

University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center
Interprofessional Education Experiences

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Orthopaedic and Sports PT residents are paired together with medical residents and fellows in a number of interprofessional learning opportunities. Active learning is promoted through PT resident participation in six one-hour musculoskeletal examination seminars that take place throughout the year, covering cervical spine, lumbar spine, shoulder, hip, knee, and ankle/foot. The seminars are offered primarily to educate first year medical residents in orthopaedic surgery and family practice. PT or medical school faculty provide a brief didactic overview of the regional MSK exam, followed by an interactive session for practicing key examination tests. PT residents serve as teaching assistants during the lab portion of the seminars, just as they do in the musculoskeletal courses for the DPT curriculum.

This **layered learning experience** is then continued and expanded in the clinical setting. PT residents attend twelve half-days of clinic with faculty in orthopaedic surgery for additional mentoring and practice with examination and evaluation skills. After completing this experience, PT residents serve as preceptors to first year medical residents in family practice and fellows in rheumatology. These physicians-in-training spend four half-days in the physical therapy clinic for mentoring and practice with MSK examination, evaluation, and education on basic physical therapy management. PT residents have reflected that these experiences are among the most valuable learning opportunities available in our residency programs.