Dear Medical Students,

Dr. Khaled M. Kebaish is inviting highly motivated medical students to apply for a Clinical Research Fellowship in the Department of Orthopaedic Spine Surgery at the Johns Hopkins Hospital. This fellowship is aimed towards 3rd or 4th-year medical students interested in gaining Orthopaedic Surgery research experience through an immersive program at a top orthopaedic institution. The research fellowship is a paid, one-year position.  
  
Research fellows will be provided with a rich and well-rounded experience which we hope will have a long-lasting impact on their careers. During the year, you will work closely with Dr. Khaled Kebaish, the chief of spine surgery at Johns Hopkins Hospital, as well as other members of the spine division in the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery. Research areas include:  
  
• Single-institution retrospective studies: The spine surgery department has a well-maintained surgical registry including data on patient-reported outcomes which is used for retrospective cohort studies that are presented at national and international conferences. These projects focus on clinical outcomes following surgery for adult spine deformity and other spine disorders.  
  
• International Spine Study Group (ISSG): A unique aspect of this research experience is that you will have the opportunity to participate in research projects led by the internationally recognized ISSG. You will be part of ongoing efforts with leading spine surgeons to answer major questions in adult spinal deformity surgery.  
  
• Multi-center national database research: The department has access to several large databases such as NSQIP, MarketScan, and the Nationwide Inpatient Sample (NIS). If interested, you will receive mentorship from previous research fellows on the statistical skills necessary to use these databases productively.  
  
• Health economics research: The department has several faculty members with expertise in health economics and health policy within the orthopaedic field. Research fellows will be mentored through these projects if interested.  
  
Research fellow responsibilities include:  
  
• Designing research hypotheses and performing literature reviews  
• Drafting, submitting, and maintaining IRB proposals  
• Collecting clinical data and performing statistical analyses  
• Writing and submitting publications  
• Clinic (2 days/week): This involves enrolling patients into prospective trials and following-up on active enrollees.  
  
The Department of Orthopaedic Surgery at Johns Hopkins has weekly educational activities that you are encouraged to take part in. These include weekly grand rounds and monthly journal club. The spine surgery department also has its own weekly journal club, indications conference, and monthly research meetings. Finally, fellows have the opportunity to attend clinics and observe caring for a very unique patient population.  
  
In terms of mentorship, Dr. Kebaish is a world-renowned spine surgeon who has provided excellent mentorship to research fellows in this program for over a decade and has helped successful fellows match into their top residency programs.  
  
Applicants are selected based on previous research experience, interpersonal and organizational skills, and a video or in-person interview. Research fellows typically begin soon after finishing MS3 year, and are expected to work for one calendar year before resuming MS4 year and applying to residency. Applicants finishing MS4 year will also be considered.  
  
Application materials:  
  
• Cover letter  
• CV (including Step 1 and/or Step 2 scores)  
• Letter of recommendation (optional)  
  
Application Deadline: February 28, 2021 (It is highly recommended to submit your application before that time, as applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis)  
  
Interviews: late February/early March (virtual interview)  
  
\*\*Application materials should be sent to [***jhuorthospine@gmail.com***](mailto:jhuorthospine@gmail.com), with the subject line “Research Fellowship Application”

Please contact the email address above for any questions.  
  
Sincerely,  
  
Kevin Y. Wang, BA  
Research Fellow  
Department of Orthopaedic Spine Surgery  
The Johns Hopkins Hospital