

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



American College of
Foot and Ankle Surgeons®

Fellow Name:

Mira Pandya

Fellowship Program:

South Central Pennsylvania Reconstructive Foot and Ankle Fellowship

City/State:

Lancaster, PA

Program Director:

Dr. Michael Younes

How many Attendings do you work with regularly?

There are 12 attendings in the practice. The fellowship is divided into two rotations:

East and West. Who you work with primarily depends on location and varies between

4-6 attendings. There is cross-coverage between rotations throughout the year.

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.

Elective reconstruction of entire foot and ankle, flatfoot, cavus foot, untreated fractures now resulted in deformity, ligament reconstruction, arthroscopy, OCD repairs, Charcot reconstruction, peripheral nerve surgery. Do get some exposure to TARs.

Not as much acute trauma, however do receive occasional "gentleman's trauma".

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

Fellow's clinic runs alongside director's clinic when you are on the East rotation, and primarily on Mon-Tues depending on surgery schedule on the West rotation. Your weekly surgery schedule varies depending on attendings' block times, thus some weeks you may in the OR 3-5 days. When not in OR, you're in clinic. Good balance of both.



How many surgical cases do you typically scrub per month?

Will usually average 30-40. Covid had definitely affected the case volume in the Start of the year, however this has improved.

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

ACFAS Annual Conference, any other Fellows' courses that are held throughout the Year, local and regional labs/lectures, frequently invited to labs with nearby residency +

How would you describe your director's teaching style?

Very open to discussion regarding surgical/treatment plan, loves to teach in clinic and in OR. He wants the fellow to be hands on in the OR and clinic, excellent teaching skills. +

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

Can work on research throughout the year; the billing team can run CPTs/pull patient data easily. You can discuss with attendings regarding any ideas you have

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

Every other weekend call with co-fellow. Attendings divide weekday call & when fellows Are away at courses. Local practices share call schedule at hospitals. +

How many hospitals/surgery centers are you credentialed at?

East side: 1 surgery center, 2 hospitals, although you only go to 1 of the hospitals

West side: 2 hospitals, 3 surgery centers

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

2x/month meeting w/ attendings: review practice mgmt with managers, case reviews& journal club. Quarterly: Practice financial review; billing review. Industry cadaver labs

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

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

No residency program affiliation



Are you able to collect cases for board certification?

Yes, you can book your own cases in the office thru fellow's clinic which can count Towards board certification. All cases performed through call can count as well.

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

Feb-June of 2nd year. Visits involve spending a day with Dr. Younes and one of the current fellows on a clinic day, meet some of the staff. OR/surgery center not allowing visitors.

What is the interview process like at your program?

Visit encouraged. Dr. Younes and attendings will review applications. Initial interview via Zoom, a few case work ups. You will be contacted for final visit to meet rest of attendings

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

Yes - <5% of cases, depending on complexity of case, we may ask co-fellow to join for learning purposes.

What support is available for finding post-fellowship employment?

Attendings will gladly reach out to colleagues to assist in job search; go over contracts and negotiations ; will breakdown what you should be asking during job search

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

Motivated, organized, hard working, willing to learn, personable

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

Successful private practice that provides excellent experience in surgery (elective recon, sports med, Charcot, peripheral nerve surgery) & clinic/billing & coding

Any advice for future fellowship applicants?

If you're looking for a program that is well rounded with surgery and clinic, looking to advance your billing/coding skills and learn how to efficiently run a practice, come visit the program or contact us to learn more. Be yourself and be honest!

