Transforming patient information into patient understanding.

All coaches are constantly stressing the concept of THE TEAM. Coaches say it is not about them, but rather the team as a whole. If the many interrelated parts are working together it leads to success i.e. winning.

It has been known for a very long time that the same ideas apply to Orthopaedic Surgery.

We could not possibly do what we do without – The Team. It is time to tell you about the whole team and what they do.

HEAD COACH
Orthopaedic Surgeon

Fifteen years of formal education and training after high school before you get a regular job! Medical School at the University of Michigan, Orthopaedic Surgery Residency at the Cleveland Clinic. I was 32 years old when I started Orthopaedic Surgery practice.

Orthopaedic Surgeons are trained in the education and treatment of the musculoskeletal system from the top of the neck (C1) to the toes.

We specialize in the diagnosis and treatment (both surgical and nonsurgical), rehabilitation and prevention of injuries of the bones, joints, ligaments, tendons, muscles and nerves.

Some of my colleagues in larger cities specialize in a particular area of Orthopaedics such as spine, hand, knee and hip, pediatrics and other areas.

No specialty covers a larger or more comprehensive part of the human body than Orthopaedic Surgery.

ASSISTANT COACHES
Orthopaedic Physician Assistant

In the case of my office it is Mr. Pat Finn, B.S., PAC. His physician assistant training is a masters degree program. He has had great experience in the evaluation and treatment of musculoskeletal problems and has been in practice for many years.

Physical Therapists

Physical Therapists are members of the team who have in most cases received college training at the Masters level and beyond. The therapist helps our patients relieve pain and regain function through therapeutic exercise and countless other techniques and modalities.

PT assistants are skilled providers who work under a PT’s supervision. They complete a 2 year associate degree and are an invaluable help to the therapist.

Occupational Therapists

OTs work in tandem with PTs to treat people who because of injury or illness are not able to perform tasks of independent living. Many OTs specialize in treatment and rehabilitation of the hand and upper extremity. They are highly trained college graduates with advanced training, post graduation.

Athletic Trainers

A certified athletic trainer has earned a bachelors degree and sometimes a masters. They assist athletes in the prevention and rehabilitation of injuries. They are intimately involved in proper athletic
equipment, initial injury treatment, bracing and taping and rehabilitation of all athletic injuries and problems. They are certified by a national examination.

Well, there you have an overview of the musculoskeletal TEAM.
Space does not permit acknowledging individually the countless other health care personnel that we heavily depend on.
   Nurses in the hospital and clinic
   Administrative personnel
   Orthotists who deal in bracing for our patients
   Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation physicians

The TEAM is probably much more extensive than you had imagined.
The goal of any athletic team is to win.
Winning for our Musculoskeletal/Orthopaedic team is the goal I always close with.
Our goal is simple – To help people return to more pain free functional lives. When that happens, the patient wins and the Team does as well!

*My patients put their trust in me and what I do improves the quality of their lives.*

Office Website and Gratiot County Herald Archive
What if there was a whole world of musculoskeletal information at one place? There is!
   www.orthopodsurgeon.com opens up for you the office website, Your Orthopaedic Connection and the Archive of all previous GCH articles I have written for you, your family and friends.
Please check it out. Do yourself a favor.
Be well.
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Dr. Haverbush