

EVOLUTION OF ORTHOPAEDIC CARE

In 1941, Evansville orthopaedic surgeon Dr. Joseph Lawrence — who went on to form Orthopaedic Associates in 1948 — made national news by treating a local child suffering from infantile paralysis. The Evansville Courier reported that Dr. Lawrence visited Minnesota to study the “Nurse Kenny” treatment performed at Minneapolis General Hospital. Returning home, he applied what he learned to his 13-year-old patient and set a precedent for quality orthopaedic care in Southern Indiana.

Orthopaedic care has evolved in the past 80-plus years, and just as OA has solidified its standing by incorporating in 1969 and expanding its practice by adding providers with a wide range of specialties, the practice has stayed at the forefront of the latest technology and trends.

OA providers' skill sets come from a wide range of sources. While serving in the U.S. Army, Dr. Daniel Emerson performed hundreds of ACL reconstructions. He learned to perfect the latest advances in surgical management, including anatomic graft placement using the anteromedial portal and doublebundle through a single tunnel.

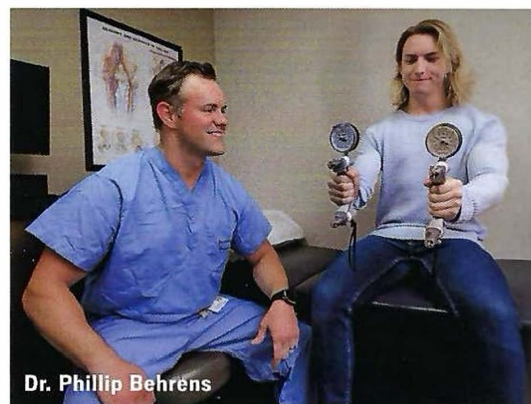
Dr. Tony Czaplicki's total joint fellowship included mentorship from four of the top adult reconstruction surgeons in the world on four different implant systems. Dr. Doug Lowery's fellowship in Vail, Colorado, included treatment of world-class athletes. Dr. James Goris' training involved sideline treatment with several NCAA Division I college and

professional football teams. Each of the surgeons of Orthopaedic Associates has extensive and interesting training from the best schools, facilities, and programs the nation has to offer.

Surgeons also sharpen their skills on the latest tech. One such advancement involves robotic surgery, which several OA surgeons utilize. The robotic system performs precise measuring, allowing the surgeon exceptional accuracy. Assisted by such robotic surgical systems, doctors can perform complex procedures like joint replacements with increased precision, flexibility, and control.

OA providers don't limit advanced technology and techniques to their operating rooms in the Evansville area. They also train other surgeons to employ those same medical approaches with their own patients. For example, Dr. Douglas Lowery teaches the latest minimally invasive surgical techniques in labs around the country. Over the years, he has instructed more than 800 orthopaedic surgeons on innovative arthroscopy and joint replacement related to sports medicine.

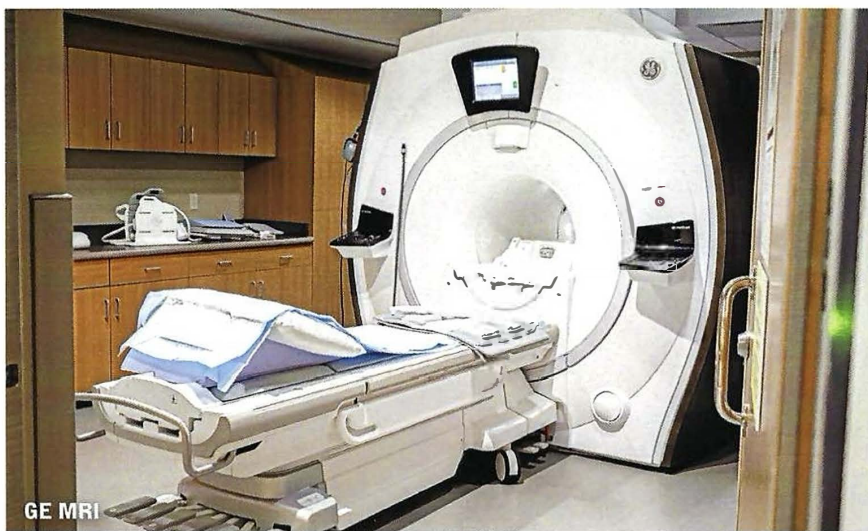
Patients benefit from this dedication to exceptional care. 86 percent of Orthopaedic Associates patients have reported mild or no pain one year after surgery. Humana, the Louisville, Kentucky-based health insurance company, has also recognized OA with its highest rating of efficiency of care with regard to total replacements of knees, hips, and shoulders.



Dr. Phillip Behrens

“The most exciting advancement is likely in robotic total joint replacements. There has been significant progression in robotics over the past five years. It is still in its infancy as far as its potential to improve outcomes. Although I do perform robotic surgery, there isn't really any compelling data that shows that robotic surgery results in a better outcome so far. However, I am curious what robotic joint replacement will look like in 20-30 years.”

—DR. CAMERON METZGER



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1940

Dr. Joseph Lawrence begins his practice in Evansville as an orthopaedic surgeon.

1969

Orthopaedic Associates is incorporated in the state of Indiana.

1962

Dr. Lawrence is named president-elect of the Deaconess Hospital medical staff.

1971

OA moves its office from First Avenue to Harriet Street. Another move to West Columbia Street occurs in 1983.