fellowship? (Cadaver labs, journal club, radiology conference, etc.)

Yes, Cadaver Lab, Journal club and Radiology conference are held monthly.

Our Journal Club is very unique with a methodical approach to digesting the content.

Is your fellowship affiliated with a residency program? If yes, what are your responsibilities?

How often are you interacting with residents (What % of cases?)

Yes, educate and train the residents as best as possible especially in clinical and research settings. Interacting is about 80% of the time in clinical setting. 100% in surgery.



Are you able to collect cases for board certification?

No

When should interested applicants visit? What does a visit look like?

Most candidates visit a year before but anytime is fine. Even virtual visits are

A visit involves meeting the director, fellows, and medical staff. Tour as well.

What is the interview process like at your program?

One on One Interview with the Program Director. Very Personable.

Do you have a co-fellow? What percentage of your cases are scrubbed with them?

Yes. None.

What support is available for finding post-fellowship employment?

You get the full support of the Director and Attending Physicians.

My cofellow and I are employed starting July 1. The previous graduate fellow is Program Faculty.

What qualities make an applicant a good fit for your program?

Have to truly enjoy research to appreciate this fellowship.

Self-motivated, goal-oriented and patient.

Why did you apply for fellowship? And why did you choose your fellowship program?

To be the best you have to learn from the best. Dr. Malay

is a well known podiatric surgeon, researcher, biostatistician, and editor.

Any advice for future fellowship applicants?

Contact me or my cofellow Dr. Adam McDonald DPM AACFAS

It's truly a one of a kind experience. If you like research and/or wound care it will be a great fit.

