



Ortho In Motion

**HENRY
FORD
HEALTH**
Orthopedics

A grand day at the parade

Members of Henry Ford Health's (HFH) Orthopedics and Sports Medicine department warmly greeted the crowds from HFH's colorful Destination: Grand float at the 2025 Thanksgiving Day Parade in Detroit.



This enthusiastic group of physicians and athletic trainers aboard the float included Bob Riney, Henry Ford Health CEO; Jonathan Braman, M.D., Chair of Orthopedic Surgery and Medical Director of the Orthopedic Service Line at Henry Ford Health and Team Doctor for the Detroit Tigers; Stephanie Braman; Ramsey Shehab, M.D., Deputy Chief, Henry Ford Sports Medicine and Team Doctor for the Detroit Pistons and Oakland University; Patricia Kolowich, M.D., Henry Ford orthopedic surgeon and Team Doctor for the Detroit Red Wings and Mercy High School; Nancy Zehnpfennig, Vice President of the Orthopedic Service Line; Tori Davis, Regional Director; and Christina Chapski, Director of Athletic Training and Community Outreach.

These dedicated team members have been a part of growing and developing the Henry Ford sports medicine department, which delivers expert orthopedic care for all ages throughout the community, including all four Detroit professional sports teams—the Lions, Tigers, Pistons and Red Wings, as well as student athletes and weekend warriors.

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Artificial intelligence improves patient and orthopedic provider satisfaction

Artificial Intelligence or AI has become part of modern-day language but how AI is used to support health care continues to evolve. Henry Ford Department of Orthopedics and Sports Medicine has integrated AI into each patient visit by utilizing Dragon Ambient eXperience (DAX) Copilot in their daily interactions with patients.

Leading the effort is Ryan Desgrange, DMSc, MS, PA-C, Advanced Practice Provider Director, Henry Ford Health. He explains that the DAX Copilot App is basically a scribe used through the provider's Henry Ford cell phone in the Epic mobile App. During patient consultations, the App is activated with the patient's agreement, the visit is audio recorded and transcribed into draft notes from the patient's visit. Like any AI application, the more it becomes familiar with the language and style of the user, the better output it provides, and less editing of the drafted notes is needed.

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Inside



National recognition:
AOA Own the Bone®



Henry Ford Orthopedics -
West Rochester



A message from
Orthopedic and Sports Medicine Leaders



Jonathan Braman, M.D., MHA, FAOA

Chair of the Department of Orthopedic Surgery at Henry Ford Health

Medical Director of the Orthopedic Service Line for Henry Ford Health



Nancy Zehnpfennig, R.N., B.S.N., M.H.A.

System Vice President, Heart & Vascular and Orthopedic service lines

Winter in Michigan is such a wonderful time of year. As someone who appreciates the silence of a new snowfall, it is a scene that always reminds me to appreciate the transience of every moment. Professionally, as our patients' deductibles reset and we launch into a new year, it is also a time for reflection. I hope that you, and those you choose to spend time with, have the opportunity to gather during this new year.

2025 brought big changes to Henry Ford Health, and as we enter 2026, those initiatives are already making a positive impact across our organization. Thank you for all the hard work you do to make our patients successful in their treatment and in continuing to make our department thrive.

Around the region spotlight:
Henry Ford Orthopedics - West Rochester

For more than 15 years Jeffrey DeClaire, M.D., and John LaMacchia, M.D., operated their orthopedic practice in the medical building next to the hospital before joining Ascension-Rochester. The joint venture brought this very successful practice into the Henry Ford Health Department of Orthopedics located in the medical building next to Henry Ford Rochester Hospital.

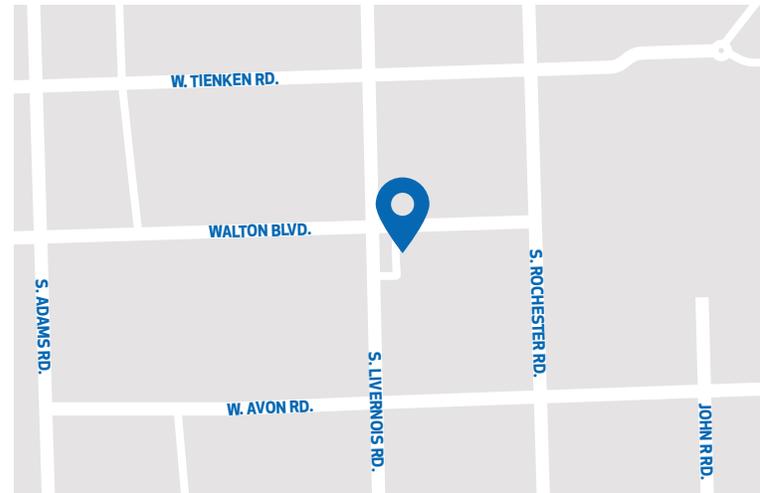
Dr. DeClaire said, "we are pleased to continue serving the northern Oakland and western Macomb counties."

