



Christopher D. Harner, MD
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Christopher D. Harner, M.D., is Professor and Vice Chair of Academic Affairs and Sports Medicine Fellowship Program Director of the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery at the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston. He is dual certified in both Orthopaedics and Orthopaedic Sports Medicine.

Dr. Harner specializes in Sports Medicine and knee surgery. He has a long history of clinical and basic science research. Over the course of Dr. Harner's basic science research career, he has educated over 200 undergraduate, graduate, medical students, residents and fellows. In his role at the University of Texas Health Science Center, he continues to oversee clinical and basic science studies of knee injury, healing, and surgical repair. Additionally, he assists in developing junior faculty for leadership and research careers in Orthopaedics.

Dr. Harner's clinical and academic leadership in Sports Medicine is evidenced by numerous grants, awards and published scientific articles in clinical and research journals. Awards for his research include the Cabaud Award in 1999 and 2003 and the Excellence in Research Award in 1994 and 2002 from the American Orthopaedic Society for Sports Medicine (AOSSM), the Hughston Best Paper Award from the American Journal of Sports Medicine (AJSM) in 2000, the John Joyce Award from the International Society of Arthroscopy Knee Surgery and Orthopaedic Sports Medicine (ISAKOS) in 2001 and 2002, the Compere Award from the Twentieth Century Orthopaedic Association in 2004, the Rovere Award in 2009 and the O'Donoghue Sports Injury Award in 2011 both from the AOSSM.

His dedication to Orthopaedics and Sports Medicine is marked by his commitment to research and education. He has been the invited Grand Round Visiting Professor to 42 Orthopaedic programs and has been the Distinguished Graduation Visiting Professor for 30 programs. He consistently has been named among The Best Doctors in America: Northeast Region. He has served on the education committees for both, the AOSSM and the Arthroscopy Association of North America (AANA). In addition, Dr. Harner is a member of the editorial review boards for numerous orthopaedic, sports medicine, and

scientific journals. He served as Program Chair for the International Society of Arthroscopy, Knee Surgery, and Orthopaedic Sports Medicine (ISAKOS) in April 2001 in Miami and the Combined American Orthopaedic Association (AOA)/Canadian Orthopaedic Association (COA) Meeting in July 2007 in Quebec City and for the AOSSM Annual Meeting in July 2009 in Keystone, CO. Dr. Harner's leadership in sports medicine was recognized by serving on the AOSSM Board from 2010 to 2015 and he received its highest honor by being named President in 2013. He also served as Herodicus President from 2013-2014.

In 2000, he was appointed to an 11-year term on the Board of Directors of the American Board of Orthopaedic Surgery (ABOS). During that time, he played a key role in Sports Medicine Subspecialty Certification serving as Chairman of the Subspecialty Certification Committee. In addition to his ABOS commitments, he was appointed to a 2-year term on the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons (AAOS) Board of Directors as a Member at Large in February 2007. Currently, he serves on the ISAKOS Executive Committee (2016-18). His most recent accomplishment was being elected to the AOA Presidential Line (2017-2021). In 2019, he will become the 132nd AOA President.

Dr. Harner graduated with high honors from Michigan State University. In 1981, he earned his medical degree from the University of Michigan and went on to do his orthopaedic residency at the University of Pittsburgh. He completed his sports medicine fellowship in Salt Lake City in 1987 and joined the full time faculty at the University of Pittsburgh later that same year. While in Pittsburgh, he was an Endowed Professor for 17 years. In 1990, he was selected as an ESSKA-AOSSM Sports Medicine Travelling Fellow and visited over 20 sports medicine centers throughout Europe. Recently, he was selected as the 2018 Godfather to the AOSSM Traveling Fellows to Europe, one of the AOSSM's highest honors.

Dr. Harner and his wife, Cindy, have been married for 35 years and reside in Houston, TX in the Rice Village area. They have three children: Christopher (age 29), Andrew (age 27), and Nina (age 25).