

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



American College of  
Foot and Ankle Surgeons®

Fellow Name:

Jessica Andrews, DPM

Fellowship Program:

Rocky Mountain Reconstructive Foot and Ankle Surgery Fellowship

City/State:

Denver, CO

Program Director:

Alan Ng, DPM

How many Attendings do you work with regularly?

Five attendings: Alan Ng, DPM, Keith Jacobson, DPM, Brett Sachs, DPM

Scott Carrington, DPM, David Hahn, MD

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.

We have a very diverse case load here; the fellowship primarily focuses on complex reconstruction/revision surgery but there is also a large volume of elective forefoot and hindfoot surgery. Trauma accounts for <10% of the case volume.

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

Three days in the OR and 2 days in clinic. On Fridays there is a fellow clinic where you see your own patients and can book your own surgery.



How many surgical cases do you typically scrub per month?

40-50 cases

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

ACFAS, AOFAS

How would you describe your director's teaching style?

Dr. Ng lets you be very hands-on in the OR. He is good at explaining how he likes to do things and he likes to demonstrate so you have a full understanding.

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

You are required to do a research project during your year and you have access to statisticians/research specialists at PSL if you need assistance.

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

I am on call for Dr. Ng and Dr. Jacobson's patients 24/7. This is just call for patient questions; no ER or floor consults. I get about ~3 calls per week.

How many hospitals/surgery centers are you credentialed at?

4 hospitals and 4 surgery centers

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

Monday/Thursday evenings you participate in PSL/Highlands academics. Monday night is journal club and Thursday is student/resident/fellow lectures.

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; PSL/Highlands. I double scrub Dr. Ng's cases with the third year residents and we split cases evenly.



Are you able to collect cases for board certification?

Yes, any cases that you do on your own can count toward your boards.

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

We have visitors from July-September. They come on Mondays or Wednesdays for the day to shadow Dr. Ng in the OR.

What is the interview process like at your program?

We send interview invites at the end of September and then conduct interviews virtually in mid October. We typically interview 6-8 applicants.

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

No

What support is available for finding post-fellowship employment?

All of the attendings are very well connected and are happy to reach out to their colleagues to help you find employment.

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

We are looking for someone who has a solid surgical foundation, someone who is teachable, and easy to get along with.

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

I wanted to spend a year learning in a different environment/patient population from residency. Working with 5 different attendings was appealing to me.

Any advice for future fellowship applicants?

Contact the current fellows from the programs you are interested in to find out about application time lines. There is no standardization for application deadlines/interviews and some fellowships choose their fellow a lot earlier than their application deadline.