Joseph Colombo, practice manager, explained this location has 22 exam rooms, 3 x-ray suites and 40 staff members that include physicians, physician assistants, radiology technicians and an excellent support team. In this location the orthopedic surgeons and orthopedic sports medicine physicians offer special procedures, fluoroscopic guided hip injections, lovera procedures, platelet rich plasma (PRP), and more. He explained, "the only noticeable change will be the signage."

The Henry Ford Health orthopedic specialists at this location are:

[Jeffrey DeClaire, M.D.](#), is a trailblazing figure in the realm of orthopedic knee surgery, renowned for his transformative impact on patient mobility and quality of life.

[John LaMacchia, M.D.](#), specializes in diagnosing and treating spinal injuries and disorders, including herniated discs, spinal stenosis, and vertebral compression fractures.



Location:
 1135 W. University,
 Suite 450, Rochester

Hospital Affiliations:
 Henry Ford Health-
 Rochester Hospital

[Nathan Marshall, M.D.](#), an orthopedic surgeon who specializes in sports medicine, using minimally invasive techniques.

[Robert Dekker, M.D.](#), trained in and specializes in the operative and nonoperative management of adolescent and adult foot and ankle disorders.

[Timothy Dekker, M.D.](#), specializes in sports medicine and cares for patients with non operative methods like injections, physical therapy, medicines, nutrition and exercise. He also performs regenerative medicine techniques.

Henry Ford Medical Group Team Updates

The following physicians are new to the Henry Ford Health Orthopedics:



Lafi Khalil, M.D.,
Orthopedic Surgery



Bryan Pack, M.D.,
Orthopedic Surgery



John Stevelinck, DPM,
Foot & Ankle Surgery

The following physician departed Henry Ford Health Orthopedics February 2026:

- Ryan Berger, M.D., Orthopedic Surgery

Henry Ford Health orthopedic physicians represented at national conferences



Brandon King, M.D. was the allied health premeeting event organizer for American Orthopaedic Foot & Ankle Society annual meeting in Savannah, GA in September 2025. His presentation topic was on stress fractures.



Vasilios Moutzouros, M.D., was a moderator at the American Orthopaedic Society for Sports Medicine at the ACL session in Nashville, TN in July 2025.



Charles S. Day, M.D., moderated a panel discussion at the 2025 American Orthopaedic Association annual meeting in San Diego, CA in March 2025.

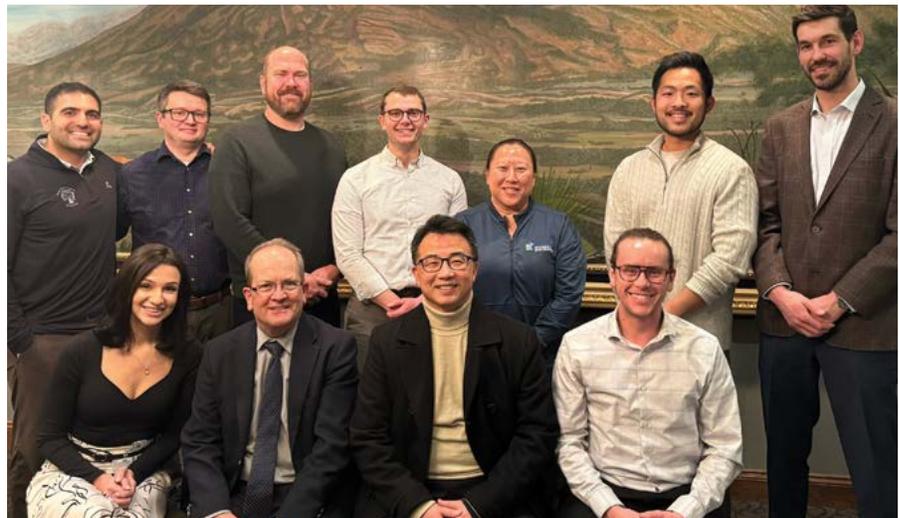
A grand day at the parade

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The Destination: Grand float, which sported a replica of the new patient tower being built across West Grand Boulevard from Henry Ford Hospital, was escorted by members of the award-winning Swim and Dive Team from Mercy High School. The school has been a proud partner of HFH since 2009, relying on Henry Ford's athletic training services that enhance athletic performance.



An entire team committed to world-class care in orthopedics and sports medicine. To learn why, visit www.henryford.com/services/orthopedics.



