

**Joseph S. Torg, MD  
St. Davids, PA**

Joseph S. Torg, MD, is being nominated for induction into the American Orthopaedic Society for Sports Medicine Hall of Fame because of his outstanding contributions to the field of sports medicine. His undergraduate education was at Haverford College, where he played varsity football. He went to medical school at Temple University and then completed his internship at San Francisco General Hospital. After his internship, he served for two years in the United States Army Medical Corps, and then completed orthopaedic surgery residency training at Temple University Hospital and Shriners Hospital for Crippled Children in Philadelphia.

Dr. Torg's career began at Temple University in 1968. In 1978, he became a Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery at the University of Pennsylvania. He moved to MCP Hahnemann University in 1995 and recently has moved back to Temple University. He has been the team physician for many teams throughout his career, including the Philadelphia 76ers, the Philadelphia Flyers, and the Philadelphia Eagles.

Dr. Torg has been an active member of the American Orthopaedic Society for Sports Medicine throughout his career. His interest in research and education is evident from his C.V. which includes 151 publications, 28 books, and 42 book chapters. He also was instrumental in forming the Philadelphia Orthopaedic Society for Sports Medicine and has organized and directed Sports Medicine fellowships during his career.

What has made Dr. Torg's contributions particularly outstanding and unique is the tremendous impact that his research has had in the field of Sports Medicine. His description of the Lachman's test in the literature, which he unselfishly attributed to his mentor, John Lachman, educated us about what is perhaps the most important physical exam maneuver in orthopaedics, and may be one of the most accurate tests in all of medicine. His epidemiologic research regarding cervical spine injuries in contact sports resulted in rule changes that have saved countless young athletes from becoming quadriplegic and his work has added to our knowledge about head injuries in contact sports. His paper on tarsal navicular stress fractures increased awareness about this oft-missed fracture. His research evaluating frictional forces between various types of shoes and playing surfaces has had significant implications for reducing the risk of knee injuries.

In summary, Dr. Torg's contributions have been unique in that his work filled niches where research efforts had been underdeveloped and the impact of his research has been important both academically and directly on the playing field.

Nominator:        Kenneth M. Fine, MD  
                              Washington, DC