Top left to right: Lafi Khalil, M.D., Anton Khlopas, M.D., Kevin Taliaferro, M.D., Logan Hansen, D.O., Stephanie Muh, M.D., Wesley Zhang, M.D., and Andrew Mastay, DPM

Bottom left to right: Anna Pantuso, Michael Mott, M.D., Charles Day, M.D., and Ezra Goodrich, M.D.

Absent members: Lindsay Maier, M.D., Trevor North, M.D., Vasilios Moutzouros, M.D., Brandon King, M.D., Kenneth Scott, D.O., Cole Zingas, M.D., and Michael Brown, M.D.

Research council

The new Orthopedic Research Council is focused on strengthening the academic and clinical research infrastructure within the orthopedic service line. The council is composed of 16 members, including attending physicians representing each orthopedic subspecialty, resident representatives from the orthopedic residency program, and the orthopedic research project manager. Key priorities include clarifying academic appointment and

promotion criteria for orthopedic clinicians across assistant, associate, and full professor levels at Michigan State University College of Human Medicine and Wayne State University School of Medicine; developing a sustainable and reproducible clinical research enterprise supported by an administrative dyad; identifying and addressing qualitative and quantitative barriers faced by clinician-researchers; and expanding collaborative clinical research efforts across additional sites, including new Ascension partners.



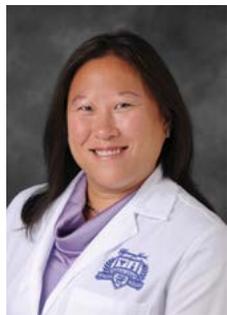
Awards and recognitions



Congratulations to Paolo DiLiddo, DPM, who specializes in foot and ankle surgery. Dr. DiLiddo was recently elected as a member of the Council of Podiatric Medical Education (CPME). He also continues his roles as Residency Site Reviewer and Residency Review Committee member for the CPME, and program director for the Henry Ford Wyandotte Hospital podiatric medicine and surgery residency program.



Paolo DiLiddo, DPM



Stephanie Muh, M.D.

Kudos to orthopedic surgeon Stephanie Muh, M.D., who was recently awarded the prestigious 2026 ASG Traveling Fellow. As part of the [American Orthopaedic Association \(AOA\) Traveling Fellowship](#), Dr. Muh is one of two American orthopedic

surgeons—in addition to one Canadian and one British—to participate in the [Austrian-Swiss-German \(ASG\) Traveling Fellowship](#).

Congratulations to Charles Day, M.D., for receiving the 2025 Editors' Award from *The Journal of Hand Surgery (European Volume)*. This award recognizes his contribution to a research article about the impact of virtual reality on patient experience during wide-awake surgery: a randomized controlled trial.



Charles Day, M.D.

National Recognition: AOA Own the Bone®

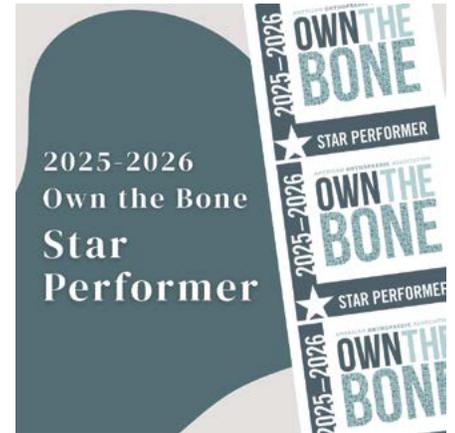
The American Orthopaedic Association regularly recognizes Own the Bone® sites for their commitment to improving patient bone health after a fracture. Recognition for this award is presented in *U.S. News & World Report "Best Hospitals" Guide for 2026*.

Henry Ford Hospital Orthopedics is an enrolled site in Own the Bone® project and has been recognized for achieving a 75% compliance rate meeting at least 5 of the 10 Own the Bone prevention measures.

Lara Yatoma, NP-C Henry Ford Hospital Orthopedics explained, "Henry Ford Bone Health and Fracture Prevention clinic received a special recognition for the past few years as 'Own the Bone Star Performers' by demonstrating a commitment to helping patients understand their risk for future fractures and the steps they can take to prevent them."

These are some of the specific prevention measures, which includes the following:

- Nutrition Counseling: Ensuring adequate calcium and vitamin D intake (from diet and/or supplements)
- Physical Activity Counseling: Recommending regular weight-bearing and muscle-strengthening exercise.
- Fall Prevention Counseling: Providing education on fall prevention strategies.
- Lifestyle Counseling: Recommending smoking cessation and limitation of excessive alcohol intake.
- Pharmacotherapy: Discussing and recommending medication for osteoporosis treatment when applicable.
- Testing: Recommending and initiating bone mineral density (BMD) testing, typically using Dual Energy X-ray Absorptiometry (DXA) including labs that are specific to bone health.
- Communication: Sending a physician referral letter to the patient's primary care physician detailing the fracture, risk factors, and treatment recommendations.
- Communication: Providing a patient education printout after the visit explaining bone health risk factors and the recommended steps for treatment and prevention. "These measures are based on patients screened and entered into the registry during the preceding 12-month period. The Henry Ford Orthopedics team received a special recognition as 'Own the Bone Star Performers' by demonstrating a commitment to helping patients understand their risk for future fractures and the steps they can take to prevent them."



Lara Yatoma, NP-C

Top 2025 clinical research innovations



Trevor North, M.D.
4 publications



Charles Day, M.D.
9 publications



Vasilios Moutzourous, M.D.
8 publications



Stephanie Muh, M.D.
11 publications



Anton Khlopas, M.D.
5 publications



Stuart Guthrie, M.D.
2 publications



Kevin Taliaferro, M.D.
2 publications



Brandon King, M.D.
2 publications

Artificial intelligence improves patient and orthopedic provider satisfaction



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Key Takeaways from the pilot use across all HFH ambulatory settings:

- **Clinician Experience:** Users of DAX Copilot reported a significant reduction in documentation burden, allowing them to focus more on patient care. Feedback indicated enhanced satisfaction, reduced burnout, and better work-life balance.
- **Workflow Integration:** The system integrated well with clinical workflows, offering near real-time ambient note generation that is EHR-compatible, helping providers close charts more efficiently.
- **Patient Perception:** Patients responded positively, with many feeling that providers were more engaged and attentive during visits, as documentation occurred seamlessly in the background.
- **Time Savings:** Providers reported saving up to 2 hours daily on documentation-related tasks, particularly in high-volume clinics.
- **Accuracy and Efficiency:** The AI-generated notes were consistently accurate and aligned with provider intent, requiring minimal editing. This was especially helpful for repetitive documentation in follow-up orthopedic visits.
- **Customizable:** Individuals can keep their current templates and update them to reflect DAX transcribed communications. There are also premade templates for providers available that can also be customized and saved.
- **Records Multiple Individuals:** AI can handle up to 5 individuals in a room speaking to add friend and family feedback for documentation.

According to Desgrange, use of the app provided a reduction in the time it takes to complete the patient's charts by editing the notes rather than creating them. "In orthopedic practice—where time, precision, and patient trust are critical—DAX Copilot enhances efficiency, strengthens documentation quality, reduces cognitive load, and ultimately allows clinicians to practice at the top of their license while delivering a more connected, patient-centered experience."



To refer a patient
please visit
henryford.com/RPO
or call
877.434.7470.

HENRY FORD HEALTH[®]

Orthopedics

Orthopedics
Henry Ford Hospital
2799 West Grand Blvd.
Detroit, MI 48202

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Around the system

Welcome to the new physicians at Beacon Orthopedics and Motor City Orthopedics, including those who recently integrated into Motor City Orthopedics and Henry Ford Health from the Core Institute.

Henry Ford Beacon Orthopedics:

- Rajan Sharma, D.O., Adult Hip and Knee Reconstructive Surgery

Henry Ford Motor City Orthopedics— New Physicians:

- Jacob Markel, M.D., Foot and Ankle Surgery
- Stephanie Nulty, M.D., Hand Surgery

Henry Ford Motor City Orthopedics (Core Institute Consolidation):

- Nicholas Bolz, M.D., Adult Hip and Knee Reconstructive Surgery
- David Markel, M.D., Adult Hip and Knee Reconstructive Surgery
- William Kesto, M.D., Sports Medicine Surgery
- Jeffrey Michaelson, M.D., Sports Medicine Surgery

The more you know...

- Our Sports Medicine experts are the official healthcare providers for the Detroit Lions, Red Wings and Pistons. Athletic training services are provided to many local high schools and universities.
- Henry Ford is home to one of the largest and most advanced Orthopedic groups in the country, providing the highest level of treatment options available for all orthopedic conditions.
- Henry Ford Hospital was named in the top 5% of sports medicine research facilities in the country in the Avenir Health 2025 Healthcare Research All Stars report.
- The new outpatient Multidisciplinary Amputee Clinic provides rehabilitation for patients with limb loss, including prosthetic evaluation, therapy and management of pain, skin and functional issues.
- Our Sport Psychology program is one of the very few in the nation to be connected to a larger sports medicine department, offering seamless care for mental health challenges that may arise following injury.
- Our Center for Athletic Medicine in Detroit offers advanced care for athletes of all levels to help them heal, train and reach peak performance.
- High-volume expertise in advanced orthopedic technology, including more than 2,700 ROSA[®] robotic-assisted total knee replacements representing the highest volume in the United States.

[Click to learn more about Henry Ford Orthopedics and Sports Medicine.](#)